

Executive Summary of Report of the
GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP INITIATIVE

Submitted May 2009
by

Gordon Dossett, Faculty Leader, Global Council

| Kelley Brayton, Dean of International Education
Georgia Lorenz, Dean of Academic Affairs

Santa Monica College continues to be a pioneer in global education. Over 2900 international students enrolled at SMC this spring, third highest among community colleges in the country. Our commitment to global citizenship is embodied in our curriculum: to receive an Associate of Arts degree, students must complete a course that satisfies a global citizenship requirement, a rarity in higher education. Over the past year we sent students abroad to study on innovative programs to Europe, Latin America, South Africa and China. We made strides educating our faculty and staff, so that they in turn could better educate our students to become global citizens.

Underlying Philosophy

In fall of 2007 the Academic Senate Joint Presidents' Task Force on Global Citizenship and the Academic Senate approved a definition of global citizenship.

To be a global citizen, one:

- is knowledgeable of peoples, customs and cultures in regions of the world beyond one's own;
- understands the interdependence that holds both promise and peril for the future of the global community; and
- is committed to combining one's learning with a dedication to foster a livable, sustainable world.

Events sponsored by the Global Citizenship Initiative and discussion at the Global Council and Academic Senate have advanced an underlying philosophy that informs decision-making. To promote global citizenship, we strive to:

- Build capacity.
- Promote depth of knowledge and understanding
- Promote skills and
- Promote re-examination of values and attitudes

Updates: Four Aspects of the Initiative

Globalization of the Curriculum

Faculty from seven disciplines have submitted a total of nine courses that now meet the global citizenship AA requirement, and others are in the process of applying. Fourteen professors have submitted exemplary lessons designed to promote global citizenship, and four gave presentations on staff development day in March. We have begun to develop a Global Studies A.A. degree. Modeled after programs at UCLA and UCSB, this degree program is “designed to increase knowledge and understanding of the processes of globalization and their impacts on societies, cultures, and environments around the world.”

To anchor concepts of global citizenship, the Global Council proposed that the campus examine a theme for academic year 2009-10. The theme chosen—water—has a link to virtually every discipline and has a myriad of implications for global citizenship. In addition to a speaker series, departments are proposing events related to water. (For example, the photography department will hold a contest and display entrees in the gallery.)

International Students

We continue to attract outstanding international students to serve as ambassadors of global citizenship. One of our Turkish students, for example, ranked in the top fifty in a nation-wide examination of graduating high school students. He has been an active participant in clubs and on the Global Council. International students constitute three quarters of the membership of our prominent honor society, Alpha Gamma Sigma.

For fall staff development day, international students presented suggestions for professors to better educate students from other countries. Subsequently these suggestions were compiled and distributed to faculty through email. Further, two research projects are underway to identify strategies that succeed in incorporating international students’ knowledge into courses, enabling all students to benefit.

Study Abroad

Over the past year, students studied abroad on faculty-led programs to England, France and Spain (summer 2008); to Latin America (winter, 2009) and South Africa (winter, 2009). In stark contrast to national averages, 27% of these students were Hispanic or Latino. For winter programs (and summer 2009) students benefitted from the strong support of Associated Students scholarships totaling over \$66,000.

A preliminary proposal process drew faculty from several disciplines to propose new programs for winter 2010. An innovative study abroad program was one to Shandong University in China, including two traveling groups, a short travel time, and a performance. We continue to look to establishing a base for the Latin American Educational Program, two professors having conducted a site visit of Merida, Mexico during the spring.

Professional Development

Staff Development Day presentations, the year-long “Global Connections” speaker series and the spring “Food for Thought, Thoughts on Food” series suggested a myriad of ways in which global citizenship could be considered. For example, Dr. Steven Kwon’s talk, “Soybeans and Service: Nutrition for the World” showed the power of one person taking action in a land suffering from malnutrition; we are looking at ways in

which the Life Sciences Department and others on campus might collaborate with Dr. Kwon in the future.

The summer programs to Salzburg and Turkey drew 42 applications for 17 places. In addition, the planning for the water theme activities has already led professors to consider their discipline from a different perspective and consider links to global citizenship. Furthermore, funding from the Global Initiative Fund supported the Iranian Festival, participation at the annual sustainability conference, performances by Reinhold Wagnleitner and Tom McDermott, and other professional development activities.

Planning for 2009-10: Four Aspects of the Initiative

At its two meetings in May, the Global Council determined priorities for the next academic year. In considering the infrastructure necessary for our efforts, we determined to divide into subcommittees, organized around the previously-stated four areas. The Global Council will meet monthly (not bi-weekly) and the faculty leader will continue to monitor all activities and coordinate with the Academic Senate and various district committees.

In planning for next year, we continue to underscore the importance of building capacity—with the added challenge of a bleak economic forecast. In our planning the Global Council thought it helpful to create at least temporarily a fifth area, Globalizing the Campus, for events that cut across two or more of the others areas. Highlights of the planning are below:

- a. Globalizing the Curriculum
 - Promoting the model curriculum project and soliciting more submissions
 - Tying to the theme of water
 - Auditing SMC's curriculum and determining areas for development
- b. International students
 - Promoting social integration with American students
 - Further drawing upon expertise of F1 students
 - Using research findings to encourage faculty to consider effective strategies for teaching international students
- c. Study Abroad
 - Establishing consistent funding for scholarships
 - Establishing the Latin American Program as a Model for developing centers and easily replicated programs at low cost to students
 - Classifying various kinds of programs
- d. Professional Development

- Planning more professional development activities and perhaps additional ongoing workshops to further develop faculty expertise and experience
 - Continuing the Salzburg, Turkey summer programs, looking for ways to expand such programs and incorporating the expertise developed on the programs
- e. Globalizing the Campus
- Developing the Water Theme
 - Conducting a campus survey of international experience
 - Enhancing the global website and improving communication
 - Connecting with local businesses (i.e. Small Business tour to China; Rotaract)
 - Conducting research projects (faculty working with students on issues related to global citizenship)

Appendices

Appendices for the report include:

- A list of participants on the 2008 and 2009 summer programs
- List of funded projects from the Global Initiative Fund
- Synopses of lessons promoting global citizenship
- Case studies of key activities informing the initiative
- A DVD and a CD of Professor Bill Selby's Cultural LA activities
- A list of courses meeting the Global Citizenship Requirement for the AA degree