

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 1, 2011

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Our First Newsletter

by Tom Berke

As I sit here only one-semester into the Global Citizenship Project, I am heartened by all the wonderful people we have met and blown away by all that we have done and all that is yet to be done.

Early on, it became clear to us that an important function we can serve is as helpers of and liaisons among people and clubs who are working on projects dealing with global issues. We quickly found out that there are a lot of people who have a lot more experience than we, so we have a lot to learn.

I was extremely lucky. The first two people I asked if they wanted to join me in a project to "Save the World" neither laughed nor, to my surprise, told me to go away. Terry Konn has lots of experience, energy and drive. Howard Miller keeps us honest, organized and on track. And through Terry's tireless work we have the pleasure of also working with Janice Thomas, whose warmth, graciousness, organizational skill, and so many other talents give us a robust team, the strength and energy of which is immeasurable.

Global Citizenship in the Classroom

by Phyllis T. Shafer

As I listened to the Global Citizenship Awareness presentation before the start of the Fall 2010 term, I knew within minutes how I could incorporate this initiative into the objectives of my Global Business course. The objectives of the Global Business course focus on a variety of aspects of global business, primarily from a capitalist perspective. After all, this is business! Students are assigned a project in which the objective is to research a foreign country of interest and create a business opportunity for an American consumer product or service to be introduced into that market.

For the Fall 2010 term, the students were assigned this project with a requirement that the product or service had to coincide with Brookdale's Global Citizenship Project to **"educate and engage students and the college community in global issues to improve the world we live in and to foster a lifelong commitment to global citizenship."** At first the students were unsure of how to interpret this concept. Most asked "what does this mean," "what did you want me to do," "can I export a surfboard," "can I sell iPods," and so on. I told them, "Think of your passion. If there is one thing you could change for the better, given the power, what would it be?" Students were also directed to the [Global Citizenship SERVICE Project Information for STUDENTS](#) link for ideas.

The student project was delivered in four segments. The first segment was to research their chosen country. This included getting informa-

tion on the demographics, government structure, economy including exchange rates, the human development index, GDP and GNP, the physical and communications infrastructures, and so on. During the second segment students decided on their initiative based on their initial research. Demographics such as age, income distribution, education levels and religious factors; political and legal environment concerns such as the government structure and receptiveness to trade or importing; topography, transportation and technology...these factors and others were considered when selecting the initiative. The third and fourth segments centered on the mode of entry, how the product will be introduced into the foreign market. What is the best method...export, foreign direct investment, partnerships, and so on? How will the initiative be financed considering purchasing power parity and other income factors? What types of barriers stood in the way? How could these barriers be overcome?

Okay, now that I have provided the background, you may wonder what they did. There were so many great ideas.

- With the help of government subsidies, textbooks were sent to Senegal, which has a literacy rate of only 39.3%.
- Wind turbines were introduced in Aruba, which, for a nation that ranks 13th out of 157 countries for their capitalist economy, would result in substantial savings in energy costs for the Aruban citizen.

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ABOVE, PHYLLIS SHAFER

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Students for Global Citizenship

by Kelsey Brennan

The Students for Global Citizenship (S4GC) club at Brookdale Community College was designed with one goal in mind: to help change the world. As ridiculously ambitious as this may seem, we believe that by encouraging students and faculty members to get involved in our projects, we truly can make a difference, no matter how small or large it may be.

In our first semester as a club, we worked to spread awareness of different global issues by putting large signs highlighting these issues around campus, lining pathways that a majority of students use to get to class. We also did a few small projects to help raise money for different organizations, including Keep a Child Alive, an organization dedicated to providing treatment and support to families affected by HIV/AIDS.

