

**Sam Houston State University**

**Center for International Education &  
The College of Education**

# UNIVERSALITY OF GLOBAL EDUCATION ISSUES CONFERENCE



**The Woodlands Center Campus  
Friday, February 28, 2014**

# Conference Agenda

## Friday, February 28, 2014

8:00-9:00	Registration and Continental Breakfast	West Commons
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome and Opening Remarks Keynote Speaker: James Tweheyo, General Secretary of the Uganda National Teachers' Union	Room 110
9:35 – 10:50	Session I	Room 110
10:55-12:10	Session II	Room 110
12:15-1:30	Luncheon & Poster Sessions Keynote Speaker: Dr. Roberto Rodriguez, UNIBE UNIBE, San Jose, Costa Rica	President's Ballroom, 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor
1:35-2:35	Session III	Room 110
2:40-3:25	Panel Discussion	Room 110
3:30-4:30	Session IV	Room 110
4:30-5:00	Concluding Remarks & Conference Feedback	Room 110

**\*\*Please leave an electronic copy of your manuscript for inclusion in the Conference Monograph.**

# Presentations & Events

<b>8:00-9:00</b>	<b>Registration and Continental Breakfast</b>	<b>West Commons</b>
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<b>9:00-9:30</b>	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b> <b>Keynote Speaker: James Tweheyo, General Secretary of the Uganda National Teachers' Union</b>	<b>Room 110</b>
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<b>9:35-10:50</b>	<b>Session I</b>	<b>Room 110</b>
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## The Universal Challenges Facing Education

### **Agricultural Education in Haiti**

<b>Presenter(s):</b>	<i>David Vanderpool, Texas A&amp;M University</i>
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<b>Rationale:</b>	<p>Thomazeau, Haiti, is a poor, neglected corner of the country straddling the north shore of Lake Azui, which connects the Dominican Republic and Haiti. In Thomazeau, the 200,000 inhabitants scratch out their survival growing onions, cabbage, millet, and plantains. The biweekly market is bare of healthy foods instead selling nutrition-less cassava, empty-calorie taro, and rice imported from the United States. The documented malnutrition reveals a diet devoid of any significant protein, high in starch, but dangerously low in calories, and lacking the necessary nutrients to foster adequate development. The solution is multifaceted but definitely focuses on improving the status of agriculture in the area. According to Agrinom Yvon, the agricultural minister for the region, Thomazeau's chief agricultural hurdle is education. The farmers are severely under-educated concerning their land, their crops, and appropriate methods of production.</p>
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### **Teacher Morale and Moonlighting: An International Comparison**

<b>Presenter(s):</b>	<i>Sam Sullivan, Robert Maninger, and Andrey Koptelov, Sam Houston State University</i>
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### **Benefits, Barriers, and Solutions: A Global Perspective for Integrating Curriculum in Mathematics and Science**

<b>Presenter(s):</b>	<i>Teresa A. Hughes, Prairie View A&amp;M University</i>
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<b>Rationale:</b>	<p>Teachers and administrators are being held to a higher standard in regards to students' progress in academics. Requirements are rigorous and teachers are more accountable for their students' learning. Mathematics and science are the two areas that many teachers fall short. One distinctive effort to improve science and mathematics education is an approach that recognizes the commonalities between science and mathematics and seeks to appropriately and effectively integrate these two disciplines in teaching and learning (Berlin &amp; White, 1998; Lee, 2000; Pang &amp; Good, 2000). Each year state agencies require that teachers implement teaching strategies that will help all students make academic progress. However, with time restraints and the rigor of these standards many teachers are not able to teach all of the state mandated standards for both mathematics and science.</p>
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### **Pattern Blocks, Area, and Content Acquisition**

<b>Presenter(s):</b>	<i>James R. Valles, Jr., Sam Houston State University</i>
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Rationale:	Within the TExES Generalist 4-8 exam preparation manual, there is one exercise that defines the sum of two shapes as a specific value. The test taker is asked to identify the correct sum of different shapes for a different specific value. It is with this question in mind that the study was conducted, to see if students could generalize the concept of shapes representing area values and identify appropriate shapes to represent different values. The impetus behind this is based on the lack of familiarity of pre-service teachers with manipulatives and how to interpret their use in algebraic situations. While it is well-documented that pre-service teachers have a lack of familiarity with manipulatives, there has been a steady emphasis in encouraging the use of manipulatives in mathematics teaching to help reinforce the multiple visual ways that values can be represented. What this study looked for was what improvement, if any, was gained through the use of examining various area questions involving pattern blocks and the application of this content to more difficult problems as well as the methods used to solve these problems.
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**10:55-12:10      Session II      Room 110**

