

Global Education

NEWSLETTER

Office of Global Partnerships • Office of Interdisciplinary, Distributed and Global Learning

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Interrogating Boundaries Symposia, Fall 2003

The Office of Global Learning has partnered with the English Department at the College at Florham to deliver the new “Interrogating Boundaries” seminar series. Conceptualized by Drs. Nandita Ghosh and Geoffrey Weinman, the seminars will take the form of an interdisciplinary, inter-departmental and inter-campus dialogue, involving faculty, students and administration. Over the course of the series, participants will explore areas relevant to the critical study of globalization. Each event will host a speaker specializing in the area of discussion and will review a critical issue related to the growing interconnectedness of the world.

The first event, scheduled for September 17th, will address “Women’s Rights in a Global Society” from the perspective of an Israeli, Dr. Orly Lubin from the NCJW Women Studies Forum, Tel-Aviv University, and a Palestinian, Dr. Rabab Abdulhadi from the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality at New York University.

The second event, scheduled for November 12, will address “Globalization and Religious Fundamentalism” with guest speaker Dr. Rupal Oza of the Department of Women’s Studies at Hunter College.

Attendance at the events is by invitation only. Those interested may contact Dr. Nandita Ghosh at x8718 or nghosh@fdu.edu or Diana Cvitan at x7161 or dcvitan@fdu.edu.

Global Leadership Seminars, Fall 2003

The 2003-04 Global Leadership Seminar series will continue to provide faculty with opportunities to hear from, and engage in discussion with, guest speakers on issues of global impact. The luncheon seminars are planned throughout the year for the Metropolitan campus (with the Interrogating Boundaries Symposia taking place at the College at Florham).

Our first seminar is scheduled for Wednesday, October 8 at 12:00 Noon, the topic will be “Human Rights and Corporate Responsibility” with Dr. Paul Martin, Executive Director, Center for the Study of Human Rights at Columbia University, as our speaker.

If you would like to be added to the invitation list for these events, contact the Office of Global Learning at 201-692-7360 or e-mail dcvitan@fdu.edu.

Fulbright Student Programs

Since the opening of competition for the 2004-2005 awards in the U.S. Student Fulbright Program, several students have expressed an interest in pursuing these grant opportunities.

The Fulbright Student Program is still open, with its October 21 application deadline soon approaching. Any student who is a U.S. citizen, and will have completed his/her Bachelor’s degree by May 2004, is qualified to apply. A Fulbright fellowship offers students the chance to live, study and conduct research in one of 140 countries.

The program is very competitive, but faculty and staff are available to guide students through the process. Interested students should contact their respective advisers as soon as possible to begin the application procedure. At the College of Florham, contact Prof. Joan Desilets at x8743 or desilets@fdu.edu. On the Metropolitan Campus, contact Diana Cvitan at x7161 or dcvitan@fdu.edu.



New Fulbright Opportunities for Faculty

The Fulbright New Century Scholars Program (NCS) is now accepting applications. This program will play a vital role in forging new links among scholars and professionals from around the world who will work together to seek solutions to issues and concerns that affect all humankind. Each year 25-30 applicants from the U.S. and abroad are selected as NCS Fellows through an open competition.

Under the leadership of an appointed Distinguished Scholar Leader, NCS Fellows engage in multidisciplinary collaboration of the highest quality on a topic of global significance and universal concern. The program includes an international research exchange visit of two to six months, which provides an opportunity for the Scholars to present their research to colleagues or professional constituencies and carry out individual projects.

For the 2004-05 year, the research theme is "Total Equality: the Global Empowerment of Women." Application deadline is December 15, 2003. Details on the program may be found at <http://www.cies.org/NCS/> or by contacting Diana Cvitan in the Office of Global Learning at x7161 or dcvitan@fdu.edu.

