

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP NEWSLETTER

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The Global Citizenship Project, Year Two

by Tom Berke

As the Global Citizenship Project at Brookdale moves through its second year, our enthusiasm and desire to change the world have not diminished. We continue to draw inspiration from all who have joined us and by our Students for Global Citizenship club members whose energy and need to make an impact on their world constantly encourage us to do more to support their efforts.

And since we're in education, we may well be able to change the world *one assignment at a time*. Changing entire courses isn't necessary. Simply rethinking particular assignments to introduce students to global issues and aid groups working to solve them can make an incredible difference in terms of student awareness. By raising students' awareness, we are hoping to encourage more of them to join the effort to make the world a better place to live.

We would love to hear from you. If you are interested in learning more about or joining the GCP effort, please contact: Tom Berke at tberke@brookdalecc.edu or Howard Miller at hmliller@brookdalecc.edu.

WHERE Hope Lies

by Terry Konn

Where is that? Where does hope lie? Hope lies in each of us. This has been a long standing philosophy of mine. I have been very fortunate in my lifetime to travel and meet people from all over the world. As a child, my father was a teacher and he made it a lifetime commitment to work 2-3 jobs during the year, so that he could take his family on vacation. His idea of vacation was not a swank hotel on a tropical island or a cruise around the world. We traveled on the not so beaten paths with tents and on foot. We visited poor Native American pueblos, small farming communities, poor coal mining towns, ghettos of Mexico, plantations in Central America, Jamaican villages, old steel towns of England, and elsewhere. I learned a great deal about life and my life compared to others. I was fortunate. I had a home, a family, food and shelter and an education. My mother used to shake her head every time I would bring another stray or poor soul home to feed or shelter. My commitment to making life just a little easier for others blossomed into a health care career, and then teaching, and then philanthropy and volunteering.

In 2006, I began a journey to Africa. I volunteered to teach in Rwanda during the summer, and I was fortunate to receive a Fulbright grant in 2008 to spend a year there teaching and conducting research. I have returned each year since to volunteer, teaching and helping an amazing group of young adults and orphans. In 2008, as a result of my work in Africa and a study abroad trip with Brookdale students, the students and I established



RIGHT, TERRY KONN IN
RWANDA AND AT
GRADUATION

a non-profit organization – World Healthcare Educational Resources, etc. (WHERE). Its main focus is to raise funds to assist young adults who have survived war, genocide, AIDS, and other devastating events to attend college for health care careers and to assist health care professionals who want to volunteer their time and expertise to teach in developing nations. To read about these amazing students, see www.WHEREhopelies.org. These young adults are an inspiration to me and remind me each day how blessed we all are and how much more we need to do as global citizens to make the world a better place for everyone.

If you're interested in learning more about Rwanda, join me from May 14-30 of next year. Brookdale is offering a short-term study abroad program where students will participate in service learning projects while engaging in a completely different culture and lending a hand to those in need at the Kigali Health Institute, Lake Kivu, and an orphanage in Kigali. Contact me at TKonn@Brookdalecc.edu for more information, or stop by the International Education Center (MAC 114) for information and to register.

Take your family on a volunteering excursion. Create a class assignment where your students can talk about global issues. Promote study abroad opportunities. House a visiting international student. Volunteer. Donate. Be a global citizen. Enjoy life and where it can take you. Hope for someone does lie within each of us.

Terry is an Associate Professor in Health Sciences



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S4GC's Water for Life Campaign

by Kelsey Brennan

Last year the Students for Global Citizenship club focused on the issue of poverty by raising funds to purchase farm animals for families in Rwanda. This year we are tackling a different issue that we believe can be felt and understood by everyone - the limited access to clean water in developing nations. In our country, getting water that is safe to drink, wash dishes and clothes in, and to cook with, is as simple as turning on the faucet. We can go to the store and buy a water bottle for a small cost or simply walk up to any public water fountain to get a drink.

In impoverished communities, they are not so lucky. It is extremely difficult for people to get any water, and when they do, it is usually after walking very far to get dirty water that contains bacteria that can bring on deadly diseases. As a club, we have adopted our own project using the website [www.thewaterproject.org](http://thewaterproject.org). Our goal is to build a well that will provide clean water for a needy community in Rwanda. It is a steep price to build a well, around \$6500, but we believe by involving students and the community and holding events to fundraise that we will reach this goal.

