Hello!

I am Johanna Cricenti and happy to introduce myself as a new member of the CALS Global team. I’ve been at Virginia Tech for 10 years, first as a technician and graduate student in CALS with the Dining Services Vegetable Garden (Homefield Farm) and the Civic Agriculture and Food Systems Minor. I previously worked with the Center for International Research Education and Development (CIRED) as the program manager of a USAID-sponsored global agricultural education systems project. Most recently, I was a project coordinator at LINK + LICENSE + LAUNCH, serving as a liaison to facilitate industry partnerships. My role with CALS Global is Grants Specialist and my focus is on identifying funding opportunities and providing support for global engagement across the College.

In this capacity I will:

* Support the strategic goals of CALS and CALS Global. This includes supporting CALS faculty with research, outreach, education and partnership opportunities.
* Reach out to and connect with faculty who have an interest in pursuing internationally focused research, outreach and partnerships. The better I understand your specific interests and needs, the more effectively I can and build our network and identify and forward relevant funding opportunities.
* Share information about the existing funding landscape when it comes to grant seeking for globally oriented efforts. Relying solely on federal funds to support international research efforts can sometimes be a challenge. For this reason, I am also searching extensively for relevant opportunities in the non-profit/foundation sector.
* Support faculty in the development and submission of grant proposals as appropriate. My goals are to support faculty throughout the process, but technical content would come from the principal investigator and faculty team. My role could include acting as an impartial reader of the proposal guidance and drafts in progress, providing editing suggestions for clarity, preparing documents necessary for proposal submission, and helping individuals or teams to stay organized and on schedule so that grants are ready for timely submission.

I look forward to working with you and helping CALS with our internationalization goals.

Sincerely,

Johanna

**Johanna Cricenti**

Grants Specialist

CALS Global Programs

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