



THE HENRY M. JACKSON
SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

2012 Community College Master Teacher Institute:
Global Education for a Sustainable Future

Talk topic synopsis

Key Note on Global Education: "The Death of Distance: Three Dimensional Education for the 21st Century" - David Fenner, International Education Consultant

We shall explore the value of crossing borders (from the disciplinary to the political to the cultural) as a critical component of a modern education. The discussion will focus on the impact on teacher, student and classroom of the metamorphosis possible as mobility, depth, context and multiple perspectives become larger parts of the teaching/learning equation. Examples and ideas will come from Latin America, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and from Institute participants themselves. Concrete steps will be proposed and considered that will help teachers better convey the inter-relatedness of the environmental, political, economic and cultural challenges we face today.

The Future of Climate and Food in Southeast Asia - Celia Lowe, Associate Professor, UW Department of Anthropology and Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies

I will discuss climate change and the future of food in Southeast Asia using the example of Indonesia. I will begin with a discussion of Indonesia and its climate challenges. Then I will discuss food security and food sovereignty. Finally I will give specific examples from both fishing and farming, using video clips to illustrate these issues.

The Environment as a Source of Conflict in Africa: Darfur Case Study - Frederick Lorenz, Senior Lecturer at the Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington and Adjunct Senior Lecturer at the Law School & senior fellow with the Public International Law and Policy Group

Climate Change and Human Rights: Climate Warming as a Human Rights Abuse - Nadine Fabbi, Associate Director, Canadian Studies, The Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies

In 2007 the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Al Gore and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, for raising global awareness about climate change. Few know that Canadian Inuk political activist, Sheila Watt-Cloutier, was initially nominated with Gore for giving a human face to climate change. In 2005 Watt-Cloutier, along with 62 Inuit hunters, filed a petition to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights charging the United States for human rights abuses as a result of climate change effectively changing the politics of climate change. In the readings, presentation and discussion, we will look at the steps that led to this petition and explore how Arctic indigenous thinking is influencing how we understand climate change and other environmental issues.

The World in a Drop: Connecting Water, Food, Energy and Health in Central Asia and Beyond - Brett Walton, Reporter for Circle of Blue, a water news agency

Water is the universal solvent—and a universal input for most of the things that keep modern society chugging along. Now that the most convenient supplies have been spoken for or have dried up, nearly every story—especially those involving food, energy and health—has a drop of water at its core. Intrastate conflicts over natural resource extraction, farmland acquisitions abroad (provocatively called farmland “grabs” by their opponents), and the scramble to develop new sources of fossil fuels all have a water component. Even climate change, at its most basic, is a calamity that will be felt through changes in the water cycle. Heavier rains will generate torrential floods; longer dry periods will wilt crops in the field; and hotter summers will stunt plant growth and increase the demand for electricity. In the mountains, melting glaciers will cut off a vital water source, and more frequent wildfires will impair water quality for decades. Meeting these challenges would be hard enough if water was no more than an industrial input, a cog in the wheel. But water has deep cultural, symbolic and religious significance that adds another layer of complexity. In other words, if we’re going to talk about a “sustainable future”, we have to talk about water.

Transnational Feminist Pedagogy: What does this mean for me and my students? - Anu Taranath, Senior Lecturer, Department of English, University of Washington

To be relevant to the kind of world we live in today, our classrooms must pivot toward a pedagogical practice that is engaged, reflective, and humble. How do we do this as teachers? How might we encourage our students toward such a practice? This presentation uses insights from transnational feminism to discuss specific strategies and techniques we can use in our classes to deepen our teaching and learning.

International Service Learning for Resilient Communities: Field Studios in Urban Planning and Design - Dan Abramson, Associate Professor, Urban Planning and Design, University of Washington

Historic trends during the past 30 years – in world urbanization, geo-politics, economic globalization, climate change, and the imminence of “peak oil” – provide the frame for viewing changing demands on education for a sustainable future. Since “all globalization is local”, the role of community-level action and education is crucial. At the same time, cross-cultural and cross-border understanding, engagement and cooperation are also crucial. In this talk, Prof. Abramson describes a range of short- and longer-term collaborative practice-oriented courses and professional-academic exchanges in urban planning and development with university and community partners across national borders, including in China, Japan and Canada. While some of these courses are more explicitly focused on the challenges of sustainability and resilience than others, they all provide students with opportunities to exercise communication, team work, community service, and awareness of local social and environmental conditions in cross-cultural or multi-cultural settings.