



International News

Community Colleges for International Development, inc.

Winter 2004

CCID Hosts Study Abroad Videoconference

For the fourth year in succession, CCID worked with sister organizations to produce another in the broadcast series: "Local Access to Global Education: Study Abroad and the Community College." As in the past, ACIIE and AACC contributed to the program, and the Institute for Community College

Development (ICCD), Cornell University, N.Y., provided generous financial assistance.

Several CCID member and affiliate colleges and their international staff were featured in the program with Michael Brennan, Hillsborough Community College, providing the role of moderator. Dr. Zinta Konrad, College of DuPage, and Dr. Geremie Sawadogo, Maricopa Community Colleges, were the expert panelists. Other colleges provided prerecorded material, as did the Honorable Patricia Harrison, Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State, who delivered an excellent pre-recorded introduction to the topic. Robert Frost of Parkland College, Illinois, excelled again in his role as the program producer.

The wide-ranging program was deemed to be one of the best ever, judging by the evaluations received at the executive offices. Topics presented included study abroad models; critical learning issues in study abroad; pre-departure orientation and re-entry programs; safety, liability and risk issues; integrating faculty; marketing the program; financial aid and scholarships; and much more. Tapes of the program can be purchased from CCID by submitting an online order from <http://ccid.kirkwood.cc.ia.us>, Calendar of Events - Videoconferences, or from



Moderator Michael Brennan, panelist Dr. Zinta Konrad, producer Robert Frost, and panelist Dr. Geremie Sawadogo.

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Executive Offices

6301 Kirkwood Blvd., SW
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406

Ph: (319) 398-5653/1257

Fax: (319) 398-7113

E-mail: ccid@kirkwood.edu

<http://ccid.kirkwood.cc.ia.us>

ccid@kirkwood.edu. The program is an outstanding orientation tool that can be used with faculty and staff new to study abroad and is complemented by a very comprehensive *Facilitator Guide*.

The studios and production facilities of the Telecommunications and Media Services Department at Kirkwood Community College were again used this year for the production. Producer Robert Frost said enthusiastically, "This was a terrific group of panelists. Their hard work and range of expertise made my job much easier. And I can't speak highly enough of the professionals at Kirkwood. Their excellent production work shows in every detail of the program. We all learned so much from working with them." Those viewing the program via satellite saw a professional, well produced program, and were unaware that a full nine months of planning went into the production.

CCID and ACIIE are entering discussions with ICCD about possible topics for a new program for fall 2004.



Center for International Trade Development Promotes Outreach

by Candy Hansen and Pam Thomas

Recognizing that today's students will be confronted with economic, political, and cultural issues that transcend national boundaries, State Center Community College District (SCCCD) in California is committed to a comprehensive international education program. As the country moves toward a heightened awareness of global issues, SCCC's Center for International Trade Development (CITD) is taking concrete steps toward its goal of expanding and strengthening its outreach services to the business community as well as internationalizing the curriculum at our colleges.

Funded initially in 1989 by the U.S. Department of Commerce-Economic Development Administration, State Center Community College District was the first community college district to be designated as a Center for International Trade Development. Formerly known as "The Export Center," CITD has provided export counseling and technical assistance for 2,000 companies, received over 25,000 exporting inquiries, and conducted 400 training seminars for 12,000 clients. In recognition of its achievements, it was honored in June 2001 with the President's "E" Award for outstanding service to the trade community.

In 2000, the Center for International Trade Development received a second U.S. Department of Education Title VIB grant. This grant provided the impetus to develop a plan for faculty to internationalize curriculum.

To insure that all SCCC students receive a global education, all campuses and centers offer courses with international perspectives. CITD supports this commitment by providing international training for faculty. In 2003, CITD sent 18 faculty members for training. Rodney Olsen and Carl Johansson, Fresno City College biology instructors, traveled to Brazil where they did field research in the Amazon. As a result, they have added a component to their classes wherein they compare and

contrast the four major biomes in Brazil with the same four biomes in the United States. The courses now consider human, historical, social, cultural, political and economic pressures and forces that have affected the biomes. Anne Cremarosa, Reedley College business instructor, attended a workshop for internationalizing business curricula offered by Temple University CIBER in Philadelphia. She returned with plans to have her students research exchange rates on the Internet and plot inflation rates over ten years within another country.

Perhaps Dean Franciskovich, area director of marketing for World Wide Sires, Ltd., sums it up best, "The CITD has succeeded in focusing the efforts of outstanding individuals and organizations, and helped to extend local horizons to reach every corner of the globe."

CCID INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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Sinclair Community College
Dr. Steven L. Johnson, President
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Newsletter Editor
Bob Keener

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Article Submission
Articles are accepted from consortium colleges. Questions about article submission or information about the newsletter may be directed to:

Bob Keener, Editor
CCID Newsletter
Sinclair Community College
444 West Third Street
Dayton, Ohio 45402-1460

Phone: (937) 512-5306
E-mail: bob.keener@sinclair.edu
Web: ccid@kirkwood.cc.ia.us



CCID Mission Statement

"The mission of CCID is to provide opportunities for building global relationships that strengthen educational programs, and promote economic development."

To accomplish its mission, CCID provides:

- **Technical Training:** Develops technical training for economic independence and human resource development.
- **Economic Development:** Supports curriculum development and programs that encourage global understanding.
- **Partnerships:** Facilitates educational exchanges that result in increased global awareness.
- **Leadership:** Initiates and coordinates international linkages to advocate the necessity of global partnerships.
- **Professional Development:** Initiates, facilitates and encourages international relationships that enhance global competencies.



St. Clair County President, Professor Heading to Qatar

Qatar Leader, OPEC President puts community colleges in spotlight

The President of OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries), His Excellency Abdullah bin Hamad al-Attiyah, is bringing the president of St. Clair County Community College in Port Huron, Michigan, and a college professor to the Middle East nation of Qatar in late December.

During the ten-day trip, which is being funded by al-Attiyah, they will meet with government, business and education leaders to gather information and discuss partnership opportunities.

The OPEC president recently put a national spotlight on U.S. community colleges. While attending the historic U.S.-Arab Economic Forum in Detroit this fall, he was interviewed by numerous media. Over and over, he proudly called attention to his background as a student at St. Clair County Community College in the 1970s.

Al-Attiyah was an international student at St. Clair in 1971 and 1972. He then returned to the Middle East and earned a bachelor of arts degree in 1976 from the University of Alexandria in Egypt. He now serves as second deputy prime minister and minister of energy, industry, electricity and water in Qatar. This is his fourth term as president of OPEC.

Al-Attiyah has stayed in touch with St. Clair psychology professor Dr. Thomas Mooney for over three decades, ever since he took Mooney's Introduction to Psychology class in 1971. When Mooney heard the OPEC president would be in Detroit for the economic forum, Mooney invited al-Attiyah to come to St. Clair for a day. The Port Huron college is about 60 miles northeast of Detroit on the U.S.-Canadian border.

Al-Attiyah not only accepted Mooney's invitation to visit campus, he one-upped it by inviting Mooney, college president Dr. Rose Bellanca, economics professor Robert Tansky and Mooney's wife Carolyn to attend the full economic forum as his guests.