After much planning in the fall semester, this spring semester will be dedicated to spring semester will be dedicated to raising funds for our project "Students for Goats and Cows". Inspired by the Heifer Organization, we plan to raise as much money as possible to buy farm animals for families in Rwanda living in extreme poverty. We have a number of events planned, including a fundraising night at Surf Taco and a symposium to educate people about sustainability. We are also planning an event that combines a student versus faculty basketball game with a night of slam poetry. We hope that through our efforts we can educate students on different problems that exist in our world today and instill in them a desire to help make the world a better place.

Kelsey is the Secretary of S4GC

Brookdale Helps the Tebelling School

by Barbara Burk

In the Mountain Kingdom of Lesotho, a country bordered on all sides by South Africa, sits the Tebelling Secondary School where 2006 Brookdale graduate Bret Burk is a teacher and Peace Corps volunteer. The school is in a rural village with no electricity or running water, and students in the school have little access to books. Understanding that, Brookdale took action. In the second book drive I coordinated in the past year, we were paired with this school by the African Library Project (ALP), which is an organization that coordinates book drives in the United States to ship books to libraries in parts of rural African nations.

The teacher told us which types of books were needed, and thanks to students in the Brookdale Gender Equity Organization, the ALP, and others, the donations poured in. We packed and shipped the books to New Orleans, and the ALP provided subsidized shipping from there to the Tebelling School. The book drive of over 1,000 books was so successful that we were able, with the help of a New York middle school, to create another library

in a separate shipment to Swaziland. The Nursing Student Organization at Brookdale has a plan to create a third library in Fall, 2011.

Another initiative with the Tebelling School, which educates students who age from 14-30, took place in Fall 2010 when 162 Brookdale nursing students provided HIV/AIDS teaching to students there. The HIV/AIDS rate is 45% in this age group in Lesotho, and there is a cultural taboo there about asking questions aloud about HIV/AIDS transmission and issues related to sexuality. When given the opportunity, more than 100 students in the Tebelling School wrote student-to-student letters to Brookdale nursing students asking questions about HIV/AIDS. Nursing students wrote individual letters back to each of the students and answered their questions. Because of the success of the first project, there is a plan to repeat and possibly expand this project in the Spring semester.

Barbara Burk is an Assistant Professor in Nursing



ABOVE, S4GC PUTTING SIGNS UP AROUND CAMPUS TO CALL ATTENTION TO GLOBAL ISSUES

Are you working on a project either in or out of class that deals with Global Citizenship? If so, please contact us at globalcitizen@brookdalecc.edu. We need your help, and your work needs to be advertised!

BELOW, BARBARA BURK



"THE SCHOOL IS IN A RURAL VILLAGE WITH NO ELECTRICITY OR RUNNING WATER, AND STUDENTS IN THE SCHOOL HAVE LITTLE ACCESS TO BOOKS. UNDERSTANDING THAT, BROOKDALE TOOK ACTION."

Sylvia's Children, A History

by Sylvia Allen

Sylvia Allen, President of Allen Consulting, was quite content teaching at New York University, traveling around the world doing motivational seminars and running her public relations and marketing business in Holmdel, NJ. Having taught in China, India, Ireland, Japan, Okinawa, Iceland, Canada and throughout most of the United States, she was sure that was how the rest of her life would play out. Little did she know that a trip to Uganda, Africa in 2003 would totally change her life!

Almost eight years ago Sylvia was invited to Uganda, in eastern Africa, by one of her NYU students. While there she was invited by the children of the Mbirizi Advanced Primary and Day Care School, to be their grandmother. She took the request seriously, and upon returning to the United States she formed Sylvia's Children, a 501(c)3 organization under United States IRS code.

The school has grown dramatically in the last 8 years ... going from 439 children (of which 136 were orphans) to 1,000 (of which 250 are orphans). Of the 250, 25 of them are now in secondary school. The school is based on the British model and starts with baby class, moves up to top class, and then P-1 to P-7 creating a series of African entrepreneurship businesses that will allow the school to be self-sustaining and allow Sylvia's Children to take this model and replicate it in another village.