Global Virtual Faculty Program Assessment

The Office of Global Learning conducted the first systematic assessment of the Global Virtual Faculty program in Spring 2003. Both FDU faculty and the GVF participated in the survey. (The full assessment report was recently sent to all faculty teaching distance learning courses.) There were 19 faculty at the university who taught in collaboration with a GVF during the spring 2003 semester. Twenty-two Global Virtual Faculty from 13 countries and the United Nations participated in a total of 20 courses. Of the 20 courses, 10 were The Global Challenge (GC) sections and 7 were part of Fairleigh Dickinson University's year two Distance Learning Initiative (DL2). In addition, two courses were classified as "web-enhanced" undergraduate-level courses and one "web-enhanced" graduate course. There were four courses in which two or more GVF participated. The response rate for FDU full time faculty was 100% and for the GVF 68%.

There is an overall consensus among FDU faculty that the GVF program enhances the quality of the students' educational experience. A few specific responses, indicative of the general sense of the contributions that the GVF program provides, were: the program was "absolutely outstanding"; it was a "fabulous experience for both students and myself"; and "it was an experience [the students] will long remember." The comments further indicate that the faculty felt the GVF provided a high level of expertise and dedication along with global perspectives. Overall, the results of the FDU faculty survey indicate that a clear majority of respondents had positive experiences with the Global Virtual Faculty.

The Global Virtual Faculty members were also asked to evaluate the various aspects of their participation in the program. According to the survey results, GVF encountered very few problems during the semester with respect to their own computer skills, their interaction with the collaborative FDU faculty member (including communication regarding the expected roles and responsibilities), and any academic and technical support they sought. Results indicate that the GVF were readily able to adapt to the online format of the course throughout the semester. Consequently, the GVF appear to have felt comfortable with teaching via distance learning and most expressed a desire to continue their participation in the GVF program. The results also indicate that the GVF were interested in their respective course content. Most importantly, the GVF felt satisfied that they were

able to contribute to the student's global perspective. Any weaknesses identified were not with the GVF program per se, but with the quality of the discussion board, including the GVF understanding of how to participate effectively and GVF expectations for the amount of work required.

If you are interested in reviewing a copy of the full assessment report, please contact the Office of Global Learning at x-7360.

Korean Global Scholars Program

This program began operations last year with the aid of Dr. Mal Sturchio (Florham). He received a continuous and overwhelming response from Korean faculty members, who were interested in furthering their research and studies in the United States, which led to the development of this program. Previously, Dr. Sturchio worked with Korean Global Scholars, primarily on the Florham Campus however, our focus was to extend this invitation to scholars for research at the Metropolitan Campus.

The office of Global Partnerships, along with the assistance of International Student Services and Albert Schielke, Associate Dean of University College, are responsible for making the transition for Korean Scholars into the United States as smooth as possible, by providing J-1 visa guidance, and once arrived, ESL course offerings, a research facility, as well as a mentor (Liz Nigrinis), whose primary responsibility is to help each scholar get acquainted with the University community. A large number of our Korean Global Scholars are faculty members from a variety of Universities and Institutions in Korea. The purpose of their stay is to partner with a FDU faculty member for the purpose of gathering research in a specific academic field, improve their use of the English language, as well as to further promote their FDU research experience and opportunity to their member Institutions in Korea.

Nominations and sponsorships are determined by academic departments at FDU. Once the curriculum vitae, credentials and references are supplied, and the nominated individual is approved, an invitation is extended to the potential Korean Global Scholar. For further information, please contact the Office of Global Partnerships at ext. 2392.