This was no small feat, since admission to the high-security summit was limited largely to top business and government leaders from the U.S. and Middle East.

The St. Clair group was given complimentary access to economic forum sessions and activities, enjoying some of the best seats in the house for speeches by U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell and other world figures, dining with dignitaries from various nations, and meeting top level executives from some of the world's largest corporations.

"It was an extraordinary opportunity," said Bellanca. "We gained a wealth of knowledge and educational materials to bring back to campus and our community."

Professor Tansky described it as a "once in a lifetime" chance to be part of an historic event that he will share with his economics students and incorporate into classroom activities.

Per Mooney's invitation, after the economic forum al-Attiyah and a delegation of 11 Qatar officials came to St. Clair's campus in October to spend a full day with Bellanca, Mooney and other college staff.

A highlight of al-Attiyah's return to campus was a luncheon with over 75 area business and political leaders, students, staff and faculty. College staff also tracked down some of the OPEC president's former classmates and instructors to greet him. Entering the lobby of the college's Michigan Technical Education Center, he shouted in excitement as he recognized faces in the crowd.

In a brief presentation, al-Attiyah spoke highly of community colleges but also said the U.S. needs to resolve student visa issues that he said have frustrated students from Qatar who wish to attend American colleges.

After his visit to the college, al-



OPEC President and St. Clair alumnus Abdullah bin Hamad al-Attiyah addresses students, staff and guests at a luncheon program.

Attiyah invited Bellanca and Mooney to Qatar to spend several days as the OPEC president's guest. The college pair will spend time with al-Attiyah, government and business leaders, and University of Qatar officials. Mooney is also planning a special alumni reunion for about 12 St. Clair alumni from Qatar.

"This is a perfect tie-in to our college's international education initiative," Bellanca said. "We will have access to people and places that would not be possible without this powerful alumnus. He is opening doors for opportunities and partnerships that will benefit our students, faculty and staff, the communities we serve, and perhaps community colleges a whole."

For St. Clair County Community College the trip to Qatar, the OPEC president's visit to campus and the chance to participate in the U.S.-Arab economic forum mark the latest in a growing list of endeavors to build

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World Population Issues Discussed

by Bob Keener



Werner Fornos speaks to Sinclair students, faculty and staff.

Have you ever seriously thought about the impact of rapid population growth? Urban sprawl, air and water pollution, loss of wildlife habitat, green space and farmland, social disintegration and global warming are conditions caused or made worse by population growth. This was the message Werner Fornos, Population Institute president, presented at Sinclair Community College in October.

According to Fornos, in the last 100 years world population has more than tripled to reach six billion people. World population doubled in the last 40 years and most human growth is expected to take place in the world's poorest countries, where many are expected to double their populations within the next 30 years.

When you hear the message carried by Fornos and read the literature from the Population Institute, the facts are staggering and eye opening:

- More than 514,000 women die each year from complications of pregnancy and childbirth.
- 350 million women did not want their last pregnancy nor do they want another.
- 98% of world population growth occurs in the less developed regions of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Oceania.
- More than one billion young people, the largest ever generation between the ages of 15 and 24, are entering their childbearing years.
- During the last decade, human activity resulted in the gross deforestation of nearly 600,000

square miles, an area equivalent to the size of Alaska.

- About 26 million metric tons of topsoil are lost per year, mostly from erosion and poor land use practices.

According to Population Institute literature, a child born today can expect by the year 2010 a world in which:

- One-fifth of the world's plant and animal species will be extinct.
- Deserts will claim an area equal to the size of the continental United States.
- The air we breathe will contain considerably more carbon dioxide than it does now.
- Acid rain will have destroyed many more lakes and fish.
- Available farmland will be further depleted.

What can be done to stop the world population steamroller? Fornos states that "population stabilization is within the realm of technological feasibility, but only if the global community has the political will to achieve it." In looking at solutions to the world population concern, the institute states that "the consequences of overpopulation can be reduced through the eradication of illiteracy, paid employment opportunities for women, reduction of infant mortality, increased male responsibility and universal access to family planning."

The Population Institute is the world's largest independent, non-profit, education organization dedicated exclusively to achieving a more equitable balance between the world's population, environment and resources. The institute, founded in 1969, has members in 174 countries and is headquartered in Washington, D.C. Its mission is to provide essential leadership to increase awareness of the social, economic and environmental consequences of rapid population growth.

To learn more about the institute, visit: www.populationinstitute.org.

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St. Clair County President, Heading to Qatar

global relationships and provide opportunities for students, staff and community members to gain knowledge of other regions, cultures, and international issues.

Other St. Clair international initiatives have involved colleges and universities in Kazakhstan, Russia, Ireland, China, France, Canada and other countries. Efforts have included faculty serving as guest lecturers abroad, faculty and student exchange programs, group learning trips to other nations, and global awareness programming.

A group of St. Clair faculty recently returned from London, England, where they met with Goldsmiths College, University of London officials about partnership opportunities.



CCID Calendar of Events

CCID 27th Annual Conference

February 14 - 17, 2004,

Adam's Mark Hotel in Orlando, Florida, hosted by Daytona Beach Community College.

"Community Colleges in the World: Including the Excluded"

Major events continue to transform social, economic, and political life globally. The CCID 27th Annual Conference focuses on efforts to promote the economic development of nations through education and training. At the center of discussion will be the role of community colleges worldwide, and their contribution to the well being of nations. At the same time, participants will explore the role of the U.S. community college in educating students, faculty and citizens for the global economy. Through the FAO/UNESCO collaboration, one of this year's conference tracks will focus on education of rural populations.

Invited keynote speakers include:

- Ms. Lavinia Gasperini, Senior Officer, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.
- Mr. Primo Gonzaga, IFOA, Italy
- Ms. Sofialeticia Morales Garza, Director, Organization of American States
- Ms. Joan Athen, Special Assistant for Community Colleges, U.S. Department of Education
- Mr. Leonel Fernandez, Former President, Dominican Republic

Study Abroad in Denmark

CCID and YFU Denmark are offering two, 14 day college credit programs:

May 30 - June 13, 2004

"International Perspectives on Sustainable Energy"

May 14 - 29, 2004

"Sustainable Agriculture"

Please visit the new web site: www.ccidinc.org for details.

Study Abroad in Ecuador

July 5 - 19, 2004

"International Perspectives on Nursing"

Please visit the new web site: www.ccidinc.org for details.

CCID Professional Development Activity, Summer 2004

June 15 - 26, 2004

"The Italian City as a Classroom"

The cities of Rome, Florence and Venice will be visited. Participants will learn of Italy's historic and artistic achievements as well as its current political, economic and business environments. A variety of museums, educational institutions and historical/cultural sites will be visited, demonstrating how an Italian city can be pedagogically utilized across the curriculum to internationalise it. This program will appeal to faculty members in the arts, architecture, Italian language, fashion and interior design, economics, political science, history and business. Details at: <http://ccid.kirkwood.cc.ia.us/> then to Calendar of Events.

CCID Summer Institute

July 17 - 19, 2004.