## **Global Issues Surrounding The Child and Family**

	<b>Study Abroad and International Student Services</b>
Presenter(s):	<i>Ian Lertora, Sam Houston State University</i>
Rationale:	Many institutions of higher learning are faced with issues of growing concern now that the educational paradigm has shifted towards increasing multiculturalism, diversification, and globalization (“The Internationalisation”, 2008) across campuses nationwide to infuse our youth with more worldly knowledge. In 2006 Senator Richard Durbin (2006) wrote “The United States...is continuously threatened by a serious lack of international competence in an age of growing globalization. Our world ignorance is now seen as a national liability” (p.4). Goel (2010) reported that historically the United States has accepted many more international students (723,277) onto our campuses than we have sent abroad (262,416). Though it is true that the number of study abroad students has steadily increased to the tune of 150% over the last decade, the United States’ number of international students has only increased 19.3% over that same time period. Norris and Gillespie (2008) found that studying abroad had significant impact on career choices, academic choices, foreign language acquisitions, and increased self-confidence, giving evidence of the impact of international education experiences. Norris and Gillespie (2008) also suggested there is a severe shortage of employees with international experience, and studying abroad should be the first stepping stone for international experiences the U.S. work force so badly needs.
	<b>An Exploration of Children’s Perspectives of Their School Experiences: A Mixed-Methods Research Study</b>
Presenter(s):	<i>Denise Peterson, Sam Houston State University</i>
Rationale:	Although research exists that explores children’s views of specific aspects of the education process, after a thorough review of the literature, no research was found with regard to the child’s holistic view of their overall school experience. This study is expected to provide a better understanding of how children perceive their school experience and suggest a viable means for obtaining information regarding their personal perception of that experience. Understanding school-aged clients’ view of their individual school experience can position mental health professionals to affect their clients’ school engagement and increase successful educational attainment.

	<b>Women Who Stay and Women Who Leave: The Internal Cognitive Factors That Mitigate the Decision Making Process in an Abusive Relationship</b>
Presenter(s):	<i>Shana D. Lewis, Sam Houston State University</i>
Rationale:	Prevalence data indicates that as many as 1.8 million women are beaten by their husbands each year (Straus, 1978), and nearly 30% of all couples report experiencing at least one violent episode during their marriages. Due to the likelihood of underreporting, however, these figures probably underestimate the severity of the problem (Straus et al., 1980). Indeed, it has been suggested that actual estimates of physical abuse are closer to 50%-60% (Straus, 1978). These statistics indicate that there is a need for greater knowledge and understanding of the women within these relationships and the reasons they chose to stay which may be cognitive in nature.
<b>12:15-1:30</b>	<b>Luncheon Keynote Speaker: Dr. Roberto Rodriguez, UNIBE UNIBE, San Jose, Costa Rica</b>
<b>12:15-1:30</b>	<b>Poster Sessions</b>
	<b>President's Ballroom, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor</b>
	<b>What are the Effects of Short-Term Study Abroad for Pre-Service Teachers?</b>
Presenter(s):	<i>Karla Eidson, Sam Houston State University</i>
Rationale:	I have 8 years of questionnaires about cultural competency and world view given to students before departing on a short-term study abroad trip and then administered again upon returning to the US. These data have been correlated and segregated and patterns and trends emerged. This research is important to the field of education for a myriad of reasons, primarily to investigate the validity of taking a group of pre-service teachers on a short-term study abroad trip and incorporating an international field experience into their education.
	<b>Inspire, Challenge and Energize: Enhancing the Faculty and Student Experience Through Faculty Learning Communities</b>
Presenter(s):	<i>Bernnell Peltier-Glaze, Texas Southern University</i>
	<b>From Whom Much was Taken, Much is Needed: Providing Professional Development for Community College Educators in Liberia</b>
Presenter(s):	<i>Michael Craig Edwards, Oklahoma State University</i>
	<b>Using Agriculture as a Context for Learning: Introducing Liberian Teachers to a Model for Improving Student Achievement in Agriculture and Mathematics</b>
Presenter(s):	<i>J.C. Bunch, Louisiana State University</i>
Rationale:	Liberia is reestablishing its education and agriculture systems after civil war (Murphy, 2003). A generation, who were displaced and forced into refugee status, had their education and livelihoods truncated. An objective of USAID's Liberia Food and Enterprise Development (FED)

