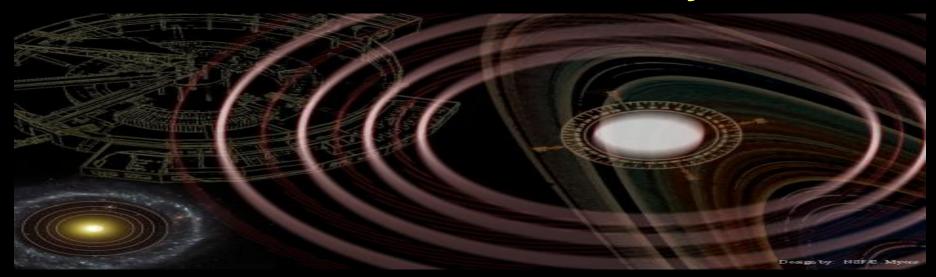
NAFSA 2011

Intercultural Competence and Cultural Consultants

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Thinking about First Steps

How does open-mindedness develop?

Why do some people choose to move away from racism, anti-semitism or xenophobia?

What leads us to examine the development of our own cultural lenses & worldviews?



- Why do people choose to become engaged in other world regions or global issues?
- What makes people move from a "that's just the way I do things" standpoint in order to meet others' needs?
- What makes some people seek out understanding of the deep culture of others' values, beliefs and norms of behavior?



Handout: Milton Bennett's Stages

- 1. Denial of differences
- 2. Defense, as evidenced by denigration or feelings of superiority
- 3. Minimization from either physical or transcendent universalism.

- 4. Acceptance of behavioral and value differences
- 5. Adaptation of skills for interacting and communicating are enhanced
- 6. Integration

Pedagogy with Cultural Consultants

- Small groups with 1-2 CCs and 2-4 others.
- Moderator ensures everyone participates relatively equally and the discussion remains relevant to the task at hand.
- Learning happens by sharing face to face as equals with shared goals (see Johnson & Johnson's work on reducing prejudice).
- We each speak only for ourselves, not our country, our race, our religion or our gender.

Discussion begins with...

- 1. What do I value about my family? --everyone shares.
- 2. What do I wish **people around the world would learn about my country**, my culture, our beliefs and norms of behavior?
- 3. What has really helped me when I have gone to live, work or study in another country? And what else do I wish people would have done/do?

Then your own questions.

Thinking about CCs

LOCAL RESOURCES

Study the diversity available to you. Who lives in your town or city? Which immigrants? Students? Which refugees? Who is helping them? How do they help themselves?

Welcome centers, refugee and immigrant organizations & Int'l student organizations provide ongoing experiences to build competence, allow secure risk-taking and feedback from authentic audiences.

ELECTRONIC CONNECTIONS

Work with **iEARN**, **e-pals**, **IREX**, **Title VI** National Resource Center or your own contacts in other countries or other parts of N. America to develop cross-cultural communication skills and practice skills in perspective consciousness.

Extensions

PARTNERS IN SCHOOLS

Find global educators in local schools and work with culturally diverse teachers/ESL magnet schools in a PDS partnership & co-teaching methods & develop assessments for methods and student teaching.

MODEL INFUSION OF GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES & APPRECIATION OF DIVERSITY AS GOOD TEACHING

Model globally-oriented teaching by facilitating online discussions with educators and resource people (environmentalists, novelists, etc.) in other countries on various topics from classroom management, choosing literature, ed reforms, use of e-tools, discussion of current events (not just hot spots) so that *talking* to people in other world regions becomes an ordinary, normal part of being a well-informed and worldminded teacher.

Questions?

Please share your own strategies and resources with us.

Many thanks!

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