At the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Seattle, hosted by Green River Community College.

A planning and professional development activity for those within the CCID family includes a focus on:

- Asia - the opportunities and the challenges
- Study Abroad - training to make it work

Details will be posted on the CCID web site: <http://ccid.kirkwood.cc.ia.us> in early spring 2004.

CCID 28th Annual Conference

February 2005

San Diego, California, hosted by State Center Community College District. Please mark your calendar, and check <http://ccid.kirkwood.cc.ia.us/> for details.



Kirkwood Endorses Partnership with Peace Corps

One of the most exciting partnerships for community colleges in the U.S.A. has been launched by the Peace Corps. Community college graduates in certain areas can now qualify to serve as Peace Corps Volunteers. Kirkwood Community College officials have already met with Ms. Alicen Burns, from the regional office in Minneapolis and also Mr. Ryan Wells, the campus recruiter from the University of Iowa. Both of these Peace Corps representatives have hosted a recruiting session on Kirkwood's campus last month. In addition, Peace Corps materials, including brochures, fliers and a video are readily available in the heart of the campus, the International Studies Department.

Peace Corps began in March of 1961 during President John F. Kennedy's term. Many still recall that famous

quotation, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but rather what you can do for your country." Since it began, the Peace Corps has had a mission of promoting world peace and friendship, sending Americans abroad in a wide variety of assignments. The volunteers would help promote a better understanding of the United States wherever they were assigned. Also, they helped promote a better understanding of other people on the part of Americans.

The Peace Corps and the community college have many things in common. Both organizations still follow President Kennedy's thinking, emphasizing the need to serve the community needs. The community college might say, "Ask not what your community can do for you, but rather what you can do for your community." At Kirkwood our mission includes identifying commu-

nity needs, providing accessible, quality education and training, and promoting opportunities for lifelong learning.

Both the Peace Corps and the community college value the rich diversity represented in the people that serve and also that are served. Peace Corps and every community college, know that it's the people that are the most valued part of who they are and what they do. The Kirkwood campus has over 100 countries from around the world represented in its international student body. Peace Corps volunteers serve in many of those same countries. For example, Kirkwood has students from Peru. President Alejandro Toledo of Peru has said, "I would not be president of my country had it not been for the early education I received from Peace Corps volunteers."

Graduates of community colleges, just like Peace Corps volunteers, enter the work force with a variety of skills, work experience and educational levels. Most of all, both the Peace Corps volunteer and the community college graduate have a willingness to serve and a desire to make a difference.

Peace Corps has a new goal, and that is to double the number of volunteers by 2007. This challenge received bipartisan congressional support in response to a challenge from President George W. Bush. One of the targeted sources of recruits will be community college graduates in a variety of areas, including youth development, health and HIV/AIDS, business development and information technology, agriculture and the environment and skilled trades. Benefits are numerous, including transportation to and from the assigned country, student loan deferment (Perkins loan recipients may be eligible for a 15 percent cancellation of their outstanding balance for each year of Peace Corps service), medical care, transition funds and job placement. (Peace Corps provides a readjustment allowance of just over \$6,000, along with access to job listings, career centers and workshops, and placement support in a wide variety of fields.)

The following web site has further information: www.peacecorps.gov

Rancho Santiago Community College District Signs Historic Economic Development Agreement in Mexico

On November 7, 2003, Dr. Edward Hernandez, Jr., president of ICEED and chancellor of Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD) in Santa Ana, California, signed an historic agreement between RSCCD and the National Association of Mexican Business Women (AMMJE) in Mexico. Also taking part in this important ceremony was the governor of the state of Sonora, Eduardo Bours Castelo, the national president of AMMJE, Maria del Carmen Garcia Noemi, and the president of Nacional Financiera (the largest development bank in Latin America), Mario Laborin Gomez. The agreement stemmed from the great need in Mexico to assist women entrepreneurs in their efforts to grow their businesses in both the domestic and international markets. Specifically, the governor of Sonora, AMMJE and Nacional Financiera are looking to RSCCD to provide women business owners throughout Mexico

with the expertise necessary to enter the California market. The agreement is of great importance to RSCCD because of RSCCD's focus on local and international economic development and its continuous support of women entrepreneurs. Based on the agreement, RSCCD will be a "one-stop" shop for all 3,000 members of AMMJE by providing them with training, workshops, information, and contacts whenever they try to do business in California. In addition, all 25 AMMJE national offices in Mexico will distribute information on RSCCD, its business training centers, and courses available to AMMJE members at RSCCD's two colleges - Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College.

The agreement is historic not only because it is the first time that all of these prestigious organizations and a governor of a Mexican state have come

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Humber and Cooperative College Moshi: Has Impact on Rural Poverty



Professor Chambo addressing workshop participants.

At the top of Mount Kilimanjaro, 5,895 meters above sea level, you stand over one of the most fascinating countries in Africa. Home to a diverse ecological system, forested mountains, savannah grassland, the Serengeti and a truly unique history, Tanzania is working hard to overcome the challenges faced by countries in Africa.

The Cooperative College Moshi (CCM), with the help of Humber College, is at the forefront of this effort.

CCM provides training and operational support programs to institutional providers of micro-finance services, examples include: cooperative management training, micro-finance development, and policy research. The goal of the college is to expand access

to financial services throughout rural Tanzania. This program of reform directly complements the government's strategy of moving away from a socialist economic model to a market-based economy.

Humber and Cooperative College Moshi embarked on an exciting journey together after they were awarded a five-year partnership project through

the Association of Canadian Community Colleges and the Canadian International Development Agency. The project works well with CCM's goal and will help to alleviate poverty among subsistence farmers in the Tanzanian countryside by increasing their access to credit through stronger micro-finance institutions. By improving the management of micro-finance institutions, subsistence farmers will be able to start small agribusinesses that boost rural family incomes and ultimately reduce rural poverty.

Using train-the-trainer techniques and a participatory approach Mike Planche and Karim Khan, two Humber faculty members, delivered a highly successful micro-finance workshop in



A lone elephant on the Serengeti

August of this year. The workshop introduced participants to the fundamentals of micro-finance while examining several models and analyzing the situation in Tanzania. A surveying tool for collecting vital field data was also developed for participants to use in their two-week field placements in rural Savings and Credit Cooperatives (SACCOS).

Mike Planche is the coordinator of the Financial Services program at Humber and was a natural fit for the CCM project. Karim Khan is a micro-finance expert and together their efforts left participants not only with key micro-finance knowledge, but new skills and techniques in facilitation and delivery. For the facilitators it was a great opportunity to visit a part of the world new to them and to experience and learn about some of the development challenges facing Tanzania.

Mike Planche describes the experience as, "life changing. Tanzania is a beautiful country and the people are very friendly, helpful and hospitable. I was made to feel welcome everywhere that I went. I learned as much, if not more, from the participants and feel enriched by the experience. I look forward to another opportunity to contribute to this remarkable partnership program."

