Appendix 3

Intelligentsia International Programs

Intelligentsia International, Inc. (III) is a 501c3 educational organization founded in 1990 as an international student exchange group. III is based in LaBelle where it has hosted over 200 university students from more than 50 nations for research and professional development programs focused on issues of water quality, environmental restoration, agricultural sustainability, community advocacy, energy issues, and international humanitarian relief.

Intelligentsia trainees perform technical and educational tasks in the southwest Florida region as documented on its various web pages created and maintained by the trainees. The recruiting page for trainees is at www.Intelligentsia-International.org.
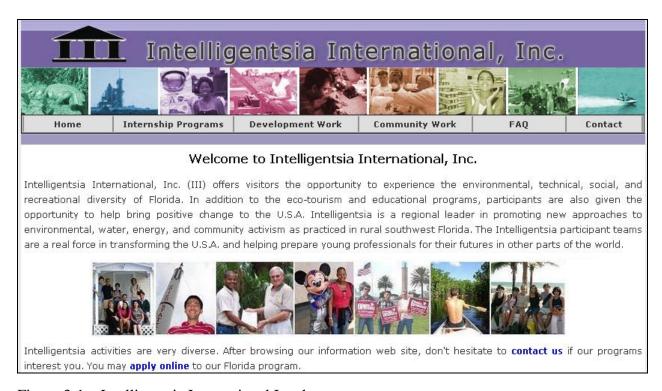

Figure 3-1.   Intelligentsia International Inc. homepage.

The internship program of Intelligentsia International provides a constantly replenished stream of college students (U.S. and international) to assist with regional projects and education programs (see http://intelligentsia-international.org/index.php?page=former_intern).

The trainees, as a condition of their home university academic degree programs, are required to complete a 3-6 month internship and present a project report to their faculty upon conclusion of the training period. The LaBelle Nature Park serves as a direct training venue for these young professionals who participate in natural resources education and technical programs, such as the oxbow restorations and park security system. Intelligentsia also builds and maintains web sites for a variety of non-profit organizations and regional projects.
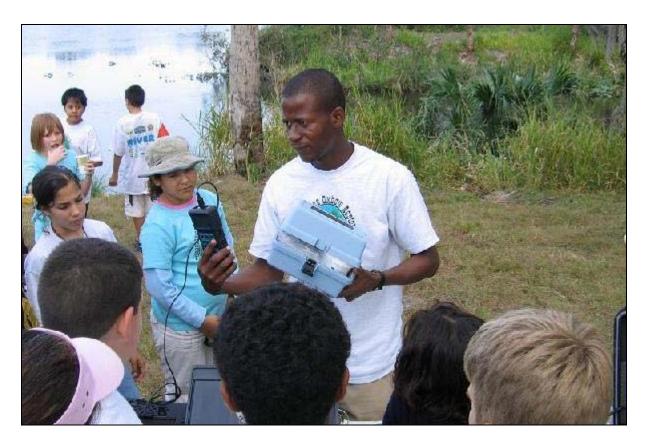
Figure 3-2. Intelligentsia interns delivering educational programs to elementary school students.

Figure 3-3. Oxbow restoration project educational programs included more than 400 students.

Figure 3-4. LaBelleNaturePark.org web site created and maintained by Intelligentsia International.

Figure 3-5. Caloosahatchee.org web site designed and maintained by Intelligentsia.
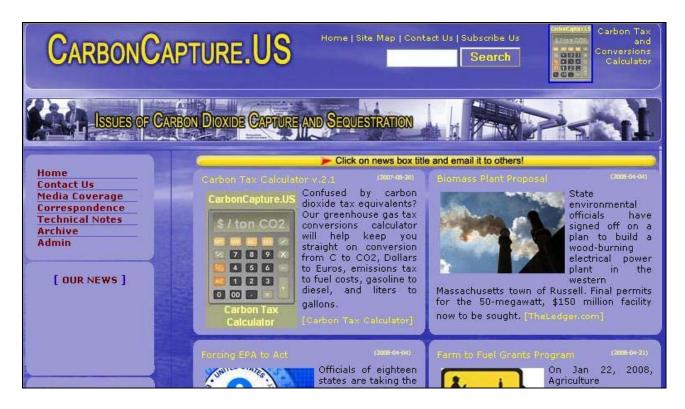
Figure 3-6. CarbonCapture.US web site created and maintained by Intelligentsia International.
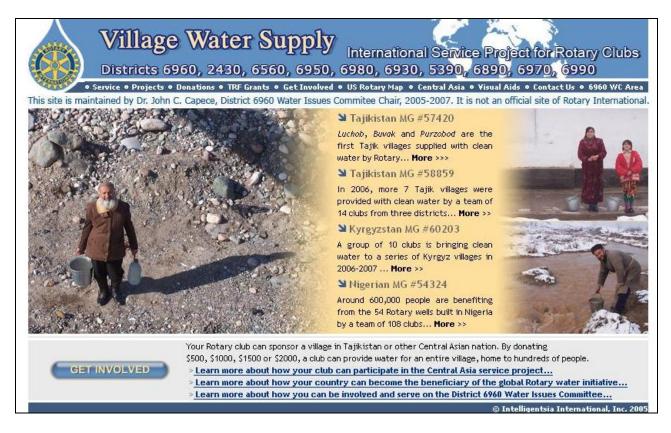

Figure 3-7. RotaryWater.org web site created and maintained by Intelligentsia International.

Intelligentsia also maintains programs overseas through its former trainees. An example is the village water supply projects in Central Asia and Nigeria, managed jointly with Rotary International (see www.RotaryWater.org).

Intelligentsia has housing and office space for fifteen trainees in LaBelle. The program not only performs services for the community, but serves as almost an educational/ecotourism program bringing many visitors to our state and community each year helping support the local tourism industry.

Intelligentsia has drafted a plan for a new program that would team up its university student interns with local K-12 students in a mentoring and training program to better prepare our local youth for their future careers. The Park House project is key to realizing that goal because of both the intern housing it provides, the technical project opportunities associated with the Nature Park and oxbow, and the education opportunities for the K-12 students at the Park House and Nature Park.

Table 3-1. Number of university students by nation hosted by Intelligentsia International.

1	France	40	27	Azerbaijan	1
2	Germany	18	28	Belarus	1
3	Ghana	14	29	Benin	1
4	India	11	30	Bulgaria	1
5	Italy	11	31	Czech Rep.	1
6	UK	11	32	Ecuador	1
7	USA	11	33	Egypt	1
8	Brazil	8	34	Japan	1
9	Nigeria	8	35	Kazakhstan	1
10	Australia	6	36	Lebanon	1
11	Morocco	6	37	Lithuania	1
13	Turkey	6	38	Mexico	1
12	Spain	5	39	Nepal	1
14	Ethiopia	4	40	Niger	1
15	Indonesia	4	41	Portugal	1
16	Netherlands	4	42	Senegal	1
17	China	3	43	Singapore	1
18	Colombia	3	44	Sudan	1
19	Russia	3	45	Suriname	1
20	Cameroon	2	46	Switzerland	1
21	Canada	2	47	Tanzania	1
22	Pakistan	2	48	Thailand	1
23	Sierra Leone	2	49	Uganda	1
24	South Korea	2	50	Ukraine	1
25	Tajikistan	2	51	Venezuela	1
26	Uzbekistan	2	52	Vietnam	1
			53	Zambia	1