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JOHN O. HISHMEH,

Executive Director

January 20, 2011

Dear CSIET Members,

As many of you already know, John Hishmeh, our Executive Director has decided to move on and expand his career accomplishments by joining the U.S. Foreign Service. For almost 10 years, we have been fortunate to have John at the helm as CSIET has evolved into the strong organization it is today. His leadership has been instrumental in dealings with program sponsors, educators, sports and activities organizations, government agencies, host families and the myriad people involved in international youth exchange. John last's day at CSIET will be Friday, February 11, 2011.

John has become the "go-to" authority when it comes to anything exchange-related in the United States and abroad, and his knowledge and expertise have served us all very well. As it is never easy to lose a respected, well-liked colleague and friend, we are excited for him and his family as they start writing the next chapter in their professional lives. Now, after much searching, we have found someone to step into the management and leadership role that John so adeptly created and nurtured.

On behalf of the CSIET Board of Directors, I am pleased to announce that we have hired Christopher Page as our new Executive Director. Chris has served on the faculty at Episcopal High School in Virginia in various capacities since 1989. He has been a Spanish teacher, Director of Curriculum Technology and the Resident Director for the Episcopal High School Spain Summer Program. While at Episcopal, Chris also served on the CSIET Board of Directors from 2003-2009 and on the CSIET School Outreach Working Group.

Chris has a varied background working with exchange programs and U.S. secondary schools. As CSIET expands its school outreach programs, Chris will be instrumental in building stronger relations between the school and exchange program communities. He is also excited to develop and grow CSIET's representation of inbound, outbound, short-term and long-term programs and continue working with U.S. Department of State officials in our pursuit of safe, high-quality exchange experiences.

Mr. Page has a BA in Spanish and Economics from Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia and an MA in Spanish Language and Culture from Middlebury College in Madrid, Spain and Vermont. He lives with his wife and two children in Alexandria, Virginia.

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With his varied background as an educator, school administrator and exchange program director, Chris is uniquely qualified to lead CSIET going forward. His first day in the office will be February 7, and he can be reached at cpage@csiet.org.

We are very pleased to have Chris join our community. Please join my fellow Board of Directors and me in welcoming Chris Page to CSIET as the next Executive Director.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Doty", written in a cursive style.

John Doty
Chair
Board of Directors