

Recommendations from “Global Think Tank” to address Diversity at a Distance Priority

Brief background and purpose of group:

In 05-06, LTS implemented a grant opportunity for any faculty interested in using distance education technology to reach out to global audiences. LTS offered to pay for all connection costs associated with making synchronous DE connections to any project that would meet the Diversity at a Distance priority.

Marketing efforts included:

- Individual emails to all instructors teaching Global Perspective and Ethnic Studies courses
- Notice in daily email for 3 weeks
- Emails sent directly to Department Chairs, Program Directors and Deans
- Meeting with participants of Minority Instructor's group

Unfortunately, no project came from this initiative.

During the Fall 2006 Chancellor Listening Sessions, Dean Meyer suggested that the campus should use the Millennium Hall facilities and technology to further Stout's global efforts. This inspired a renewed effort and different tactic.

We formed the Global Think Tank, which was to have campus-wide representation, to brainstorm and recommend ways to further the global efforts of the campus and utilize current available technologies. The suggestions that have come out of discussions so far are not all linked strictly to use of distance technology, but are relative to helping faculty to prepare students for a global society and workforce.

Participants in Global Think Tank:

- Kathleen Deery – CHD, Rehabilitation & Counseling (from Ireland, via audio)
- Urs Haltinner – SOE, Marketing & Business Education
- Jana Reeg-Steidinger – LLC, Reference & Distance Learning
- Claudia Smith – OIE, Director
- Susan Hunt – CAS, Art & Design
- Matthew Livesey - CAS, English & Philosophy, Technical Communication
- Sali Mounce, LTS Multimedia Facilities Coordinator
- Nicholle Stone, LTS Director
- Wendy Dittmann, Operations, Construction & Management
- Chris Smith, Outreach Services, joined in May

Members unable to participate due to prior commitments:

- Julie Furst-Bowe - Provost & Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs

- Renee Howarton - CTEM, Business

Recommendations:

- Campus membership in the EDEN (European Distance and E-Learning Network) <http://www.eden-online.org/eden.php>; cost is approximately \$400 per year U.S.
NOTE: Outreach Services has since offered to purchase this campus membership
- Create a database/registry of campus instructors, staff and students who have traveled or connected to various locations internationally; draw from that expertise to enhance course global connections
NOTE: OIE and OS have indicated that they each have some of this information and are interested in taking leadership on this recommendation.
 - * OIE and Outreach Services
 - Combine their “traveler registries” to avoid overlap
 - Consider self-contributory database so individuals can input/update information on their own travel, expertise, etc.
- Develop a “traveler pack” including information on the country to be visited (customs, culture, etc), individuals representing Stout and legal obligations, etc.
- Develop a campus-wide global culture.
 - * To inspire people to automatically think of integrating an international component to courses vs. an “exclusive, special event” philosophy
 - * Develop a “universal campus” attitude where classes can be shared, especially in relation to international connections
 - * Look at global perspective in terms of travel, study, presentations, conference attendance, research, etc.
 - * Encourage/invite international visitors, groups, tours – in person and virtually
- Expand resources to fund travel
 - * campus resources
 - * external resources
- Exchange of students even nationally to encourage cultural exchange

Respectfully submitted,
Nicholle Stone and Sali Mounce, Learning Technology Services