Throughout November and December, our club will be setting up awareness tables in the SLC during College Hour to spread awareness of our campaign and accept donations. We will show a short video that helps explain the issue and how every donation will help our cause. If you'd like to make a quick donation or get more information, this is a great place to do so! Please email us for exact times.

Besides the many events we've planned, like the Flag Football game on November 17, we are also doing smaller things like selling bracelets that read "I'm giving water" and reusable aluminum water bottles that display the "Water for Life" logo. Though we are still in the planning stages, we have already begun fundraising and are getting closer to reaching our goal every day. We hope that these events are a success and that we will be able to help students and faculty alike understand what a pressing issue this is, and how easy it is to help just by giving a few dollars and spreading awareness.

We are very excited about this semester and encourage anyone who is interested to join us by coming to the meetings or just supporting our efforts and events! Feel free to contact us for any information: kbrennan6@mail.brookdalecc.edu (Kelsey Brennan – president) or tkonn@brookdalecc.edu (Terry Konn – faculty advisor).

For direct donations, please visit our project online: <http://thewaterproject.org/community/profile/terry-phd>

Kelsey is the president of Students for Global Citizenship



443 million school days
are lost each year from
water-related illness.



1.1 billion people live
without adequate
access to water.



Global Citizenship in the Classroom

by Roseanne Alvarez

The idea that we can (and should) re-think our curriculum in terms of global literacy may seem daunting at first. But this has become a key game-changer in my professional life at Brookdale. From my Honors American Literature section to my Women's & Gender Studies courses, I have tried (tested, failed, tested, *ah. . .*) and continue to re-work curriculum in order to address global literacy as a fundamental aspect of what we do and how we can re-think critical thinking in our classrooms.

In our introductory course, HUMN 129: Issues in Women's & Gender Studies, my students and I co-develop what could be read as a thematic journey through the ways in which women's and gender issues and justice movements have been organized and represented. Concepts like "domestic violence" or "sexual harassment" are so normalized in our society that students laugh when I ask them to raise their hands if they've heard of them. But the lesson in hand-raising has more to do with the ways in which women's history is still a struggle, not simply *about* some struggle.

So, on day one, I have two expressions up on the white board. On one side, "the personal is political." On the other, "Think globally; act locally." I usually discover that there are about 0-2 people in any given class who have heard of the expression "personal is political" prior to having seen it in our class schedule. I then discover that there are usually 4-6 folks who have heard of "think globally; act locally." Now, this is not impressive, especially in a class of 25 and especially in a world where "global citizenry" and "global literacy" are supposed to be the curriculum *de jour*. Ultimately, this becomes a lesson in why developing a trans-national feminist approach to global literacy is absolutely essential in the work that we do in our introductory courses and the W&GS Option as a whole.

What do I mean by a "trans-national feminist" curriculum? Well, just by reflecting on this initial micro-lesson, we can see that globalizing curriculum is a balancing act. How can I explore organizing movements in Liberia, for example, if many of our students aren't aware of current or former policies and movements "at home"? That's where a trans-national approach can make the difference. Getting at or working toward the relational and diverse nature of the subjects we cover allows us to develop an inquiry and a conversation across boundaries, because these relationships are already there. It's just a matter of re-focusing the lens. That, it seems, is still somewhat of a struggle.

So, I work with my students to explore the intersections and the relationships between women's and gender issues in the

US and W&G issues in a global context. This has been the most fulfilling aspect of curriculum development for me, thus far, and the students are not only fully engaged in the project, but they say that their learning experience is richer for it.

The last unit in my course is perhaps *in*-aptly titled, "The Global is Personal." It's the cumulative attempt at linking those seemingly disparate sentiments written on white boards and beyond. By then, most of my students have completed service learning projects with local organizations and are working on essays that link their "local" experience within a global framework. "*What does that mean?*" we ask ourselves. And among the many learning objectives I could list, if this work can offer up a space for engagement and empathy in the way we "do" critical thinking, then we're onto something here.

