

GLOBAL CONNECTIONS IX

2005 International School Leaders' Seminar

Location: GUATEMALA

Theme: Multiculturalism

Date: July 24 - 29, 2005

Hosts: Dr. Roberto Moreno, Rector,
University of the Valley,
and Scott MacLauchlan, Colegio
American del Sur

Pre-Seminar: July 21 - 24:

School visits, Lake Atitlan, market at
Chichicastenango

Post-Seminar: July 29 - August 1:

Mayan ruins at Tikal

We are very enthusiastic about GC IX, the venue, and the program. It is our first outing to Latin America and we are grateful to not only Scott MacLauchlan and his colleagues at the Colegio American del Sur for their initiative but also the interest and support given to the Seminar by Dr. Roberto Mereno, the Rector of the University of the Valley. The University is the apex of a four-institution educational complex that now includes Scott's school (the American School of the South or Programa Educativo del Sur/PROSEUR), the new Altiplano campus in the highlands providing education and training for the Mayan population, and the third school which shares a beautiful campus in Guatemala City with the University of the Valley.

We will all have a rather extraordinary opportunity to see firsthand the outreach, education, and leadership of this unusual institution as well as the beauty and diversity of Guatemala.

Executive Director Selected for the Foundation CLAUDIA GALLANT JOINS THE GC COMMUNITY IN 2005



Peter D. Pelham and Claudia Gallant exchanging ideas and expectations for the future.

The Global Connections Foundation will celebrate the appointment of its first Executive Director on 1 March, 2005. The Board of Directors and the over 200 schools in 47 countries that represent Global Connections worldwide are pleased to welcome Claudia Gallant to that position.

Currently completing her tenure as Vice President for Professional Development for the United States National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), Claudia has an extraordinary background as a teacher (Phillips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire), an overseas director of School Year Abroad (Barcelona, Spain), and director of Professional development programs for public schools (Fitchburg, Massachusetts).

Claudia is also a world traveler and has recently participated in programs in

Bulgaria, Romania, Russia, and France. In 2003, she was responsible for the annual NAIS conference, which was held "offshore" for the first time in Montreal, Canada. This year's annual conference in San Diego will be her fifth. In addition, Claudia has established a number of institutes, including the first for experienced heads of schools which, understandably, followed her initiatives with the institute for new heads.

Global Connections is pleased to have a witty, wise and farsighted colleague join the Foundation, who together with its board of directors representing five countries, will provide new and vital connections to global initiatives through school leaders worldwide.

We welcome Claudia to Global Connections. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve with her.

Beauty, Harmony, Order, Peace

A quote passed on by David Wylde.

If there is light in the soul
There will be beauty in the person

If there is beauty in the person
There will be harmony in the home

If there is harmony in the house
There will be order in the nation

If there is order in the nation
There will be peace in the world.

GC Leadership Seminar VIII - Romania and Bulgaria in Pictures



GC Visitorship Engages in Second Enlightening Visit

Thanks to Dulany Bennett and her colleagues at the Oregon Episcopal School in Portland, Simona Baci, the founder of Romania's first independent and not-for-profit school, was able to spend a week's professional visit there learning about Middle School administration and the U.S. middle school curriculum.

This visit was the outcome of Global Connections VIII that met in Bulgaria and Romania last July. Both Dulany and Simona were participants in the seminar.

This visit has also led to the second Visitorship grant from the Global Connections Foundation, which was awarded to Simona so that she might continue her professional development program in the U.S. Arrangements were coordinated with the First Secretary of the Romanian Embassy, Nadia Crisan, who, like Simona, is a native of Cluj in Transylvania.

During a busy week and a half, Simona met with Laura Kang, Middle School Director of the Severn School in Maryland (GCII), with Dick Hall, Head of School, at the Washington International School in the District of Columbia (GCVII), with Fran Carey, Principal of the Evergreen Avenue School in New Jersey (GCVII and GCVIII), and four other New Jersey Principals who were recipients of Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation grants to attend



Simona Baci

GCVII or GCVIII. Ross Danis (GCVIII), the Education Program Director of the Foundation, hosted a dinner for Simona in Princeton, New Jersey.

Finally, Simona spent an afternoon at the National Association of Independent Schools in Washington,

meeting with Claudia Gallant (GCVIII), Vice President for Professional Development and Executive Director-elect of the Global Connections Foundation. At NAIS, she also met with Brad Gray, the new Vice President for Global Initiatives.

The various meetings – from Oregon to New Jersey – provided Simona and her developing International School of Cluj with a number of long-term professional contacts. They will be able to assist her and her colleagues in Romania to develop further this remarkable school which has introduced not only the first examples of community service and outreach but also professional development and curricula planning for primary, elementary and now middle school grades in much of Romania.

We are grateful to Dulany Bennett for taking this initiative and thank her and all other Global Connections “alumni” for their input in initiating this second Visitorship program.

Those wishing to contact Simona may do so via email: office@happykids.ro

Global Connections Seminar Celebrated in Song

Lyrics by Veronica Focseneanu

We live in a world that seems thoroughly changed,
With values and rules from which some feel estranged.
And yet all admit one unchangeable rule:
To love and to cherish the spirit of school.

Chorus:

*Global Connections invites you to share,
Global Connections invites you to care,*

Music by Mihai Melinescu

*To build friendly bridges, instead of cold walls,
To listen to global communities' calls.
As teaching and learning mean working together
The partnerships' values prove solid as ever.
The light one is offered through books and through knowledge
Will last after leaving the school or the college.
Repeat chorus*

The Global Connections Community Welcomes Claudia!

Kia Ora (New Zealand Maori), *Talofa Lava* (Samoan), *Mailo elei lei* (Tongan), *Kia Orana* (Cook Island Maori), *Fakalofa lahi atu* (Nuiean).

