

North Carolina Community College System

College: Durham Technical Community College

Date: March 7, 2001

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Abstract:

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We developed a proposal for a Durham Technical Community College **Institute for Global Education Through the Humanities**. The Institute's mission is to foster a concentrated global perspective in the community college through curriculum and faculty development and to serve as a national model for development and delivery of interdisciplinary and cross-cultural education. Through the study of the Humanities? the Institute seeks to encourage the development of new educational paradigms that will best prepare a global citizenry living and working in an emerging global community. This paradigm shift (by which we mean fresh perspectives on *how* and *what* to teach) responds to both the new technologies and the new economic and cultural environments that impact the individual's quality of life and therefore promotes the well being of our society.

Rationale:

Global changes require increasing refinement of skills associated with a Humanities-oriented education, including the ability to manage, interpret and properly critique the vast flow of information that individuals are confronted with daily, hourly, even instantaneously. Learning experiences that take advantage of technology and teaching expertise to integrate multiple media with intelligent assessment and molding of ideas are crucial. The need for integrated learning experiences takes on even greater importance as we move into an era of increased cross cultural interaction, opportunities for remote learning and an educational model that demands self-directed learners. Education by professionals in the Humanities whose expertise is the transmission of proper language, writing and research skills, who foster both creativity and synthesis and who have experience with transnational and intercultural dynamics will be the leaders in the community college in the decades to come. As we become closer to those once considered 'other', as we become more linked through and dependent on machines, we need to know more than ever what it is to be human and humane.

Action Plan

As the first stage' we propose establishing a **global studies concentration** within the Associate in Arts degree program and the Associate in Applied Science in Business Administration degree program at Durham Tech. Our action plan includes steps toward *curriculum development and faculty development*. We plan to form a college-wide committee and include off campus consultants from local industry. We will take the following steps:

1. Determine which existing courses are most appropriate for the concentration in global studies.
2. Identify new courses that should be developed and added to the present plan of study.
3. Identify courses that can satisfy requirements in both degree programs.
4. Discuss the possibility of articulation agreements with Universities for new or existing courses that do not currently transfer.
5. Explore the development of small modules of international studies which can be inserted into a variety of courses.
6. Investigate the implementation of a study abroad component for students and instructors in the concentration.

Durham Tech has already begun the use of its Foreign Language Laboratory. We offer coursework toward an English as a Foreign Language program of study. We have developed and offered new Humanities courses.

The steps listed above provide the framework of the first of five years outlined by the more comprehensive proposal for the Humanities Institute which may be attained from any member of the Durham Tech Community College team. It is our hope that this initial action plan will help infuse the entire college with momentum and models to implement global education in the curriculum at all levels.

Title of Project/Activity: Center for Global Education through Technology and the Humanities: Step 1- Global Studies Concentration

Name of College: Durham Technical Community College

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Goal of Project/Activity: At a broad level, a Center for Global Education would allow us to provide a culturally-enriched and holistic educational experience for the growing number of students who are transferring to senior colleges and universities, as well as those students pursuing the technical skills needed to succeed in a global workplace. More specifically, the goal of the present project is to develop a global studies concentration within the Associate in Arts degree program and the Associate in Applied Science in Business Administration degree program.

Description of Project/Activity: This project will take place during the 2001-2002 academic year. The Program Directors of the Business Administration program and the Associate in Arts program will call together a college-wide committee to help select appropriate coursework for a concentration within the degree programs. The committee will help to answer the following questions:

- a. Which courses are most appropriate for a concentration in global studies?
- b. Of the courses identified, which courses are presently available in a program of study?
- c. Which new courses will need to be developed/chosen to be included in the present plans of study?
- d. Which courses can satisfy both programs of study for students who want to take both degrees?
- e. Which courses, if any, are not transferable, and, for those courses that are not transferable, should separate articulation agreements with individual schools be developed?
- f. How might a study abroad program best be implemented for those students taking the concentration and participating instructors?

This project is one part of a more comprehensive five-year project to create the Durham Technical Community College Center for Global Education through Technology and the Humanities. The grant is presently being reviewed by the board of the William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust. **The grant is included on the "Best Practices" diskette or a hard copy may be obtained from any member of the Durham Tech CC team.**

Evaluation Methods and Outcomes: Development of degree concentrations will be included as part of the Performance Review and Evaluations for both the Associate in Arts Program Director and the Business Administration Program Director. Monthly updates will be given to the school's Management Council, an executive level group made up of Associate Deans, Assistant Deans, Deans and the Chief Instructional Officer. Programs of study will include information on a global concentration by Fall 2002.

Required Resources: College Personnel; Marketing funds