



**2010 36th Annual Conference of the
Eastern Community College Social Science Association**

***“Cultivating Interdisciplinary Collaboration, Creativity and
Innovation: A Leadership Role for the Social Sciences”***

March 25-27, 2010

Conference Center



P. O. Box 3300 • Somerville, New Jersey 08876-1265

ph: 908-526-1200 • www.raritanval.edu

Conference Program

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Pre Conference Sessions

5:00pm-7:30pm

Reception and Registration

Tours of Campus

Art Show

7:00pm-8:00pm

Planetarium Show

Friday, March 26

8:00am-9:00am-

Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00am-9:30am

Opening Remarks/Welcome

9:30am-10:30am

Keynote Address

“Creativity and Problem Solving”

Dr. Edwin Selby

10:45am – 12:00 noon

Session 1 – Room 101

- Margaret Maghan, William Klinger, Raritan Valley Community College, ***Developing Collaborations across Disciplines through Technology***. The workshop will demonstrate the use of innovative student response system software to provide real life scenarios addressing humanities and business related topics.
- Margaret Maghan, Sheila Meiman, Lori Moog, Kathryn Suk, Raritan Valley Community College, ***Developing Collaborations across Disciplines through Service Learning***. The panel will present strategies on how Service Learning can be incorporated into the Social Sciences and other disciplines, improving student learning outcomes and cultivating critical thinking, creativity and civic engagement.

Session 2 – Room 102

- Avon Chapman, Atlantic Cape Community College, ***Exploring Power Teaching to Jumpstart your Learners’ Brains***. The mystery of what causes learners to become successful information gatherers as a result of their exposure to instruction can be actualized through the deliberate application/introduction of whole brain instruction.
- John Cleary, Montclair State University, ***How Can a Nurturing Pedagogy Foster Art?*** Art asks us to step out of conventional understandings of ourselves and the environments we exist in; to go from the familiar to the unfamiliar, from the conventional to the unconventional, from the predictable to the unpredictable and from the known to the unknown.

Session 3 – Atrium

- Charles Kellermann, Northern Virginia Community College, ***IT as an Integrator of the Whole Collegiate Curriculum***. Since so many of our students have grown up with various technologies and do not even know (as we do) that there were once other means available, do they really need to be taught computer technology? As is true for all discipline-faculties, we have to lead students to an awareness of the real importance of gathering data- in quantity, quality and relevance.
- Melanie Morris, Pattiann Kletz and Maria DeFilippis, Raritan Valley Community College, ***Need a Life? Energize your Classroom with Second Life***. Have you ever wanted your students to investigate a crime scene? View the world through the eyes of a schizophrenic? Time travel to events of historic significance? Presenters will demonstrate how all this – and more – is possible in your Second Life.

**12 NOON- 1:30PM
LUNCHEON WITH SPEAKER**

***“The Meaning of Truth in the Post-Modern Classroom”
Dr. Kevin Reilly***

**1:30pm -2:45pm
Session 1 – Room 101**

- Peppy Margolis, Raritan Valley Community College, ***The Second Generation, Children of Holocaust Survivors’: Sharing Our Legacy***. This presentation will summarize the work being done by The Community Legacy Project at RVCC, an educational endeavor to present the story of the Holocaust Survivors, Liberators and Rescuers who are living in our community.
- Stephen Kaufman, Kevin Reilly, Angela Bodino, Raritan Valley Community College, ***What We Learned in a Team Taught Interdisciplinary Course: Global Patterns of Racism – Literary, Historical and Anthropological Perspectives***. The course is framed by conversation about cases of racism that involve settlement and an *internal other* and about what it has taken and still takes to make a difference.

Session 2 – Room 102

- Lynn Laskowski, Francis Coan, Tunxis Community College, ***Mark Twain and the Traveling Tome: Tracing the Ownership of the James Medical Dictionaries***. This presentation explores the history of eighteenth century medical dictionaries originally owned by a Virginia physician and acquired by Mark Twain. This presentation draws upon the fields of science, medicine, history (national, state and local) and genealogy.
- Leah Gregory, Randolph-Macon College, ***Looking for the Lost Hand: Traditional Healing and Medicine – Uncovering Africa’s Secret Strategies for Health and Wellbeing***. This research will ascertain what traditional healing and wellness strategies were employed in Africa before the advent of western medicine.

Session 3 – Atrium

- Karen Keller, Tina Margolis, Westchester Community College, ***A Learning Community: Linking History and English Through Writing and Research***. This presentation will describe the process, objectives and evaluation tools of the 2010 Westchester Community College Learning Community interdisciplinary module between the History and English departments.