	program is to develop the human capital of educators. USAID supported two U.S. specialists to provide professional development (PD).
	<b>Addressing Malnutrition through Schools</b>
Presenter(s):	<i>Manuel Piña, Jr., Texas A&amp;M University</i>
Rationale:	Personal experiences in 80 developing countries.
	<b>An Analysis of Stigma as a Barrier to Utilization of Mental Health Services For Asian American Veterans</b>
Presenter(s):	<i>Chance Quoc Dung Tran, Sam Houston State University</i>
Rationale:	Empirical research has identified increased levels of mental illness stigma in Asian Americans compared to their Caucasian counterparts (Loya, Redd, & Hinshaw 2010; Miville & Constantine, 2007; Cheng, Sevig, & Kwan, 2013). Numerous studies have also found stigma as a barrier to utilization of mental illness for veterans (Dickstein, Vogt, Hands & Lintz, 2010). An extensive review of the literature however identified a single research specifically addressing utilization of mental health services for Asian American veterans (Tsai & Kong, 2012). This study will add to the very limited body of research and may also help psychiatrists, psychologists, counselors, and policy makers to develop more effective strategies to improve utilization of mental health services for Asian American veterans.
	<b>Cross Cultural Awareness with the Use of Second Life</b>
Presenter(s):	<i>Jolene Kollman, Texas A&amp;M University</i>
Rationale:	Many students are unaware of international problems or do not fully understand the complexity of these problems. With the use of second life education, students can be fully immersed in a past, current, or pending international issue. They will be forced to use their critical thinking skills to make decisions about these issues as if they were really there. Furthermore they can go through the scenario more than one time, choosing to make different decisions or in a different character shoes. Second life will not only assist in creating awareness, but will give a cross cultural experience those who would or could not engage in these experiences traditionally.
	<b>Food Security: Not only a Developing World Problem</b>
Presenter(s):	<i>Jolene Kollman, Texas A&amp;M University</i>
Rationale:	In the U.S. there are many people who live in urban food deserts. These are prominently, low-income minority populations. The definition of urban food desert is that there is not access to a grocery store or market within 15 minutes walking or 1.5 miles by car. These populations are suffering poor health due to a lack of healthy nutritional food. Likewise, when compared to a developing country such as Haiti the similarities are striking. My proposed study is to examine if informal educational practices implemented through the schools with the help of Agrilife extension could be modified and used in developing countries that are struggling with similar issues.
	<b>Integrating Study Abroad Into Curriculum: Festival de Cannes, Producing and the International Film and Media Market- Poster Session</b>
Presenter(s):	<i>Tom Garrett, Sam Houston State University</i>
Rationale:	International experience is a critical and impressive part of any resume. In addition to the personal growth students undergo while overseas, the international and cross-cultural skills

developed while at an industry event certainly expand a student's professional network, employment opportunities and, consequently, income potential. Globally minded employees are in high demand in the global media. Many companies seek out individuals with multi-lingual and multi-cultural experience and skills. Additionally, students take advantage of internships while they study abroad for an international work experience that is valued among U.S. employers. A study Abroad experience integrated in to a curriculum of acquired skills will strengthen a student's resume in America's increasingly ethnically and culturally diverse workforce.

### **Bio-Prospecting in Costa Rica's Great Biodiversity: The Impact of Research**

**Presenter(s):** *Eric J. Fuchs, International Universidad de Iberoamerica, Costa Rica*

**Rationale:** Bio-prospecting is the process of identifying and isolating secondary metabolites from plant species that are known to have medicinal properties. The discovery of new drugs relies on detailed analyses of these chemical compounds. Oswego Global Laboratory students come to UNIBE to have a hands-on experience on pharmaceutical research. They learn to extract and characterize biologically important molecules through projects guided by local researchers. This project based learning approach exposes students to all components of scientific research, while teaching them problem solving skills. Conducting research in another country exposes students to different environments for research, as well as the opportunity to experience a different culture in both a social and academic dimensions. We evaluate the experience of international research through the analysis of interviews and evaluations. We also conduct a 6 month followup, to determine if the International Research Experience increased their academic potential.

### **An Integrated International Research Experience in Four Weeks: Psychology and Global Climate Change**

**Presenter(s):** *Anabelle Guerrero, Universidad de Iberoamerica, Costa Rica*

**Rationale:** This poster summarizes the collaborative experience in psychological exploratory quasi experimental research related to the topic of Global Climate Change with emphasis in problems and solutions on how to design and implement a complete research experience for the students on site. From writing the research questions and hypothesis, getting familiar with the topic and equipment, selecting the stimuli, collecting and analyzing the data to presenting and submitting a 10 page research paper, all in four weeks is an integrated accomplishment.

### **Promoting Internalization through Education Study Abroad Programs: Using Technology to Prepare for Departure and Enhance Learning Outcomes**

**Presenter(s):** *Karla Eidson, Sam Houston State University*

**Rationale:** An online assessment program can provide new information on culture, helping to prepare students and faculty to participate in a Study Abroad experience.