In the eight years we have been with the school all of our children have taken their P-7 exams and graduated. If they are sponsored orphans, we have asked their sponsors to continue working with them at the next level ... S-1 to S-4. We currently have 25 orphans in S-1, S-2 and S-3 and will continue with our orphan support as the others graduate.

According to Allen, "This experience has changed my life ... for the better. I have learned to love and be loved, to give and to receive graciously, and to know that I can make a difference in a child's life. I also have the joy of my children being part of this organization. All else pales in comparison."

We invite you to visit our website, www.sylviaschildren.org, get on our mailing list (just e-mail Sylvia@sylviaschildren.org to get updates), and keep up-to-date by visiting <http://sylviaschildren.blogspot.com>). We'd love to have you experience the same joy we have had in working with these beautiful, loving, caring children who want nothing more than to hold your hand or sit on your lap. Please join us on future trips and help us to continue making a difference in these children's lives. (All monies go to the children ... there are no administrative costs.)

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ABOVE, SYLVIA ALLEN WITH ONE OF HER "CHILDREN"

Alpha Pi Theta fights to end Turner Syndrome

by Colleen Roberts

“Movers and shakers,” is what the Alpha Pi Theta student executive board was called by Laura Fasciano, founder of the Turner Syndrome Foundation, this past December. The Honor Society’s Honor Study Topic this year is “The Democratization of Information: Power, Peril, and Promise.” Since June of 2010, Alpha Pi Theta has focused all of their efforts on democratizing the peril of medical ignorance through the study of Turner Syndrome, a chromosomal condition that describes girls and women with common features that are caused by complete or partial absence of the second X chromosome. These primary characteristics are short stature and premature ovarian failure. Girls with Turner Syndrome essentially do not reach or do not complete puberty, which leads to infertility. Medical evidence indicates that early diagnosis and treatment will lead to a better outcome for girls with Turner Syndrome. Alpha Pi Theta discovered that the problem with this is that Turner Syndrome, such a common condition, is so little-known. To combat this lack of awareness, Alpha Pi Theta collaborated with the Turner Syndrome Foundation, a fledgling organization and the only one of its kind, to create a Turner Syndrome “Awareness Mosaic”. The mosaic, a four foot by four foot wooden, tri-fold board, is covered in ceramic tiles that were each decorated by a supportive community member or group.

The Honor Society completed the mosaic, raised over \$100 for the Foundation in December of 2010, and is currently finalizing plans to display the mosaic indefinitely at the Jersey Shore University Medical Center in Neptune, New Jersey.

Colleen is the President of Alpha Pi Theta



ABOVE, ALPHA PI THETA'S MOSAIC

Global Citizenship in the Classroom

Continued from page 1

- With the help of Habitat for Humanity, affordable housing will be built in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where 30% of its 9 million citizens live in slums or illegal subdivisions.
- The “Easy Quit Electronic Cigarette” was exported to France where 25% of the population smokes. Calculations forecast an estimated 1 billion deaths in France in the 21st century.
- With the aid of subsidies from the Liberian government, self-test HIV/AIDS test kits will be sent to Liberia. Collaborative efforts with UNICEF will help reduce the many religious, education, and economic barriers that will be a challenge to the success of this initiative.
- “Protective Wear for Albinos” is being distributed in Tanzania, one of the ten poorest countries in the world. This initiative will benefit the 80% of families in Tanzania who must work in

the fields for a living and of which almost all Tanzanian Albinos die prematurely due to skin cancer.

This is just a sampling. Health, education, job creation, training manuals, and initiatives to combat hunger were just some of the other ideas. I will tell you that the students worked long, hard, and diligently on their projects. It was an eye-opener for many. Some of the presentations brought tears to our eyes as we listened to the hardships faced by many while becoming more appreciative of the benefits we enjoy here in America. This was a project that I too truly enjoyed and will continue to incorporate it into my course. Thank you.