Welcome to Global Connections from all of us at Tamaki College. The languages represent the main cultural groups at our school so while we like to think of ourselves as New Zealand representatives, we hopefully carry with us a Pacific Islands' perspective as well. If there are any ways in which I can support you in your role please do not hesitate to ask. I extend a very warm invitation to you to visit New Zealand and Tamaki College if the opportunity arises.

~ David Hodge, Principal, Tamaki College, Auckland, New Zealand

As someone who has been at all 8 Global Connections Seminars, and watched Peter and Isobel Pelham bring together schools of every type from around the world, I am delighted to hear of Claudia's appointment. Informal conversations among school leaders attending these seminars have done much in opening the eyes and ears of many to the differences and strengths of school communities. I am so pleased that Claudia has accepted the challenge to become its first Executive Director. All of us at Round Square look forward to working even more closely together towards our common goals.

~ Terry Guest, Executive Director, The Round Square, Canada

Well done, Claudia! I look forward to working with you. It's nice to know that we won't lose touch, and that your experiences with NAIS will also be part of that global connection which we cherish.

~ Miffie Greer, Director, Association of International Schools in Africa, Kenya

Letters from Global Connections Participants

Letter from South Africa

The impression I have after only a single conference is that as a network, a conversation, it has a wonderful informality that leads to the openness of sharing and professional discussion. It allows people to be their own professional selves with their own weaknesses and vulnerabilities, willing to share this with others and so to grow through such a process.

Stephen Lowry, Rector, St. Stithians College, South Africa

Letter from the USA

I will treasure the memories and the relationships that I formed forever. I have already been in touch with several people I met in Romania as well as some school heads who participated in the experience.

Ross Danis, Education Program Director, Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, US

Letter from the USA

The Global Connections seminars are always eye-opening experiences and the cumulative effect is even more powerful than any single seminar. We are so grateful that we have been able to go on these profoundly instructive and rewarding trips. We want to thank you both for all your efforts in creating and maintaining this remarkable organization? enterprise? event? experience? Whatever it is we love it.

Skip and Lyn Mattoon, Headmaster and teacher, Hotchkiss School, US

Letter from the USA

The seminar was a wonderful experience that made me realize how closely connected the people in education are throughout the world. We are universal in our efforts to help students develop their individual potential. In addition, we are all working to prepare students for a changing society that will require informed individuals willing to work toward tolerance and peace. Learning and sharing in the diverse issues faced by

GREAT GESTURES; SCHOOLS HELPING SCHOOLS

When Bill Toppin, Principal of The Hutchins School in Australia, found he was unable to attend GCIX, he asked the Foundation to apply his seminar deposit to the fund supporting less advantaged schools. This generosity has been extended by several others. Chris Hunter, Director of L'Ermitage in France and Guy McLean, Headmaster of Appleby College in Canada did the same when their schedules prevented them from participating in Global Connections programs. The Foundation has been able to support approximately 20% of the delegates through monies raised from individuals and great gestures such as these. Thank you all.

educators in different countries proved to be a very humbling and enriching experience.

John Ryan, Principal, The Center School, US

Letter from South Africa

You have done it again -- exceeded everyone's expectations by providing us with a stimulating seminar held in TWO fascinating locations amongst the most charming, positive yet challenging group of educators and friends that ever there was! It was a privilege to spend quality time discussing issues that are of real value to folk from such a variety of backgrounds. I feel inspired after hearing not only the achievements of fellow educators but marvel at how others are coping with their particular challenges. What was particularly valuable was the diversity among the participants -- Mongolia to Guatemala and all stops in between!

Anne van Zyl, Head, Bridge House School, South Africa

Letter from Romania

It is difficult to put into words all the gratitude I owe you both for the 8th GC Seminar. Your presence was felt everywhere from the smallest details to the huge responsibilities and they were all wrapped up with love. Thank you. I couldn't have done what I dreamed of without your help and that of my colleagues and students. The 8th Seminar proved concretely the essence of Partnership and I know it lies at the foundation of the splendid enterprise you created. We all felt as part of the large Global Connections family.

Veronica Focseneanu, Host School Principal, Ion Luca Caragiale National College, Romania

Two New Directors Elected to the Foundation Board for 2005

The Global Connections Foundation is pleased to welcome two new Directors: Mrs. Judith-Ann Corrente of New York City and Mrs. Ellen Bennett Godsall of London, England. Each will serve for an initial term of three years which may be renewed for a second term. Each has also been involved in various forms of education: Ellen through the Outward Bound Trust in the UK and Judith as a Trustee of The Lawrenceville School in New Jersey and the National Association of Independent Schools, Washington, DC.

Married to the Canon Precentor of the Rochester Cathedral in England, Ellen received a Post graduate

Certificate of Education in Great Britain, served on the local school board in her district in London, and has been a volunteer with Habitat International as well as responding to the various responsibilities of raising two children while shouldering various parish obligations. An early supporter of Global Connections, Ellen and her family have assisted in the creation of the Foundation.

Judith-Ann is a member of the first co-educational class at Princeton University where she earned a degree in History and Middle Eastern Studies magna cum laude. She continued her education with an MA from New York University's Center for Middle Eastern Studies and received a

Fulbright Scholarship for further study in Istanbul, Turkey and Oxford, England. She has continued her interest in the Middle East.

Both Ellen and Judith have contributed greatly not only to their own families but also to the communities in which they live. Both are internationalists of the first order who can speak several languages and who have lived part of their lives in other cultures. Global Connections is indeed fortunate in having two such creative, giving, and dedicated individuals as newly appointed Directors. They join an already strong team of seven Directors and will only make the Foundation's leadership more vital and stimulating.