Stressing the Importance of Study Abroad

Study abroad has long been regarded as one of the most profound educational and social experiences a university can offer to its students. Since 1965 Fairleigh Dickinson has been sending its own students, as well as students from over 250 colleges and universities, to its campus in England, Wroxton College. And in recent years a number of departments and faculty have also been conducting successful study abroad programs of their own. With the post 9/11 apprehensions of going abroad subsiding for both parents and students the Study Abroad Office, with the help of Dr. I. Rick Isquith, has begun a new initiative to promote studying abroad to both students and faculty. We've begun the process of researching and implementing a wider variety of offerings in varying lengths and locations. We have also begun a push in the direction of more faculty led programs abroad, a

formula that we believe to be beneficial to both students and instructors. In order to consolidate and display the various new and established study abroad offerings we have recently created a website (<http://www.fdu.edu/studyabroad/>) that we hope will be used as a resource for students and faculty alike.

*-Brian Swanzey,
Director,
Wroxton Study Abroad Program*

Upcoming Study Abroad Courses

Costa Rica (June, 2004)

Learn about the environment and the human species' place in it, while you see exotic wildlife, hike through untouched forest, and remote beaches. Two courses are designed for two different populations of students:

- K-12 teachers interested in expanding their environmental education knowledge and teaching techniques. The course's focus is to demonstrate how an educational unit based entirely on Costa Rica can cover a variety of the NJ State Standards in science in an engaging and exciting way. Credits / Professional Development Hours: The course is worth 45 Professional Development Hours towards NJ's required 100 hours. Three college credits can also be obtained for course participation for an additional tuition fee.
- Undergraduate students who have a science requirement to fulfill. This course is a three credit, laboratory course. It may be used as a science elective for any program at the university or as a free elective for science majors (with permission of department advisor).

The faculty for these two courses will be Jenny Gaus and I.R. Isquith. Gaus, has been an educator for eleven years and is a graduate of the Fairleigh Dickinson University Masters of Arts in Science Program. She is currently an adjunct professor for that program. She spent a sabbatical year in Costa Rica and was an educator at Jardin Gaia Wildlife Rescue Center; she also guided students on an educational tour of the country. Irwin R. Isquith, Ph.D. is a member of the School of Natural Sciences of University College at Fairleigh Dickinson University. He is a professor of biology and for many years was chairperson of the department. His research includes various subjects in aquatic ecology and microbiology

Laureano Corces, Assistant Professor of Modern Languages and Literature (Florham), is currently in the course development phase for 2 courses to be delivered during the upcoming interim semester in Spain.

Jonell Sanchez, Associate Dean of Students (Metropolitan), is currently in the course development phase for a class to be taught in South Africa this upcoming interim semester.

Vilma Mueller, Assistant to the Director of Hotel, Restaurant & Tourism Management, is scheduled to deliver two courses: Club Management and Spanish Hospitality Managers, in the Dominican Republic during the Winter 2004 semester.

More details are to come for the above study abroad opportunities.

New Partnerships

Fairleigh Dickinson University and Ben-Gurion University (BGU) signed an agreement early this summer, which is a statement of intent to cooperate in educational activities. The range of activities is not yet defined, but it is hoped that it will send FDU students and faculty to Israel and Israeli students to FDU for a wide range of programs. Currently, BGU has nearly 17,000 students in Humanities and Social Sciences, Natural Sciences, Engineering Sciences, Health Sciences, and their School of Management. It is the fastest growing Israeli University and has earned a reputation as the "#1 choice university of Israeli students", according to a study by the Council for Higher Education in Israel. If you want to learn more about BGU, go to their website, http://www.bgu.ac.il/html/about_bgu.html.

Dr. Ron Heim, of the Silberman College of Business, has established two preliminary agreements with schools in China. Northeastern University (Shenyang, China) will work with FDU in the development of an MBA program that fulfills AACSB requirements. It is envisioned, at this time, that newly developed technologies will make this possible. Another program that Heim is developing will be at the undergraduate level at Shenyang University. This program may involve students from China coming to FDU for two years of study.