Frankly, I'm incredibly excited to teach and work in an academic environment that encourages and supports global curriculum development. I'm always amazed to learn about what my colleagues are doing, and I'm inspired each time I read, hear, or talk to someone about their courses and what they're doing to address global literacy and citizenship. We need more of this because, well, we *are* onto something here, and there's a lot more riding on our outcomes than good data on a well written assessment project.



ABOVE, ROSEANNE ALVAREZ

Roseanne is an Associate Professor of English and Co-Coordinator of Brookdale's Women's Studies Program

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 recognized!

Brookdale's Asia Society

by Hector Santiago

The mission of Brookdale's Asia Society is to bring the student body together by immersing them in Asian culture. And we have definitely done that this semester. In just the past ten weeks, we have celebrated the Moon Festival, attended the NY Comic Con/Anime Festival, and have had attended wonderful presentations such as Study Abroad Opportunities by Dr. Janice Thomas of the International Education Center, an Aikido Demonstration by Hanshi/ Dr. Webster Trammell, and a Cultural Adaptation presentation by Daijuan Gao (Counseling). Still to come this semester we have trips to the New York Metropolitan Museum of Natural History followed by our annual romp through the streets of NYC's China and Korea towns.

In the past year, we have all grown from our experience with Asia Society. We have participated in countless community service projects, including the MLK Day of Service and the Beachsweep. We have made connections and friendships with other people from other clubs on campus, including Genshiken, International Student Association, W.E.S.T., and PTK, just to name a few. And we put the Asia Society in the spotlight after performing the Lion and Fan Dances for our Chinese New Year Celebration. I am extremely proud of our accomplishments, the people we have met, and the direction in which the Asia Society is heading. We not only fulfill our club's mission semester after semester, but we do it with flare (and by flare I mean Asia Society President Chris Lu dressed as the big cow).



ABOVE, BROOKDALE'S ASIA SOCIETY

Every semester, something changes in the club, whether it is membership, eBoard officers, or school policies, but one thing never changes: Family. What I love most about Asia Society, and I think most of the members would agree, is that we are like a family. We look out for each other, we care for each other, we help each other, and we work to make our advisor, Linda Wang (Mathematics), proud.

Hector is a member and former eBoard officer of Brookdale's Asia Society

BROOKDALE 5K—DID YOU RUN? IF NOT, WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE NEXT YEAR. MANY THANKS TO JESS LEVINE (HISTORY) AND LORI CENTRELLA (HISTORY) FOR ALL OF THEIR HARD WORK RAISING OVER \$2100 FOR THE ELAINE BARAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND!

CLOCKWISE FROM THE TOP LEFT: JESS LEVINE WITH RACEMASTER TIM MCLOONE; AND THEY'RE OFF!; SUE BOYE (LANGUAGES) AND GERRY MONROY (LANGUAGES) REMINDING US HOW COLD THE DAY WAS; DEBBIE DEBLASIO (LANGUAGES) AND LAURA NEITZEL (HISTORY) BEFORE THE RACE; AND JANICE THOMAS (IEC) MAKING PRE-RACE ANNOUNCEMENTS.



The Global Citizenship Awards

by Howard Miller

Are you or someone you know at Brookdale doing something great when it comes to Global Citizenship? If so, that person or group should be nominated for a Global Citizenship Award. The second annual Global Citizenship Awards will be held in April, and they'll honor the best of the best when it comes to work both inside and outside of the classroom. Nominating someone is simple. Just go to globalcitizen.brookdalecc.edu, click on the Global Citizenship Awards link, and download the appropriate application.

Nominees can be clubs around campus that are doing great things, or they can be students from your classes who have displayed a commitment to global issues through their coursework. From a curricular perspective, the easiest way for your outstanding student to win is to have your globally-related assignment "registered" with us and available on our website for all to see. We'd love to have you tell us whose work is most outstanding and in need of recognition. If you have such an assignment that we at the Global Citizenship Project aren't yet aware of, please send me an e-mail at hmiller@brookdalecc.edu.

Looking forward to a great program this April!

