

Going Global to Enhance Local Engagement

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Today

1. Workshop and training for staff
2. Integrating international programming
3. Resource for framing discussions
4. Implications for diversity programming

Project Objectives

- Develop strategies to globalize educational content and resources used in educational programs in Wisconsin
- Explore resources aimed at building an organization that reflects global interdependence
- Strengthen the connection between global knowledge and experience with diversity efforts

Keynote Address

- Dr. Binaya Subedi, School of Education, OSU
- Components of a global educational institution:
 - Community outreach and dialogue
 - Issues oriented curriculum
 - Teaching, social action within the public arena.

A global *extension professional* would

- Seek practical, on-the-ground experiences as an Extension professional in international and cross-cultural settings.
- Continually develop his/her knowledge and understanding about how s/he influences, and is influenced by, global changes.
- Be willing to share his/her knowledge, understanding and experiences with colleagues and communities.

A *global community* would

- Find ways to celebrate its cultures and diversity.
- Appreciate divergent thinking.
- Have leaders with a global perspective and understanding of their community's place in the world.
- Recognize and positively deal with prejudice.
- Seek international experiences for the community and its residents.
- Be a place where citizens feel a sense of responsibility to the global community.

A global *Cooperative Extension* would

- Provide a center for global resources and activities.
- Value differences and encourage divergent thinking.
- Celebrate and share global experiences.
- Infuse global awareness into existing programming and curriculum.

How did we do?

- Expanded network of individuals who see international work as an important part of an Extension curriculum.
- Expansion of the network increased our capacity to develop a curriculum that meets diverse needs of citizens.

International at Home

We asked colleagues:

- How do you use international issues or experiences in Wisconsin education (including scholarship)?
- How do you share your international knowledge with clientele and colleagues?

Responses:

International issues/experiences in education at home

- Deeper insights on Wisconsin issues (grazing, dairy profitability)
- Insights about the lives of immigrants (Mexican dairy workers)
- Refer questions from abroad to local producers
- 4-H international service learning leads to Wis. service learning

Responses:

International issues/experiences in education at home

- Widely-traveled faculty use international examples in campus classes, extension materials (ag econ campus specialist)
- Campus faculty involved in funded program abroad working on scholarly projects
- Wis. Rural Leadership Program studies international issues—developing community leaders

Responses:

Sharing with clientele and colleagues

- County and campus faculty teach seminars for foreigners in Wisconsin
- Clientele invited to be experts for special international projects—at home and abroad
- Faculty take producers to Mexico to learn about dairy production and culture of Wis. employees
- Presentations on international experiences for colleagues

Sharing Knowledge with Clientele and Colleagues

Most effective way to share seems to be getting others involved – outside U.S. and at home

- Experts, hosts, service learners, site visitors

Toward a Global Curriculum

- International at home – Not a concept that is widely understood and supported
- Scholarship in international work, not a focus of many
- Internationalizing Extension needs further discussion and support

US and the World

Talk about international issues with Americans in a non-defensive way.

Effective communications

Understanding **what** people think

and

why they think as they do

Effective communications

- Deeply held world view
- BIG IDEA lens
- Facts and evidence not enough
- Which ideas will allow you to be heard

US and the World

Communicate about:

- America's Role in the World
- International Cooperation
- Terrorism, Weapons, Force
- Poverty, Development, Trade
- Energy, Global Warming

US and the World

- Top 20 Recommendations
- Pocket guides
- Common Critiques and Effective Responses

Recommendations

- Big ideas first
- What can be done by whom
- Keep it simple
- Talk so you will be heard
- Keep your cool

Value of resource

- Move from experiences to framing issues
- Most of us don't know how to do this
- Communicate to learners/clients value of international work

Linking Diversity with International

- Our education for new immigrants draws on both diversity and international competence.
- Both require knowledge of:
 - one's own values and culture
 - social issues seen from cultural context

Benefits of Connecting Diversity/International

- U.S. culture becoming more diverse
- Local and international issues interface
- Long term benefits in preparing clientele for change
- Broadens Extension's educational opportunities
- Opens funding and partnership opportunities

Next Steps

- Continue to communicate benefits of international understandings to local partners and funders
- Communicate the benefits to colleagues
- Create support and reward system for international scholarship
- Help colleagues feel comfortable with international issues (U.S. and the World)
- Encourage interaction of those with international and domestic diversity interests

www.uwex.edu/ces/international/