Summer Programs at FDU

This summer at FDU we conducted two, three week programs with our international partners. One, our Language and Culture course for more than 60 students from Kyungnam University (Korea) is a long established program. Started several years ago by Prof. Mal Sturchio, each summer, we host undergraduate students interested in improving their English language skills and experiencing America first hand. During the three week period, students spent 45 hours in ESL classes at the College at Florham taught by American faculty members and visited places such as Washington, D.C., Boston, and Niagara Falls. In New York, they went to other universities and cultural sites as well as a baseball game.

Our other summer program involved American students and three hebrew language faculty from Ben-Gurion University, of the Negev in Israel, which is one of FDU's newest partners. At the Metropolitan Campus, classes were held four evenings per week, in three different levels of the language Students earned three BGU credits for the experience. The program was very well received and, hopefully, it will become an annual event.

Global Issues Gateway Website

Global Issues Gateway (gig.org) is an educational website for those investigating issues arising from the rapid exchange of goods and ideas across increasingly porous geographic and cultural borders. It has been in intensive development over the

past academic year under the general editorship of Jason Scorza, and by a faculty editorial board which includes Jack Becker, Walter Cummins, Chris Devine, Nandita Ghosh, Odysseus Makrides, Marion McClary and Sorin Tuluca. The site mission is to serve as a discriminating source of news, information, and commentary that illuminates the impact of globalization on societies, institutions, and on the daily lives of people throughout the world, and to provide global learning resources for students, scholars, teachers, and journalists. The site is expected to be launched internally later this fall, and publicly in the fall or winter.

Specific activities of Global Issues Gateway include: producing an up-to-date digest of web articles related to political, economic, cultural, ethical, and scientific dimensions of current global issues (with a related archive of older articles); maintaining an annotated portal of major websites related to current global issues; moderating public discussion forums related to a variety of current global issues; publishing original columns, lectures, letters, interviews, roundtables, and reports on current global matters by a global network of academic experts, activists, and professionals; hosting multi-media (e.g., digitized audio and video presentations) from sources such as the United Nations Ambassador's Club lecture series; producing short reading and discussion courses for adult learners on contemporary global issues; maintaining a database of profiles/contact information for experts on a wide range of global issues for journalists and organizations seeking speakers; and promoting the integration of global education at university and K-12 levels by producing and/or maintaining links to lesson plans and other educational materials related to global affairs for primary and secondary school teachers.

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Ambassador's Club at FDU

Fall 2003 UN Pathway Lecture Series



College at Florham

Wednesday, September 17, 2003 6:30 p.m.
Lenfell Hall

Topic: Australia in the World Today
Speaker: Ambassador John Dauth of Australia

Metropolitan Campus

Wednesday, October 1, 2003 6:30 p.m.
Muscarelle Auditorium

Topic: The Situation in the Gulf
Speaker: Ambassador Nassir al-Nasser of Qatar

Video Conference

Thursday, October 9, 2003 10:00 a.m.
ITV Metropolitan/College at Florham/Rider University/
Lock Haven University/United Nations
Topic: The Future of the United Nations and the Secretariat
Participants: TBA

Video Conference

Thursday, October 23, 2003 10:00 a.m.
ITV Metropolitan/College at Florham/Rider University/
Lock Haven University/United Nations
Topic: Women's Rights Issues
Participants: TBA

Metropolitan Campus

Wednesday, November 5, 2003 6:30 p.m.
Muscarelle Auditorium
Topic: African Challenges at the Turn of the 21st Century
Speaker: H.E. Ibrahim Gambari, Undersecretary General
and Special Advisor on Africa

Video Conference

Thursday, November 13, 2003 10:00 a.m.
ITV Metropolitan/College at Florham/Rider University/
Lock Haven University/United Nations
Topic: Global Health Issues
Participants: TBA

College at Florham

Wednesday, December 3, 2003 6:30 p.m.
Lenfell Hall
Topic: The Role of Iran in the Middle East
Speaker: Ambassador Javad Zarif of Iran

**For additional information on the UN Pathways Lecture
Series, please call (201) 692-7360.**