Howard is an Assistant Professor in Speech Communication

Lest We Forget

by Paul Zigo

With the recent closing of Fort Monmouth, the upcoming Pearl Harbor 70th Anniversary Commemoration "Lest We Forget" at Brookdale Community College has added significance to those veterans who served during World War II and their loved ones. Brookdale's Center for World War II Studies and Conflict Resolution invites the community and especially families to pay tribute to those from the Greatest Generation during a commemoration ceremony on Saturday, December 10 in the Warner Student Life Center, Lincroft main campus. Two distinguished veteran speakers will be at the event to address the audience; Ralph Jeffers, former Chairman, NJ Pearl Harbor Survivors Association and veteran crewman, *USS Curtiss* and Thomas Mahoney, Former President, Chapter 2 NJ Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, veteran crewman, also from the *USS Curtiss*.

BELOW, PAUL ZIGO



The afternoon's keynote speakers will be COL Joseph E. Whitlock, Deputy Base Commander, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, followed by CAPT David J. Harrison, Commander, US Naval Weapon's Station Earle. Historical perspective will be provided by history professors Dr. Robert Mayer, Kean University and Fred Fraterrigo, Brookdale Community College.

Music of the era will be provided by keyboardist Barry Rosenzweig and soloist Gilda Healy from the group "Down Melody Lane" and the Monmouth Battleground Chorus will sing favorites of the war years. A variety of historical displays and exhibits will be available for viewing beginning at 11:00 a.m.

I urge all to attend an event that will prove to be an everlasting memorable one. The program is free to all and will enable everyone who comes to reach out and touch living history.

Paul is an Associate Professor of History and the Director of the Center for World War II Studies and Conflict Resolution

WANT MORE PHOTOS FROM THE BROOKDALE 5K THAT RAISED OVER \$2100 FOR THE ELAINE BARAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND? THEY'RE BELOW.

CLOCKWISE FROM THE TOP LEFT, RON SOPENOFF (CRIMINAL JUSTICE); RASHEDA YOUNG (ENGLISH); LORI CENTRELLA (HISTORY).



Brookdale's Brazil Partnership

by Janice Thomas

Greetings from the International Education Center! We are excited about the increase in participation and the impact that the Global Citizenship Project (GCP) is having in its second year. Congratulations to Terry Konn, Tom Berke and Howard Miller for their tremendous efforts. In addition to supporting the GCP, the International Education Center has had a busy fall term welcoming new international students and assisting outbound students with study abroad and scholarship applications. However, a major highlight of the term has been the selection of Brookdale to participate in the Institute of International Education's (IIE) Brazil partnership program.

Brookdale Community College is among the eighteen U.S. colleges and universities selected for the 2012 Brazil initiative of IIE's International Academic Partnership Program (IAPP). Over the next year, IIE will lead a series of training activities to help each institution implement and sustain partnerships with institutions in Brazil. Partnership activities may include joint programs, student exchanges or faculty linkages for collaborative research and teaching. The program includes a study tour to Brazil in spring 2012 to meet with potential partner campuses.

IIE President Alan Goodman in a letter to Brookdale Interim President, William Toms, stated, "this year's distinguished IAPP review panel was truly impressed with your campus' commitment to international education. Your institution's application stood out for its demonstrated support from both administration and faculty, commitment to increasing internationalization on your campus and stalwart desire to foster a partnership with a Brazilian institution."

In the coming month, Dr. Dianna Phillips, Executive Vice President for Educational Services, will be appointing faculty and staff to serve on a steering committee to work on prospective partnerships, conduct an institution-wide inventory of activities pertaining to Brazil, and develop a strategic plan focused on partnership with Brazil.

Janice is the Director of the International Education Center



GLOBAL CITIZEN PROJECT
NEWSLETTER

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**SPECIAL THANKS TO RACE
PHOTOGRAPHER LUCY WADYCH-
KETLEY (ART & IEC). GREAT
STUFF!**

**BELOW, OUR FOURTH PLACE
FINISHER, FIFTEEN YEAR-OLD
NATALIE OSTROWSKI, AND OUR
WINNER, FARNESE DASILVA**

International and Global Citizenship Project Events

November 17: Global Citizenship Symposium

November 17: Flag Football Game, donations of \$5 per person requested

Nov-Dec: Student Life Center Awareness Tables, Water for Life

December 2: Council of Holocaust Educators Conference

December 5: Dinner and a Movie, My Beautiful Laundrette

December 8: Holiday Auction

December 10: "Lest We Forget", 70th Anniversary Commemoration of Pearl Harbor

Support our students with their admirable efforts!