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Rancho Santiago Signs Historic Agreement in Mexico

together to promote, assist, and celebrate women entrepreneurs, but it is also the first time that the largest development bank in Latin America and AMMJE partner with an educational institution outside of Mexico. In addition to the signing, Enrique Perez, executive director of ICEED, led a delegation of California government and business leaders to the state of Sonora where the delegation met privately with the governor of Sonora as well as business and educational leaders to discuss local and international economic development as well as the importance of ICEED in that endeavor.



Haitian Experiences

Don Doucette is an administrator at the Metropolitan Community Colleges (MCC) in Kansas City, Missouri, whose “baby boomer idealism” keeps him from shying away from tough challenges.

He’s certainly found one – Doucette’s avocation involves mission work in Haiti, an impoverished Caribbean nation that many have labeled “the basket case of the Western Hemisphere.”

“When you go to the State Department’s web site looking for tips on how to survive in Haiti,” Doucette says, “you won’t find specific suggestions. It just tells you flat out not to go.”

Doucette is active in an Episcopal Church in Platte Woods, Missouri, which has been providing educational services to a Haitian village named Mersan.

After several trips to Mersan, during which he helped to construct a primary school, Doucette is now working on a much more ambitious project in the nearby city of Les Cayes. He is helping to establish a technical school that would be the Haitian equivalent of an American community college.

Doucette and his associates are modeling the new school after Kansas City’s own Business & Technology College. “The goal of both institutions,” he says, “is to allow business formation to occur by providing skilled workers who can sustain a new business once operational.”

Haiti’s infrastructure is so primitive that there is almost no business or industrial development of any kind outside the capital, Port au Prince. Doucette believes select businesses might take a chance on a city like Les Cayes (whose population at 300,000 is Haiti’s third largest city) if local citizens had requisite skills in business administration and tech support.

Construction was expected to begin this fall on a \$280,000 building that will house six classrooms, a computer lab, office and library. The ultimate capacity would be for about 180 students, with a curriculum concentrated on business and computer courses.

Financial and technical resources are being provided by Episcopal churches in Kansas City and New York, under the guidance of the Episcopal Relief and Development Agency. Once completed, the school will function under the auspices of the Episcopal Bishop of Haiti.

Doucette says about 80 percent of Haitian education is supplied by Western churches. The country’s illiteracy rate is estimated at 70 percent, and less than a quarter of the student’s get a chance to go beyond elementary school. For this reason, a successful training institute, operating in the mode of a community college, would be completely unique.

Associated challenges, however, remain formidable. Doucette points out that Les Cayes has no reliable source of electricity, so the school’s computers

will be powered by banks of car batteries “re-charged periodically when juice is available from a central source.”

Doucette plans to stay involved after construction by recruiting colleagues with technical skills to do short site visits in Les Cayes. He laughs, however, at the suggestion that such a continuing commitment qualifies him as being interesting or heroic.

“In that part of the world,” he says, “you can do very little and make a big difference – at least in the lives of the individuals that you touch.”

NOTE: Don Doucette is the vice chancellor for education and technology at The Metropolitan Community Colleges in Kansas City, Missouri. He can be reached at (816) 759-1080 or doucetted@kcmetro.cc.mo.us.

Northcentral Technical Celebrates International Education Week

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) celebrated International Education Week by linking cultures from Central America, Mexico, and the Caribbean with central Wisconsin.

Numerous events open to students, staff, and community were held in honor of International Education Week, November 17-20, 2003. Some of these events included a grand opening ceremony with state and local representatives addressing participants, a keynote speech by U.S. State Department Representative, Russell Frisbie, an international open house with international cooking demonstrations, displays and presentations, and a returned Peace Corps volunteer roundtable brown-bag lunch session.

NTC also held a presentation of Hispanic and Caribbean Cultures Through Children’s Eyes that included educational posters designed by Spanish language students from

Horace Mann Middle School, Wausau area Catholic schools grades 2-5, and Wausau East High School. The posters were on Central American, Mexican, and Caribbean cultures and created a very powerful impact throughout the college.

Contests were featured that included an International Display Competition for student organizations incorporating their field of study with related elements from Central America, Mexico, and the Caribbean. NTC’s Antigo Business Club was awarded \$200 for outstanding display. The Student Life Department sponsored an International Photo Contest for students and staff. Winners and prize money went to NTC students Shannon Fenner and Rebecca Young and NTC instructor Margie Bock for best photos that captured the essences of life in Central America.

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Kirkwood International Education Week

International Education week for 2003 was full of special activities at Kirkwood Community College. Two delegates from TAFE (Technical and Further Education) in Western Australia spent the week on campus and especially enjoyed learning about this national event. The delegates were Ms. Christine Towes, program manager for Sustainable Development with Challenger TAFE on the Peel Campus and Mr. Michael O'Loughlin, managing director of Challenger TAFE, Fremantle Campus.

After meeting with President Norm

Nielsen and Executive Vice President of Instruction Dr. Mick Starceвич, the TAFE delegates were provided a full itinerary to increase their awareness and understanding of the largest community college in Iowa. Kirkwood is a comprehensive



Left to right: Dr. Mick Starceвич, Michael O'Loughlin, Connie Mays, Christine Towes, and Dr. Norm Nielsen



Kirkwood International students celebrate International Education Week with a personal thank-you gift.

community college that is the third largest college in the state of Iowa, and also ranks first in the number of international students (523 students from 106 different countries).

Due to the fact that Kirkwood and TAFE schools in Western Australia share many programs in

common, Ms. Towes and Mr. O'Loughlin enjoyed the chance to see classrooms, labs, visit with faculty and administrators, and meet students. Programs the delegates visited included the following: International Studies, Distance Education, Industrial Technology, English department, Agriculture and GPS-GIS Technology, Horticulture, and Biological Science. They also enjoyed meeting with Executive Director of CCID, John Halder, as the headquarters of CCID is housed on the campus of Kirkwood Community College.

International students at Kirkwood continued the annual tradition of personally visiting all staff on campus who have supported global education. The students delivered a thank you gift to all of these supporters across the campus, with this year's gift being a framed "million dollar bill" in U.S. currency. In any currency, Kirkwood administrators, faculty, staff and students continue to show support for global education that is "worth more than a million."

International Education is a priority at Kirkwood Community College and it was especially exciting to share that excitement with our colleagues from TAFE in Western Australia. The opportunity to pause and reflect on the importance of continuing the work in the global community was once again a successful and inspirational event for everyone.

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Northcentral Technical Celebrates International Education Week

Other weeklong activities included an international potluck - Medford Campus prepared by ESL students, staff, and their families, an International Library Display featuring literature, videos, and music from Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean, international cuisine was served daily by the campus food service, and flags of the world were displayed.

These events and activities were made possible through a COOP grant from NAFSA and the U.S. Department of State, and a generous donation from the Coca-Cola Company.



Pellissippi State & French Sister College Strengthen Ties



View of the Normandy countryside from the turret of a twelfth century castle

On March 19, 2004, more than 20 faculty members and staff of Pellissippi State Technical Community College in Knoxville, Tennessee, as well as community leaders from the college's service area plan to depart for a nine-day tour of France. All participants are paying their own travel expenses. A significant part of the tour is three days devoted to a visit with sister college Institut Universitaire de Technologie Cherbourg (IUT-Cherbourg).

