International Partnerships

The international dimension continues to play a critical role in the District’s mission. The International Council, comprised of representatives from every unit within the District is charged with the task of promoting, improving, and expanding the internationalization/globalization efforts of WCCCD. International cooperation agreements are in place for the purpose of faculty and student exchanges, materials exchanges (such as library materials), training and technical assistance, study abroad programs, collaborative projects and other activities with higher education institutions in other parts of the world with potential for trade development between businesses in both service areas.

Some of the international cooperation agreements are:

- The Confucius Institute with the Exchange Center for International Education, Hebei College of Industry and Technology, China
- The Hospitality Program with the Eritrean Institute of Technology, Eritrea
- The academic and cultural exchange agreement with the Universidade Federal de Sao Carlos, Brazil
- The Accelerated Alternative Delivery Surgical Technology program with the Department of the Army, Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany
- Distance Education with students in Nigeria with the Nigerians in Diaspora Organization – Michigan Chapter
- Distance Education with students in Ghana with the University of Ghana
- Academic and cultural exchange with students at the University of Nizwa, Muscat, Oman
- Distance Education with students in the United Arab Emirates with AI Ain Institute, UAE

All these partnerships contribute to the internationalization of the WCCCD learning experience.

On January 8, 2010, Mengisteb Tesfamikael visited the Eritrea institute of Technology (EIT). He met with Dr. Ghebrebrhan Ogubazghi, Vice President of EIT, to talk about distance learning between WCCCD and EIT. According to Dr. Ghebrebrhan, they have laid down the infrastructure that is required for online teaching.

Presently, EIT has installed high speed internet connectivity, and there are over 5,000 students attending EIT who have access to high speed internet. The Eritrean Institute of Technology will increase online activities between WCCCD and EIT that they have been eagerly waiting to fully implement.

As we continue to refine the alignment of District resources, we are making several personnel changes. Ms. Omobonike Odegbami, Provost of Professional Development and Campus Leadership, will provide oversight for international programs and global initiatives. This will allow for coordination of international programs, global studies, international student recruitment and compliance reporting, and the development of international articulations. We are excited and encouraged by the expansion of our global initiatives, including recent articulation agreements in Brazil and ongoing efforts in East Asia, Europe and Africa. This is an important strategic alignment that strengthens our services to students and our international programs.
Wayne County Community College District’s Continuing Education Division hosted the 2nd Annual International Taste Fest, Saturday, August 15, 2009 from 11:00am – 4:00pm in the courtyard of the Downtown Campus. The event highlighted international music and dancing, while showcasing food samples from around the world. There were children’s activities and a hands-on chef demonstration. This was a wonderful way to “Explore and Experience World Cultures through Food” featuring cuisine from Africa, Middle East, Asia, and the Americas.

WCCCD’s 3rd Annual International taste Fest: Food, Dancing and Fun for All!

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A Study in Alternative Energy!

Twenty-six WCCCD students returned home recently from Brazil in search of the source for green energy technology. Our students continue to benefit from our Study Abroad Program. As we explore ways to expose them to global education, emphasizing bi-lingual education to prepare them for the future, twenty-six students and four staff members returned from Brazil following a week of intensive educational and cultural study. The focus of the trip was to learn conversational Portuguese and study Brazil’s role in alternative energy production, specifically, ethanol from sugar cane. The students were invited by the Federal University of Sao Carlos in Sao Carlos, Brazil, about 200 miles from Sao Paulo. The students also visited the University’s research center in Araras, where the University’s research scientists are exploring the various usage of the sugar cane plant.

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