

**Delaware Tech/Delaware Department of Agriculture – Romania Equine Advisory Tours  
September-November, 2007**

As a result of working with Delaware Tech during the Avian Influenza projects funded by the USDA and USAID, and training in the “Delaware Model”, the Romanian Ministry of Agriculture and the Romanian Equine Authority requested technical assistance for their equine industry. A team of equine experts, led by the Delaware Secretary of Agriculture Michael Scuse, and accompanied by Carla Stone of Delaware Tech, traveled to Romania in September, 2007. They met with Members of Parliament and the Minister of Agriculture and many of his deputies. They visited state-owned and private horse facilities and developed recommendations for their improvement.

A delegation of Romanian officials from the Romanian Equine Authority, the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Forest Administration came to Delaware for a technical training tour in October, 2007. They visited Delaware’s racing facilities, training centers, private racing and show stables and breeding facilities. The delegation traveled to Washington D.C. where they met with Congressman Castle and Senator Carper as well as the staffs of Senator Biden and the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. They also visited Delaware Tech to learn about how veterinary technicians and medical laboratory technicians are trained and the role they play in improving the health of animals; The Romanians also learned how educational institutions can respond to industry specific training needs. As a result of this trip, the Romanian government has asked the Delaware Department of Agriculture to assist them in the development of a long range plan for their equine industry. The long range plan will include: transfer of state owned farms to private ownership; building a modern racing industry; building horse park facilities for competitions such as jumping, driving, and dressage; and developing an ago-tourism industry around their modernized equine industry.