During the stay in Cherbourg, the group will not only meet with their French counterparts at the college, but will also familiarize themselves with the city of Cherbourg and the Normandy region. IUT-Cherbourg will host tours of the D-Day beaches and other World War II sites as well as Mont St. Michelle. After leaving Cherbourg, the group will travel to Paris for four nights to explore that historic city on their own.

In return, faculty and staff of IUT-Cherbourg have been invited to travel to Pellissippi State to learn about the college and the East Tennessee region. After arriving in Nashville, Tennessee, the French group would spend some time at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) in Murfreesboro before continuing across the state to Knoxville, since MTSU and IUT-Cherbourg have maintained a successful intern exchange program for a number of years. In Knoxville, the French would spend time on the Pellissippi State campus, tour the Great Smoky Moun-

tains National Park, and visit historic sites.

For the past five years Pellissippi State and IUT Cherbourg have been partners for a sports exchange. In the spring, groups of 8-12 students from each of the two institutions visit the other to engage in sports activities. Emphasis is on learning sports with which the students would be less familiar in their native country. In the United States, for example, the

French go white-water rafting, orienteering, and wilderness camping

in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The Americans in turn go scuba diving, rock climbing, and speed sailing on the Normandy coast. The participants not only enhance their knowledge of sports during the formal activities, but also develop an understanding of the other culture through home stays and contacts with members of the college community.

The current plan for expanding activities to include faculty members and staff are expected to strengthen the very positive relations already established.

Next March the Pellissippi State representatives visiting IUT-Cherbourg, their sister college, will spend some of their time exploring the picturesque sights of Normandy.

Monroe Celebrates International Education Week

The vast majority of Monroe Community College (MCC) students are commuters. They're not venturing too far away from home to attend school and they're generally not world travelers. The MCC faculty and staff members who organized the college's first celebration of International Education Week know this. They also understand the importance of preparing MCC students to live and work in a global environment.

"Our students need dreams," said Donna Podgorny, instructor, foreign languages and an organizer of this inaugural event. "They need more than the knowledge and experience of a relatively small community. They need the tools that will help make them become more understanding citizens of the world."

During the week of Nov. 17 - 21, more than a half dozen seminars and presentations were held for students and faculty interested in finding out more about overseas study. A lecture on *Study Abroad Options* informed students about how to find information on

financial aid and credit transfer.

Fulbright Options for Faculty explained how the program is relevant to community college faculty. *Volunteering Abroad: The Peace Corps* featured three guest speakers who shared their personal experiences as Peace Corps members. *Living Abroad: Diverse Perspectives* provided details of daily life in places such as Ireland, El Salvador and Peru. Faculty members interested in leading students to other parts of the world listened to MCC professors who've taken classes to Greece, Mexico, England, Spain and Italy. International students shared their perspectives of life in the United States. MCC's week-long celebration was a collaborative effort of the Foreign Language department, Student Center office and Transfer and Placement office. College representatives from the Financial Aid office, Admissions Office and Library were also instrumental in organizing and coordinating the event. "For some of our students, we're just planting seeds," said Podgorny. "But I know that for others, we've really opened up a whole other door."



Hillsborough Celebrates Cultural Differences During International Education Week

Eight new Hillsborough Community College (HCC) faculty members volunteered to organize events to celebrate International Education Week (IEW) November 17-21, 2003. A joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education, IEW is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide.

The Hillsborough committee promoted international education by offering several cross-cultural experiences at three different campuses. The Student Government Associations on the campuses generously provided funds for homemade international foods made by students and faculty.

The week began at the HCC-Brandon Campus when Dr. David Austell from the University of South Florida delivered a provocative speech centered on the topic "The Importance of International Education in a Post-September 11th World." A panel of students from Japan, Peru, Croatia and Columbia then discussed the differences in culture between their home and host countries. Two U.S. students shared insights on

their experiences living abroad. About 50 students gathered later to view and discuss the foreign film "Like Water for Chocolate."

HCC-Dale Mabry Campus faculty organized a poetry reading by students and faculty, highlighting poetry with an intercultural theme written by students and noted poets. HCC-Dale Mabry Campus brought their celebration to a close with traditional dance performances by young Indian dancers and showing the foreign film "Monsoon Wedding" for a crowd of about 100 students.

HCC-Plant City Campus organized presentations and events that focused on Africa. Students were encouraged to learn more about African cultures by visiting educational displays created by student leaders. A vibrant musical group played a variety of international songs.

As part of a "Global Teach-In" faculty members representing multiple disciplines on every campus incorpo-



Hillsborough Community College Plant City campus faculty members and students celebrate Africa

rated international/intercultural content into their classroom discussions throughout the week. Energized by the experience, the new faculty organizers are already brainstorming on content ideas, exploring funding options and setting a timetable for marketing next year's International Education Week at the college.

Delaware Tech Assists USAID's Environmental Efforts in Bulgaria

by Karen Burroughs, Carla Stone, Jerry Williams, Anthony S. Digenakis

Delaware Technical & Community College has received a \$300,000 cooperative agreement from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to develop a Water and Wastewater Training Center in Bulgaria. This project is being led by Mr. Jerry Williams, department chair, Environmental Training Center at Delaware Tech's Owens Campus. This center will provide technical training to operators, supervisors and managers of water and wastewater treatment plants, enabling Bulgaria to meet its goals for improving delivery and quality of water and water treatment services.

Background: While Bulgaria has been blessed with substantial reserves of clean water, the remnants of 45 years of communism resulted in a system that is

unable to take advantage of these resources, particularly in rural or highly industrialized regions of the country. Bulgaria's planned membership in the European Union (EU) in 2007 requires upgrades to the country's water treatment capacity and quality in order to meet the EU's stringent environmental standards. World Bank, USAID, and EU studies all conclude that Bulgaria will need to upgrade and replace much of its water and wastewater infrastructure to satisfy these standards.

Five Part Implementation Program: To help Bulgaria achieve its goal of EU membership, the project will focus on five major activity areas:

- Establish operator training and certification laws/regulations

- Develop and implement public information program
- Create water and wastewater operators training center
- Build financial and institutional sustainability of the training center
- Develop and conduct training courses

Delaware Tech will help the country develop and adopt appropriate legislative and/or regulatory processes requiring training and certification of operators. The college will conduct legislative and regulatory workshops in Bulgaria for the appropriate Parliamentary and Ministry officials, Syndicate (union) officials, and national professional and environmental association officials.

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Indian River Holds Cultural Sensitivity Forum



Discussing international issues with students, Dr. Fontley Corrodus, professor of sociology, (left) and Dr. Richard Mulanax, professor of history, (right) were panelists in IRCC's Cultural Customs and Sensitivities Forum

Students, faculty, and staff at Indian River Community College (IRCC) recently engaged in a lively discussion about differing customs and values around the world at a Cultural Customs and Sensitivities Forum. The well attended event, involving six faculty member panelists, was developed to build understanding of people from other cultures, assist

those who travel or conduct business in other countries, and enhance multi-cultural awareness and respect for people of all countries.