3:00pm – 4:15pm

Session 1 – Room 101

- Jay Kelly, Raritan Valley Community College, ***How Green Grows Innovation at one Community College: The Systemic Context of its Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies Degree Program***.

The panel looks at the College's Environmental Studies Program in a context of continuing and growing support from administrators, faculty, staff, students and historical environmental groups in the community; support capped recently with a Memo of Understanding from the US EPA.

Session 2 – Room 102

- Lisa Hale Rose, Precious Sellars-Mulhern, Borough of Manhattan Community College, Adhiambo Okomba, Joanne Pierre-Louis, LaGuardia Community College, ***The Odyssey Project: Creating a Culture of Inquiry and Collaboration across Three Urban Community College Campuses***. The presentation will focus on the process of working across campuses and across disciplines to explore the obstacles young women of color face as they pursue their community college degrees.
- Janet Michello, LaGuardia Community College, ***Experiencing the Diversity of the City***. The presentation will consist of a faculty member and multi-ethnic students who have completed social science research as part of a course at LaGuardia Community College. The presentation will include the ways that experiential learning can enhance pedagogy in the social sciences.

Session 3 – Atrium

- Michele Bach Malek, Northern Virginia Community College, ***The role of Traditional/Established Media in the Age of “New” New Media and how it Relates to Students, Society and the New World***. Using the Iranian Presidential Election of June 2009 and its protesting aftermath, traditional and new media outcomes will be identified, compared and analyzed as to value, limitations and role in and out of the classroom.

4:45pm-6:00pm
Business Meeting
(ECCSSA Membership)

6:00pm-8:30pm
Dinner and Keynote Speaker
“War and World History in the Twentieth Century”
Dr. Michael Adas

Saturday, March 27

8:30am-9:00am
Continental Breakfast

9:00am – 10:30am
Session 1 – Grand Conference Room

- Jason Mallory, Neel Khichi, Raritan Valley Community College, ***A Balanced Education: A Look***

into Western Sociology from an Eastern Philosophical Eye. The western school system lacks a consistent education in philosophical and metaphysical concepts. It does not see 'eastern philosophy' as an instrumental part of a student's development and evolution. The presenters will argue that Philosophy 101 should be informed by sociological and scientific insights to generate meaningful questions about values and the nature of self, society and reality.

- Vandana Nadkarni, Barbara Seater, Raritan Valley Community College, ***Literature and Culture in Islam: Perspectives from South Asia.*** Raritan Valley hosted Fulbright Scholar Dr. Mohammed Asaduddin from the National Islamic University in New Delhi, India to lead a seminar on *Literature and Culture in Islam*. This panel will reunite members of the class to discuss their experiences and interdisciplinary projects developed for the seminar.

Session 2 –Grand Conference Room 10:45am – 12:00 Noon

- Philip Dolce, Bergen Community College, ***The Suburban Studies Group: Building a Community of Common Interest within the College.*** The Suburban Studies Group has created an institutional focus that allows faculty, staff students and administrators to join forces, as a community, to understand the suburban sense of place that defines where we work and live. The group creates an interdisciplinary, multifaceted project that involves and initiates scholarship, teaching and community service.

- Nancy Dashefsky, Joseph Farber, Westchester Community College, ***Paired Courses: Analytical Reading and Personal Finance.*** Westchester Community College has offered a Learning community to students placed in a developmental education reading course "Analytical Reading" with an economics course "Personal Finance". By creating a learning community students can use their reading techniques and immediately apply these skills to the material discussion in their Personal Finance class.

12 Noon-1:00pm Panel Discussion – Grand Conference Room *Strategies for Creating Systems of Collaboration in Community Colleges*

Members of the ECCSSA Board of Trustees and invited guests will discuss the future of collaborative strategies and models for building interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary and cross disciplinary systems of teaching and learning in the college classroom. The following questions will be addressed:

- *What is meant by "systems of collaboration?"*
 - *How should the need for collaboration or its importance be addressed?*
- *What are the possible forms and models of collaboration for the college classroom and the overall college, in general?*
- *What could be done to secure the support of senior administrative staff and faculty?*
- *How should issues of funding be addressed? Is it important or necessary? How funding sources should be identified?*

Moderator: Ms. Carolyn Coulter, Assistant Professor of Social Science,
Atlantic Cape Community College

Panel Members:

Mr. John Hutchinson, Professor of Sociology, Community College of Baltimore County, Essex Campus; Ms. Barbara Crain, Assistant Professor of Geography, Northern Virginia Community College; Dr. Gene Grabiner, Professor of Social Sciences, Erie Community College.

Closing Remarks

Conference Hotel

Hotel Sierra-Branchburg
3141 US Highway Route 22
Branchburg, NJ 08876
(908) 704-2191
<http://www.hotel-sierra.com>