Phyllis is a Professor in Business Management

MLK Day of Service

by Howard Miller

On January 17 nearly 100 Brookdalian came out for our first ever Martin Luther King Day of Service, an event organized by Linda Mass of Experiential Learning & Career Services and Robert Quinones of Student Life & Activities.

We painted the inside of the ARC of Monmouth-Work Opportunity Center in Long Branch. We prepared and served meals to those who came to The Center in Asbury Park. We threw a party for two dozen special needs children at the Children's Specialized Hospital in Tom's River. We stayed right here on campus and made bowls for the Empty Bowls foundation. We learned how to complete an energy assessment, and we helped to weatherize the Ronald McDonald House in Long Branch. We made chocolate lollipops to support a fundraiser for Manna House in Cliffwood Beach.

Every time I volunteer, I am reminded how invigorating it is. I can't wait until next year, and I hope even more Brookdalian will come out then to help our community.

Howard is an Assistant Professor in Speech

CLOCKWISE FROM THE TOP LEFT; BROOKDALE VOLUNTEERS AT THE ARC OF MONMOUTH, BROOKDALE VOLUNTEERS HELPING OPEN BOWLS, S4GC GETTING READY FOR THEIR MLK DAY ASSIGNMENTS, AND BROOKDALE VOLUNTEERS AT THE CENTER IN ASBURY PARK.



Brookdale's International Education Center

by Janice Thomas

The International Education Center fosters a learning community in which students, faculty and staff, and community members have the opportunity to develop global literacy, cultural empathy, and cultural self-awareness. Our program offerings include international student services, study abroad, and professional development resources for Brookdale employees: including faculty/staff exchanges, international grant-funded initiatives, and multicultural events.

Brookdale currently enrolls over 120 students on visas from about 45 countries. In addition, we send between 75-100 students to study abroad on semester long or short-term faculty-led programs. We sponsor and co-sponsor a variety of curricular and co-curricular events such as the annual International Education Week, Global Teach-In, and guest lecturers. Our co-sponsor partners include Student Life and Activities, Experiential Learning and Career Services, Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Education Center, World War II and Conflict Resolution Center, the International Student Association and the Brookdale Asia Society to name a few.

Each year the Center, in collaboration with Student Life and Activities, sponsors an annual poster contest. For this year's contest theme, students will be asked to create a poster that exemplifies the theme of Global Citizenship. The deadline is April 6 and contest application and rules are available on the International Education Center website; <http://international.brookdalecc.edu>.

Janice is the Director of the International Education Center

FIND US ON THE WEB:

**WWW.GLOBALCITIZEN.
BROOKDALECC.EDU**

**CONTACT US VIA
E-MAIL AT:
GLOBALCITIZEN@
BROOKDALECC.EDU**

**BELOW FROM THE LEFT,
BROOKDALE IN PERU, AT THE
PALACE OF VERSAILLES, AND AT
THE COLISEUM IN ROME,**



GLOBAL CITIZEN PROJECT NEWSLETTER

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BROOKDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

International and Global Citizenship Project Events

Ongoing

Threads of Hope, collecting thread for Sylvia's Children

Look for drop-off boxes around campus - SLC, MAS, LAH

February 15

Students for Goats and Cows Campaign Kickoff, 11:30, MAN 106

February 22

Global Citizenship Faculty Showcase, 4:30, MAN 106

March 23

GCP Basketball, Poetry Slam, & Hip Hop, 4:00-8:00, BREC

April 6

Global Citizenship Poster Contest Deadline

April 11-17

International Education Week/Global Teach-In

April 14

Global Citizenship Symposium, 7:00, Twin Lights

April 14

WWII Conflict Resolution Seminar: Peace in Our World/

Peace in Our Community, 9:00-1:00, Navesink I

April 21

Global Citizenship Awards Dinner, 7:00, Navesink I

April 28

International Poetry and Psychology Festival, 7:00, Navesink I

Support our students with their admirable efforts!