The moderator, Dr. Richard Mulanax, professor of history, opened the session with a question to those not born in the U.S., "What were your pre-conceived notions and first impressions when you arrived?" Citing expectations of overwhelming wealth and ubiquitous movie stars, panelists and students shared expectations of their new country. Several were surprised at the informality of the American school environment, while others commented on the relative "bigness" of U.S. homes and cars. The pervasiveness and global impact of American popular culture and consumer goods were apparent to the panelists, and, in response, an international student noted that he could not identify the "real" American culture.

Panelists and audience members also related experiences traveling abroad, noting the contrast between visits to rural areas and encounters with large fast-paced international cities. Comments were made regarding international differences in the roles of women, diverse concepts of ethnic identity, and faith-based values and behavior.

The forum closed with a timely discussion on the Middle East and international viewpoints relating to the Iraq situation.

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Delaware Tech Assists USAID's Environmental Efforts in Bulgaria

Public support for this program will be built through an extensive public information program in Bulgaria including press conferences, public announcements, publications and proceedings of scientific meetings. The project will include a bilingual web site so private citizens and stakeholders may receive information and contribute to the needs assessment.

Delaware Tech will be instrumental in assisting Bulgarian officials to create a Water and Wastewater Operators Training Center in Sofia, Bulgaria's capital. The college will also help plan for additional training sites to address other environmental concerns and provide support to insure the center(s) are self-sustaining beyond the end of the project.

Finally, the college is working with Bulgarian partners to provide operator and managerial training specific to the needs of Bulgarian water and wastewater operators. The courses will focus on Bulgarian technology while utilizing successful American teaching practices adapted to the Bulgarian situation. Although much of the training will be classroom and laboratory based, the team is also developing alternative content delivery methods, including video, CD-ROM, and the Internet.

Delaware Tech's vast experience in developing curriculum and training operators and managers will serve as the basis for the project. During the last ten years the college's Environmental Training Center in Georgetown, Delaware, has offered hundreds of courses in various aspects of plant operation and management. The United States Environmental Agency attributes Delaware's three-year record of no significant water or wastewater incidents to this training. Operator certification requiring increased training results in: decreased equipment downtime; fewer discharges; fewer regulatory infractions or fines; less frequent equipment replacement; decreased costs; and increased reliability of service.

The Delaware Tech project team hopes to transfer much of what the college has learned and modify that to meet specific Bulgarian operator training needs. The team will continue implementing this project with multiple visits to Bulgaria beginning in January 2004, culminating in an international water and wastewater quality conference, managerial training, and legislative exchanges.



Harford Visits Sister College in Germany

From November 15-22 a delegation from Harford Community College visited the Hans-Schwier-Berufskolleg in Gelsenkirchen, Germany, as part of a continuing educational exchange between the colleges. College President Dr. Claudia E. Chiesi set up the visit to expand the educational program that started in 1999.

Three of the college's Board of Trustees, Ms. Valerie Twanmoh, Mr. Lee McDaniel, Mr. David Dougherty traveled with faculty members, Professors Carl Henderson, Laura Hubbard, two students and one adjunct to investigate curricular issues related to environmental science, agriculture/horticulture and nursing.

During its visit, the delegation toured an Eco-haus in Bottrop to examine how green roofs can treat wastewater and sewage to produce potable water. Harford Community College is planning to install its first green roof on a campus building under renovation.

The delegation also visited the Shell-Solar Energy Photovoltaic production plant in Gelsenkirchen as well as the Wissenschaftsparks (Science Park), a complex dedicated to energy research. In addition, the group visited reclaimed mining lands in the Gelsenkirchen-Buer region.

As guests of the Ministry for Environment and Nature Protection,



Harford Community College trustees, faculty members and students departing for Germany

Agriculture and Consumer Protection of the county North Rhine Westphalia, the group took sediment samples of the Rhine River aboard the modern re-

search vessel Max Pruss. They also toured one of the largest sewage waste treatment plants in the region. Additionally, the Harford delegation toured the world famous cathedral in Koln (Cologne).

As part of its concern for environmental issues the group toured the GE-Wind Energy Plant in Salzbergen to learn about German laws regarding wind energy production as well as to witness the construction of wind turbines.

Hans-Schwier-Beruskolleg President Alfred Breil is expected to visit Harford in 2004 to solidify plans for expanding programs in skilled trades, such as woodworking and plastering, that will support HCC's Building Preservation and Restoration program. Future exchanges will include students and other college personnel as programs are explored in the areas of agriculture/horticulture, nursing and building preservation and restoration.

Continued from page twelve

Indian River Holds Cultural Sensitivity Forum

"Clarifying issues of significance in global affairs and enhancing multi-cultural awareness, the forum proved to be an enlightening session with far-reaching educational value," said Mary Locke, associate vice president/provost of the IRCC Main Campus and chair of the college's Global Initiatives Committee.

In addition to Dr. Mulanax, the panelists were Dr. Fontley Corrodus, professor of sociology; Dr. Annie Fuller, associate professor of history; Dr. Chrys Panayioatou, professor of industrial technology; and Dr. Tony Iacono, assistant dean of Developmental Education.

The Global Initiatives Committee at the Florida community college planned the event in recognition of International Education Week.



Daytona Beach & the Dominican Republic: Building Relationships & Economic Development

by Don Matthews

Since 2002, Daytona Beach Community College (DBCC) has been developing connections and relationships with the Dominican Republic (D.R.). The initial visit to the D.R. was a part of the Florida Caribbean Institute's (FCI) program. The institute was created in 1988 and combines the strengths of the state's community colleges and universities, in this case, Florida International University and DBCC. The FCI, along with the ten other institutes, is mandated by the state legislature to enhance the relationship between a targeted section of the world, the Caribbean, and Florida in business, cultural and educational activities.

Beginning in the spring of 2002, DBCC sent a delegation made up of associate V.P. Nancee Bailey and Director of International Affairs Don Matthews to visit the D.R. as part of the 2002 FCI activities there. This trip was mainly an exploratory one to identify potential partners for future programs and projects. One of the main contacts was the Global Foundation for Democracy and Development [Fundación Global Democracia y Desarrollo (FUNGLODE)], headed by the former president of the D.R., Dr. Leonel Fernández (1996-2000) and current candidate for president in 2004.

As a result of that trip, Dr. Fernández was invited to be the keynote speaker at the Florida Consortium for International Education in October 2002. At that time he visited DBCC and toured the campus and met Dr. Sharples, president of DBCC. While at the college Dr. Fernández visited DBCC's Advanced Technology, a joint venture with the Volusia and Flagler County school boards providing education for high school and college students in computer engineering technology, automotive technology and business. The building has state-of-the-art classrooms and equipment and the curriculum is fully integrated and competency based. High school students can be dually enrolled taking college and high school courses at the ATC.

In January 2003, another delegation from DBCC visited the D.R. including Dr. Kent Sharples, president of the



Dr. Sharples speaking at the ATC center about the Strategic Alliance

college, Dr. Nancee Bailey and Dr. Don Matthews. Many of the same universities that were visited previously including the Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra, Universidad Acción Pro Educación y Cultura (APEC), Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC), and the Universidad Iberoamericana (UNIBE) were visited again. Discussion at these institutions focused on academic exchanges, curriculum development activities and collaboration on possible future projects.

