Our New Year at the IGP Institute is off to a fast start. In January, we completed three, on-site courses and started four distance education courses reaching more than 175 industry professionals in just the first month of 2014. Our second annual training for state wheat commissioners and staff on flour milling was impacted by a Midwest polar vortex that prevented a few participants from traveling. We did complete the course with 13 energetic participants and a lot of fun was had by all. January is also the month for our IGP-KSU Introduction to Flour Milling and the IGP-KSU Grain Elevator Managers trainings. These trainings continue to be popular with 46 participants combined in the two courses.

A key event in our conference center this month was the organizational meeting for the USAID Feed the Future Innovation Lab for the Reduction of Post-harvest Loss. This exciting initiative, funded for five years by USAID, will be administered through the IGP Institute and brings together more than 11 university, governmental and industry collaborators to find solution to reduce post-harvest loss and improve global food security.

Moving forward, our intent of this letter is not only to inform you of the important activities taking place in our program, but to share with you progress toward the goals and objectives set in our Advisory Council meeting. One of our focus objectives for 2014 is to measure and document the impact our trainings have on the industries we serve. One way we aim to accomplish this objective is by surveying course participants. In addition to the end of course evaluation, which is completed by all course participants before the completion of the course, we are implementing an impact assessment that will be sent to course participants 30 days after the completion of the course. The intent of the impact assessment is to capture what information was most valuable to the participants and what ideas were implemented once they returned home.

Please read the rest of this newsletter to learn more about all the activities taking place at IGP and around the world by our team. And please pass this letter onto anyone you know who may be interested in learning about IGP activities.

Sincerely,

Mark Fowler
IGP Associate Director

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Kevin Whitehall

• CEO Central Washington Grain Growers/Commissioner for Washington Grain Commission

• Participant in the State Wheat Commissioners Flour Milling Training

• Oversees a grain cooperative with 1,600 members and 20 elevators in five counties

“This class gives some knowledge that should almost be a pre-requisite for any director or commissioner. It just helps us understand whoever we are going to visit and gives us more of an overview of what they are doing in their mills.”

WHERE IN THE WORLD

A monthly look at where we've been as we make our way around the globe promoting U.S. commodities and IGP training opportunities.

• U.S. Wheat Board meeting in Washington D.C.

• Kansas Soybean Expo in Topeka

• Grain Dust Explosion Workshops in Scott City and Garden City, Kan.

• Kansas Corn Commission

• Feed Expo in Atlanta

• U.S. Middle East and Africa Grain Forum in Doha, Qatar

TRAINING AND ACTIVITIES

Here is a list of courses and activities held in January.

• State Wheat Commissioners Flour Milling Training

• IGP-KSU Grain Elevator Managers course

• IGP-KSU Introduction to Flour Milling

• Overview of Milling Principles (Distance)

• GEAPS 520 Quality Grain Management

• GEAPS 522 FGIS Grain Inspection Orientation

• GEAPS 555 Advanced and Preventive Maintenance

Moving the Mission

Where in the World

Training and Activities

In the Spotlight

Sincerely,

Mark Fowler
IGP Associate Director

January 2014
Marketing the Brand

by Lisa Moser, Marketing and Communications Coordinator

• Year in Review printed and ready to distribute.
• Redesigned the Stakeholder News Brief.
• Distributed post-course news releases on State Wheat Commissioners Flour Milling training and Grain Elevator Managers course.
• Distributed pre-course news releases on Grain Purchasing course, Buhler-KSU Expert Milling course and IGP-NCI courses.
• Updated Buhler Wheat to Bread information on website.
• Met with Kansas Department of Agricultural personnel to discuss co-branding and collaborative opportunities to advance the IGP Mission.

Rave Review

“I’ve learned that millers are really focused upon efficiency and not only being able to turn out a great product, but to do it in the most efficient and cost effective way they can. And that is something that I can take back even to my operation.”

David Schemm
Producer from Sharon Springs, Kan.
Past Kansas Association of Wheat Growers President
Wheat Commissioners Training

“There was information about aeration that I didn’t know. Most of the time courses for this industry are just refreshers, but this course provided me with a lot of good information that I will take back and really use.”

Brad Pruitt
Grain Superintendent with Farmway Co-op
Grain Elevator Managers Course

Fun Facts

• IGP has trained over 200 industry personnel in 6 courses from 9 countries already this year.
• Our farthest participant in January traveled from Nigeria.
• Six participants this month have a native language other than English.

Snapshots

The cover of the 2013 Year in Review.

Fran Churchill lays out flour samples for participants in the IGP-KSU Introduction to Flour Milling course.

Mark Fowler demonstrates techniques to the State Wheat Commissioners Flour Milling training participants.