

## Welcome Spring!

WACA/WIT Newsletter, Vol. 4, Spring 2006

A warm hello to everyone from Atlanta! Our goal is to keep everyone up-to-date on the news surrounding the World Affairs Councils of America/*World in Transition* Flagship Program. A lot has been going on. Included you will find:

- *South Asia in Transition!*
- What's Going On Around The Council System
- *Africa In Transition* Professional Development Program Offered By WACA National Office
- WIT Workshop At WACA National Conference
- WIT And The U.S. Air Force
- Forum On The SCIS Website
- Things To Remember

***South Asia in Transition!*** After much work by many people, *South Asia in Transition* has been published. Workshops covering the materials have already been held in Georgia, Jacksonville, and Richmond, with additional workshops planned across the country this spring and summer. Thanks to everyone who contributed! We think this is our best package yet! The *South Asia in Transition* video is the first video in the series released on DVD.

**What's Going On Around The Council System.** Many WIT workshops—small and large—have been held around the country this winter and spring. Highlights include...

In late January, **Loretta Williams** and **Nancy Tourk** of the **World Affairs Council of Dallas/Fort Worth** organized a two-day workshop with the **Fort Worth Independent School District** (ISD) covering the *WIT* series. Twenty-five teachers attended. Loretta and Nancy have four additional two-day workshops planned this spring and summer: May 30-31, with the **Garland ISD** for 25 teachers; June 12-13 with the **Dallas ISD** for 35 teachers; July 18-19, in cooperation with the **Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas** for 50 teachers (the second year in a row the Dallas council has partnered with the Dallas Federal Reserve); and August 8-9 with the **Fort Worth ISD** for 50 teachers.

In February, the SCIS team traveled to Jacksonville for an excellent train-the-trainer workshop in conjunction with the **World Affairs Council of Greater Jacksonville**. **Sandy Cook** of the Jacksonville council worked with **Dr. Tom Worley**, Supervisor of Social Studies for Duval County, and **Stephanie Lancer**, Teacher Resource Coordinator for Duval County, in bringing together a great group of teachers and setting in place plans for follow-up workshops. The initial workshop was held at the **Schultz Center for Teaching and Leadership**, a wonderful facility built by **Fred Schultz** for teacher professional development. **Greg Timmons** has since completed the correlation of WIT materials to Sunshine State standards.

In early March, **Curtis Mack** and **Candace Lopez** of the **Los Angeles World Affairs Council** co-sponsored a workshop with the **Los Angeles Unified School District**. The Los Angeles

council now plans to convene a focus group of Los Angeles teachers using the WIT materials to set plans for future workshops.

In early April, **Annie Pucey** and **Laura Kehrl** of the **World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh** held a workshop on *East Asia in Transition* in cooperation with the **University of Pittsburgh**, the **Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania**, and the **Japan Foundation**. They also have two workshops on *Africa in Transition* planned next fall in cooperation with the **Africa Society**. In late March, Greg Timmons completed the correlation of WIT materials to Pennsylvania state standards.

The newest member of the World Affairs Councils of America/*World in Transition* Flagship Program is the **Global Center of Greater Cincinnati's World Affairs Council**. **Garlinn Story**, Director of Education for the Cincinnati council, has worked closely with **Barbara Christensen**, Curriculum Manager in Social Studies for Cincinnati Public Schools, on the initial train-the-trainer workshop, which is planned for April 21-22. It will be held at the **Mayerson Academy** for 35 teachers. Two follow-up workshops will be held in June as Garlinn sets the program in motion. Garlinn also has plans to work with teachers in northern Kentucky.

**Karen Ettinger** of the **World Affairs Council of Oregon** and Greg Timmons of the **Oregon Council for the Social Studies** have a workshop on the WIT series coming up in early May. This workshop will be in Bend, Oregon, and is the Oregon council's first outreach into Eastern Oregon.

In early June, the **Naples Council on World Affairs** will hold a train-the-trainer workshop for 15 teachers. **Mimi Gregory**, President of the Naples council, has worked closely with **Dr. Jack Bovee**, the Curriculum Coordinator in Collier County, and others in setting up this workshop. The correlation to Sunshine State standards completed by the Jacksonville council will prove very useful as the program moves forward in Naples.

In Richmond, **Dr. John Rossi** of the **World Affairs Council of Greater Richmond** and the **Virginia Center for the Teaching of International Studies** conducted a very successful one-week summer institute covering *South Asia in Transition* last year. He and his teacher trainers will be conducting *South Asia in Transition* workshops throughout this year. John is one of the key authors of the *South Asia in Transition* lesson plans. He has secured grants from the **United States Institute of Peace** and the **Virginia Department of Education** to hold these workshops.

In Hawaii, the **Pacific and Asian Affairs Council (PAAC)** has submitted a grant proposal to the **University of Hawaii Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER)** to conduct a two-day workshop for 15 teachers during the 2006-2007 school year. **Natasha Chappel**, PAAC's High School Program Director, and **Merle Grybowski**, PAAC's After-School Class Coordinator, will convene the workshop.

***Africa In Transition* Professional Development Program Offered By WACA National Office.** Send in the applications! Many, many thanks to **Jerry Leach** and **Melissa Lawrence** in the WACA national office for developing an innovative professional development opportunity for teachers who use *Africa in Transition*. The 18 teachers selected will go to Washington June

20-23, 2006, to engage in an in-depth analysis and discussion of current African developments. Activities will include meetings with representatives from the State Department, embassies, think tanks, and development organizations, as well as with African and American business and military leaders. National sponsorship funds cover all event costs in Washington, with selected teachers being responsible only for their travel expenses. Building on last year's highly successful program on the EU, this year's program on Africa augurs to be a smashing success.

**WIT Workshop At WACA National Conference.** A warm-hearted thanks to all who participated in the *WIT* Workshop at the national conference. This workshop provided an important opportunity to discuss the flagship program and trade ideas on how it works in different settings. Gracias!

**WIT And The U.S. Air Force.** Did you know that all U.S. Air Force cadets must take 29 hours of training with *WIT* materials? Also, in a 2006 pilot program, the *WIT* series will be introduced into the first 50 of 1,000 Air Force Junior ROTC high school programs across the country. SCIS is developing student workbooks for the Junior ROTC to go with the existing *WIT* instructor guides. In addition, SCIS will be converting the existing videotapes into DVD format.

**Forum On The SCIS Website.** Check out the forum for teachers and WACA leaders on the SCIS Website. While a Turkish group hijacked this forum last year (really, it did), it has now regained steam. Teachers keep abreast of what's going on with *WIT* material updates, discuss how they have used specific activities, or ask questions concerning activities, reading resources, or opportunities. In general, it's a great place to network—for teachers, *WIT* leaders, and others.

**Things To Remember.** Finally, for those councils partnering with SCIS in the flagship program, please keep in mind the following items as you move forward in your area:

- ✓ The 75 sets of *World in Transition* materials made available to newly partnering councils must be distributed by the end of the academic year (ending July 31).
- ✓ Due to grants SCIS has received, SCIS is able to offer a discount to councils for *WIT* materials, 50 percent in the second academic year of the partnership, and 25 percent in each subsequent academic year.
- ✓ Councils participating in the Flagship Program are invited to appoint a qualified representative to the Academic Advisory Board, which meets yearly to review the *WIT* materials.
- ✓ SCIS can offer fundraising help through foundation searches, sample grant language, flyers, FAQ sheets, etc.
- ✓ Partners are encouraged to place labels identifying their council on *WIT* materials.

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