While in the D.R., Dr. Sharples and Dr. Fernández signed a memorandum of understanding between DBCC and FUNGLODE. The agreement outlined the kinds of activities to be endorsed by both sides including training programs by DBCC in the D.R., joint publications and research, and other related activities. The DBCC Board of Trustees approved the agreement at their May 2003 meeting.

In April 2003, in cooperation with FCI, FIU, the University of South Florida and FUNGLODE, Dr. Fernández launched the Florida/D.R. Strategic Alliance in Miami, an ongoing project starting in 2002. In explaining the alliance, Dr. Fernández noted that Florida and the D.R. had a lot that connects them including trade, proximity, common interests, education, tourism, and other related activities. The purpose of the alliance is to expand the areas of traditional interests, build

upon them and open up new avenues of cooperation including banking, health, and regional security. As part of the event, Dr. Nancee Bailey of DBCC attended and was on a panel commenting on Dr. Fernández's remarks. The publication "Building a Strategic Partnership: Dominican Republic - State of Florida" that summarizes the alliance was also presented at this time.

The next major event as a result of this relationship took place in Daytona Beach at the college's Advanced Technology Center in June 2003. At that time DBCC in cooperation with the Governor's office, Enterprise Florida, the Halifax Area Trade Council, Volusia County Economic Development Office, FUNGLODE, Florida's High Tech Corridor Council, Halifax Chamber of Commerce, FCI, the Center for International Business Education and FIU introduced the Florida-Dominican Task Force Strategic Alliance to Central Florida. At the presentation, speakers from the various sponsors spoke in reaction to Dr. Fernández's comments about the alliance. In the audience were business and education leaders from central Florida as well as Jacksonville, Tampa and Miami.

An announcement was also made at the meeting that Governor Jeb Bush would lead an Enterprise Florida trade mission to the D.R. in September. It was at this time that officials from the Governor's office invited Dr. Sharples to be part of a panel discussion in the D.R. about the Florida/D.R. Strategic Alliance.

At the same time as the visit of Dr. Fernández, two delegations from the D.R. visited the college, one was a high tech delegation made up of eight high tech business leaders and the other was a group of six individuals representing an association of business men from eastern Santo Domingo interested in starting a community college in the D.R., Consejo Empresarial de Santo Domingo (CESD). The high tech group met with Randy Berridge, chair of the High Tech Corridor Council. He made a presentation about Florida's High Tech Corridor and then discussed various aspects of the corridor and the possibility of cooperation between high tech companies and the D.R.



LaGuardia Community College Signs Exchange Agreement with International Pacific College in New Zealand

by M. Reza Fakhari

LaGuardia Community College/CUNY, in New York City, has established an extensive exchange program with the International Pacific College (IPC) in Palmerston North, New Zealand. IPC is a leading private college that offers bachelor's and master's degrees, with main focus on international affairs and environmental studies. (<http://www.ipc.ac.nz>). Led by its president, Dr. Gail O. Mellow, LaGuardia is currently engaged in a deep, campuswide dialogue on internationalizing and globalizing its campus.

The exchange agreement is a culmination of two visits paid to LaGuardia by Dr. John F. Fanselow, president, and Mr. Minoru Kasuya, CEO, of International Pacific College in 2001-2002. The agreement allows for the exchange of students for a semester or an academic year with each student paying his or her regular tuition to the home institution. Six LaGuardia students and two IPC students have already participated in this study abroad experience.

The agreement also calls for the exchange of faculty and for the joint instruction of courses via videoconferencing and through online BlackBoard. At the invitation of IPC, This writer visited the college in April-May 2003 and gave three lectures on World Politics and the Middle East to the campus and the community. In the



Left to right: Vice President John P. Bihn, President Gail O. Mellow, President John Fanselow of IPC, Dean Paul Arcario, and Dean Reza Fakhari at the March 2002 exchange agreement meeting.

fall 2003 semester a joint "Globalization and World Politics" course was successfully offered to twenty IPC and ten LaGuardia students with interactions on BlackBoard and six videoconferences, co-taught by Professor Mark Chapman of IPC and this writer. Topics such as America's role in the world after 9/11, the crisis in the

Middle East, globalization and its discontents, the changing nature of the international system, the relevance of the United Nations, and global terrorism were covered, allowing for very interesting and meaningful transnational exchanges of ideas among students and faculty.

The study abroad opportunity in New Zealand will soon be extended to all interested City University of New York students and to students nationally through College Consortium for International Studies. Colleges interested in participating in the transnational course via BlackBoard and videoconferencing may contact: MRFakhari@lagcc.cuny.edu, or telephone (718) 482-5618.

LaGuardia Community College is one of the most diverse colleges in the nation, represented by 159 national backgrounds and 114 languages. It was chosen as an Institution of Excellence in 2002 by the Policy Center on the First College Year and recently ranked in the top three of 13 large community colleges in North America by the Community College Survey of Student Engagement.



LaGuardia Community College students interacting via videoconference with students at IPC in a World Politics class co-taught by Dr. Fakhari and Professor Mark Chapman of IPC.



CASS Scholars Arrive in Central Wisconsin

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) welcomed seventeen Cooperative Association of States for Scholarships (CASS) scholars on August 12, 2003. These young men and women traveled for two days from their home countries of Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, and Mexico to get to central Wisconsin. They were met with a warm welcome by their host families, translators, and NTC's International staff.

Most of the scholars initially spoke very little or no English and had to rely on translators, dictionaries, and creative communication. Three months into their intensive English as a Second Language studies, the scholars are quickly mastering the English language and becoming familiar with NTC life.

CASS scholars received a two-year scholarship from the U.S. Agency for International Development and Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. They are studying electromechanical engineering and leadership skills and will earn certificates in both fields.

Scholars live with host families the first nine months of their stay, then move into apartments to acquire independent living skills to meet part of their program requirements.

The goal of the CASS program is to assist scholars in becoming agents of change for their home countries, so an emphasis is placed on scholars returning home at the end of their two-year program.

Harford Enhances German Exchange with Student, Faculty & Board Participation

From October 7-18, 2003, Harford Community College (HCC) hosted 14 students and faculty members from Hans-Schwieber-Berufskolleg (HSB), Gelsenkirchen Germany. The visit builds on a four-year partnership between the technical college and HCC originally to explore programs in environmental education set up through Dr. Gena Glickman, formerly from HCC.

While at Harford the students and faculty members participated in classes and seminars and met and had lunch with representatives from the HCC Student Government Association and the Environmental Club. Area trips included a nature center, a river excursion, a landfill, a wastewater treatment plant, and a local llama farm. The farm also produces vegetation for green roofs and is a demonstration site for solar electric cells.

A highlight of the visit was a tour of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Phillip Merrill Building. A recipient of the first Platinum LEED (tm) certification from the U.S. Green Building Council, the building is a working demonstration site for the latest technologies and designs for environmentally sensitive building construction. This tour and the participation in the Society for College and University Planning telecast on sustainability enhanced the visitors' experience and knowledge of the college's commitment to environmental stewardship.

