

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Dr. Jim P.M. Chamie
IALC Managing Director
520-621-3024
ialc@ag.arizona.edu

Ms. Sarina Roffé
Jewish National Fund
212-879-9305 ext 221
sroffe@jnf.org

University of Arizona Professor Holliday Awarded \$100k Grant from IALC

July 8, 2005 - Tucson, AZ - Professor Vance T. Holliday, of the University of Arizona, was awarded a \$100,000 grant from the International Arid Lands Consortium to lead a study in which a multidisciplinary approach to forest management is employed in the hope of aiding modern decision makers in their ever more frequent fight against forest fires.

Professor Holliday is a Professor of Anthropology and Geoscience who holds joint appointments in both the Department of Geoscience as well as the Department of Anthropology at the University of Arizona in Tucson. Co-investigators are Ph.D. Candidate Christopher Roos, University of Arizona; Barbara Mills, professor of Anthropology at the University of Arizona; Jeffrey Dean, professor of Anthropology and Tree-Ring Research at the University of Arizona; Paul Goldberg, professor in the Department of Archaeology at Boston University; and Steve Weiner, professor of Structural Biology at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot. The project is expected to take two and a half years.

Nearly \$400,000 was approved by the International Arid Lands Commission board to fund three research proposals and a demonstration project that were proposed by collaborating arid land researchers from American universities, Israel and Jordan.

The proposals were recommended by scientists from the IALC Research and Demonstration Advisory Committee, which reviewed 46 proposals submitted from Arizona, Illinois, Israel, Jordan, Nevada, New Mexico, South Dakota and Texas. The vast majority of proposals were collaborations between two or more principal investigators. Funding of all IALC projects is contingent upon receipt of federal funding.

"The research that we were able to fund today offers the prospect of results that will have an important impact on arid land management and the world we live in," said Dr. Colin Kaltenbach, President of the IALC Board of Directors. "However, we would not have been able to support such work without the generous assistance of the USDA CSREES."