

Session Description

Global Dynamics and the Expanded Classroom

- Thursday, May 18, Morning Session
Moderator: Dr. Geraldine Kiefer
- This session will explore two interrelated themes: first, global learning (study and mission work abroad), global citizenship and global creativity (international experiences in dance, performing arts and visual arts) and how they constitute dynamic learning environments for both traditional and non-traditional students; and secondly, the synergistic potential of faculty, staff and students in an ongoing experiential learning community – a “global symposium.” Panelists include Global Citizenship Program (GCP) participants as well as others with international experiences. The audience will be engaged to envision an ongoing “global forum” at SU.

Session Agenda

Global Dynamics and the Expanded Classroom

Thursday, May 18, Morning Session

- **10 – 10:40 a.m.** Keynote Address:
**Global Dynamics in the Classroom:
Worlds of Engagement, Worlds of Art**
Professor R. Bersson
- **10:45 a.m. – Noon** Panel Discussion:
The “Global” in Many Senses

Invited Speaker

Global Dynamics and the Expanded Classroom

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Dr. Robert Bersson is professor emeritus of art and art history, James Madison University. Named Teacher of the Year by the JMU College of Arts & Letters and Southeastern Art Educator of the Year by the National Art Education Association, Dr. Bersson is especially interested in teaching and learning at the college level. His presentations and writings over the past several years focus on student-centered, active learning approaches to instruction. Author of the art appreciation/art history textbook, Responding to Art: Form, Content, and Context (McGraw-Hill 2004), Dr. Bersson is also a practicing artist and musician.



Panel Session

The “Global” in Many Senses

Erica Helm, Chair, Dance Division , 10:45-10:55 a.m.

Erica will describe two different experiences: touring with a performing ensemble, and touring with a group on a “study” experience. “Both have led to powerful personal/professional changes in the participants and paved the way for opportunities to extend the learning experiences into the Shenandoah community.”



Elaine Magee, Assistant Professor, Mathematics, 10:55-11:05 a.m.

Traveling to a country and not knowing the language or culture can be challenging. “My international experience should give me an idea of how international students feel when they come to Shenandoah University.” Illustrating her talk with slides from her recent GCP trip to Turkey, Elaine will explore notions of social and cultural space.



Paulette Moore, Director/Producer Special Projects SUTV, 11:05-11:15 a.m.



Utilizing clips from a program she produced seven months after her GCP trip to Mali, Paulette will present a participant’s reflection on the 2005 Global Citizenship Program. Documenting the Mali trip on video offered the unique opportunity to observe up-close the students’ anticipation of the experience, their growth throughout the trip and their ongoing interest in developing as global citizens since they’ve returned.

Gary Robbins, Chaplain, 11:15-11:25 a.m.

Although students may see pictures and hear stories about Third World poverty, something happens when they experience it first-hand. Participating in a mission trip allows students to roll up their sleeves and make a difference. It underscores the importance of a life of service and opens up questions about justice, life-style, and vocation. To illustrate the potential of mission trips, Gary will be including photos from recent SU mission trips.



John Stevens, Director of Auxiliary Services, 11:25-11:35 a.m.

A participant in the 2005 GCP trip to Taiwan, John not only immersed himself in a fascinating culture, but came away with a deepened understanding of the challenges international students face when studying in the U.S. He also experienced “an exceptional community of staff, students and faculty, brought together on an ongoing journey.” John will give an illustrated informal talk on his experience and ideas for a globally-directed SU community.

Julie Bean, Alumna (SU Class of 2005), 11:35-11:45

Julie will describe her GCP experience on Mali. Julie’s visit was not only a life-changing experience, leading her to explore and value the beauties of Mali art and craftsmanship, but the impetus to her current project: making and selling jewelry to support Mali women.