The college hopes to secure a Gold LEED (tm) certification upon completion of the renovation of a 78,000 square foot technical arts and classroom building in 2005, incorporating many of the same materials and designs of the Merrill Building. Such programs are consistent with the

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CASS scholars arrive in central Wisconsin



Students of Diverse Backgrounds Share Common Destination

Two years ago, nearly 60 young men from Sudan arrived and incredibly enriched the campus of Onondaga Community College (OCC) and its 8,500 students. Numbering among the estimated 12,000 children left orphaned and homeless by a horrific civil war, the young men walked more than 1,000 miles and spent years in a Kenyan refugee camp before being flown to the security of America.

Once in the United States, where everything from indoor plumbing to traffic lights were new and abrupt experiences, the students' priorities were to obtain a job and an education. OCC, a State University of New York (SUNY) institution located in Syracuse, New York, embraced these young men into the campus community.

"The presence of international students, including those from Sudan, has made OCC a more culturally and academically enriched environment for our students, staff and community. We all, regardless of background, share the same promise of the power of learning to transform lives," said OCC President Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D.



Dressed in traditional garments, Onondaga Community College students originally from Sudan perform at the International Student Services Thanksgiving Dinner.

In 2001, OCC formed the office of International Student Services (ISS), which currently helps more than 300 immigrants and F1 visa students from around the world succeed. "While becoming an OCC student may seem straight forward, students of diverse cultures face challenges. We serve as a

resource to help students thrive," said ISS coordinator Penny Kim.

Abraham Leek, 23, an OCC Criminal Justice major, has found ISS helpful with his course work, obtaining financial aid, and practicing English. From Bor community in southern Sudan, Leek is the first person from his village to go to college. "People have high expectations so we can succeed in our new culture and community. In America, you can be anything you want to be," said Leek.

ISS also coordinates annual events, including two last fall that highlighted the Sudanese culture. International Education Week featured presentations on the cultural and political background of Sudan, music by the Sudanese chorus and Dinka dancers, and a sampling of traditional food. The students performed again for nearly 200 people at the International Student Thanksgiving Dinner.

Already on their way to success, several Sudanese students have achieved a GED following disruption of their formal education by the war, and three students are now pursuing bachelor's degrees at SUNY Binghamton University and SUNY Oswego. "These students are survivors. They have come from so little and offer so much to our campus and community," said Kim.

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Harford Enhances German Exchange with Student, Faculty and Board Participation

college's mission, vision and objectives to be responsible for the efficient and effective use of resources.

Other excursions to Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and the Baltimore area rounded out their visit with cultural and tourist attractions. The group met with college president Dr. Claudia E. Chiesi, chair of the board of trustees, Dr. Bernard F. Barnes, Sr. and four other trustees for a dinner to exchange gifts and to introduce the HCC delegation expecting to visit HSB in November.



Global Awareness & Transcultural Educational Opportunities a Harford Commitment



Open World delegates and Harford Community College personnel with Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. in Annapolis, Maryland

From September 26 - October 3, 2003, Harford Community College (HCC) participated in the Open World Russian Leadership Program. Funded through the Library of Congress and administered by the Academy for Educational Development, the program brings emerging Russian political, educational and civic leaders to communities across

the United States to study politics, federalism, health issues and education reform. The participants stayed with three HCC host families during their week long program. Since it began in 1999, the program has hosted nearly 7,000 Russian visitors from all of the Russian Federation's 89 regions. Over 900 communities in all 50 states have

hosted Open World delegations.

Harford's delegates were Russian educators who participated in the program to study secondary education and the political role in funding for public education. Their professional fields included administration, teaching, counseling and broadcasting. Participants included: Mr. Mikhail Belgorokov from Nalchik, Kabardino-Balkariya; Mr. Nikolay Voronov from Ykaterinberg, Sverdlovsk Oblast; Ms. Nailya Babadzhanova from Arkaul, Bashkortostan; Ms. Galina Kalyuzhnaya from Svobodnyy, Amur Oblast. A facilitator Ms. Darya Ionova accompanied them from Moscow.

During the week the college hosted the program, the delegates and facilitator met with the governor, state and county officials, toured public and private schools, spoke with school administrators and students, held an interview on the local cable television station and participated in college classes and seminars including: Introduction to Education, American Ethnic History, a distance learning math class, a seminar on environmental sustainability and an overview of the U.S. political system. Additionally, they toured the nursing labs and the campus radio station for taped interviews with college president Dr. Claudia E. Chiesi. Ms. Lucie Snodgrass, former county government relations officer, led an in-depth seminar on the role/function of the county council.

The public and private secondary school visits were particularly relevant for the delegates. They were impressed by the level of nurturing shown on behalf of the students, the variety of services/classes and the amount of funding devoted to public education.

Apart from the professional program the participants attended cultural activities at the college, a production of Firebird by the Washington Ballet, and made several short trips to area attractions with their host families. They also attended a cross-cultural dinner with President Chiesi, and the board of trustees, whose chair, Dr. Bernard F. Barnes, Sr., welcomed the Russians and where the group exchanged gifts.

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Hillsborough Student from Nicaragua Determined to Learn & Return

A native of the Corn Islands, Nicaragua, Katty Moten believes that “studying here and then going back home is going to make me better.” In these few words, Katty captures the larger objective of the Cooperative Association of States for Scholarships (CASS) program. After studying Aqua-culture at the Hillsborough Community College Brandon Campus over the next two years, Katty is determined to return to her country, her island, in order to affect change.

Over four semesters and two summer sessions, Katty and her 16 fellow CASS students satisfy the requirements for a College Credit Certificate (CCC) in Aqua-culture Technology. In addition to intensive academic preparation, the students rotate through a variety of aqua-culture operations. They gain skills to manage the practical aspects of establishing a fish farm, setting up

ponds, maintaining environmental conditions, harvesting fish and, in some cases, growing ornamental species of tropical fish and plants – the largest air freight item sent out of Tampa International Airport.

In Katty’s view, she is learning aqua-culture, a vital industry for a person whose home community is surrounded by water, and she is gaining a better understanding of U.S. culture. “Learning about America,” says Katty, “started when I arrived. I did not expect my American host family to be originally from India. I learned first-hand that the United States is made up of people from many nations.”

Since Katty arrived with English language skills, she agreed to serve as the Aqua-culture Program representative to the Student Government Association. In the short time she has been here, Katty has already begun to realize



Hillsborough student Katty Moten from Corn Islands, Nicaragua.

her goals of learning as much as she can so that she can teach others back home on the Corn Islands.

Civics Educators Visit Columbus State



A large delegation of civics educators from 16 foreign countries poses outside of the Franklin Hall board room, where they had been hosted for lunch by Bob Queen, administrator for International Initiatives and President Moeller on election day, November 4. The visitors were in Columbus invited by the International Visitor’s Council, and represented the countries of Argentina, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Israel, Jamaica, Kenya, Malawi, Philippines, Serbia, Montenegro, Singapore, Turkey, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe.

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