**1:35-2:35**

**Session III**

**Room 110**

### **Education and Global Sensitivity**

### **Leaders' Comparative Perceptions on the Education of Traditionally Marginalized Racial/Ethnic Groups in the United States and Costa Rica**

**Presenter(s):** *Rebecca M. Bustamante, Sam Houston State University*



Rationale:	The rationale for this study is twofold. One is to present a comparative view of approaches to educating students representing traditionally marginalized racial and ethnic groups in both Costa Rica and the United States. The other is to expound on the value of international internships as one strategy for developing the global perspectives and knowledge of educational leaders.	
	<b>Gender and Academic Performance in Higher Education: An International Study</b>	
Presenter(s):	<i>Nara M. Martirosyan and Barbara Polnick, Sam Houston State University</i>	
Rationale:	The gender gap in higher education has been at the center of attention for educational researchers and policy makers for many years. Several decades ago, men outnumbered women among college graduates (Buchmann, C. & DiPrete, T. A., 2006). According to the National Center for Education Statistics, in 1960 65% of all bachelor degrees were awarded to men (as cited in Buchmann, C. & DiPrete, T. A., 2006). However, the picture has changed since the early 1980s; and, by 2004, women received 58% of all bachelor degrees in the United States. Since 1988, women's presence in post baccalaureate programs has exceeded the number of males as well (NCES, 2012). Having gender disparities in postsecondary settings create the need for research on gender differences in academic achievement. This study was one such attempt, in which the researchers examined the differences in academic performance among undergraduate students in Armenian higher education where female dominance has been evident for many years.	
	<b>The Relationship Between Theoretical Orientation and the Professional Identity of Counselors-in-Training</b>	
Presenter(s):	<i>Rena Gayle Greger, Sam Houston State University</i>	
Rationale:	The purpose of this study is to relate theoretical orientation and professional identity among counselors-in-training. My research will benefit both counselor educators and supervisors who are training beginning counselors. The purpose of my study is to relate theoretical orientation and professional identity in counselors-in-training. From this information I hope to gather knowledge of what correlations exist in one's professional identity and the orientation they choose. Deciding what theoretical orientation to counsel within is a confusing endeavor, and one that counselor educators and supervisors can provide guidance.	
<b>2:40-3:25</b>	<b>Symposium (Panel Discussion)</b>	<b>Room 110</b>
	<b>Preparing for International Agricultural Development by PRACTICING International Agricultural Development: Needs and Opportunities in Haiti</b>	
Presenter(s):	<i>Gary Briers, James Lindner, Manuel Piña, Joe Masabni, Audie Cherry, Paige Graves, Emily Perdue, and David Stallings Vanderpool, Texas A&amp;M University; David Vanderpool, Live Beyond; Edsel Redden and Danette Philpot, Christianville Foundation, Inc.</i>	
<b>3:30-4:30</b>	<b>Session IV</b>	<b>Room 110</b>
<b>Education and Global Sensitivity</b>		
	<b>A Quantitative Study: Enhancing the Productivity of the Emotionally Challenged High School Students</b>	
Presenter(s):	<i>John Mammen, Sam Houston State University</i>	



Rationale:	The research conducted and the study outcomes show that the active parent-teacher interaction helps to improve student GPA and the graduation rates.
	<b>"Evidence-based practice", the next step for Postmodern Collaborative Language System Approach</b>
Presenter(s):	<i>Victoria Yu Liu, Sam Houston State University</i>
Rationale:	<p>The meaning of understanding is an act of interpretation, and it is produced in dialogue rather than discovered or reproduced (Anderson &amp; Gehart, 2007). The combination of focusing on both why clients think the way they think about their lives and how they form their ideas (in the language perspective) is valuable to investigate and understand as clinicians, supervisors and counseling educators. Qualitative research studies have looked at the effectiveness of collaborative therapy and an analysis of whether therapists' behaviors and attitudes were consistent with their therapeutic philosophy (Gehart-Brooks &amp; Lyle, 1999). Some have studied the application of ideas in supervision and education (Anderson, 1984; Bava, 2001) and in community work (Weisenburger, 2003). However, there is no true experimental research or quantitate research to support the phenomenal and to cherish the simplicity of being connected with the client through language and withness. There are two purposes of this study; the first one is providing evidence that Collaborative Language System approach to therapy is effective. Identifying characteristics of an effective therapy in collaborative therapeutic environment from clients', therapists' and reflection teams' perspectives will shine lights on uniqueness of Collaborative approach where possibilities are created through conversation and language. The second purpose is comparing therapeutic outcomes of Collaborative Language System approach and identified evidence-based practices, such as Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT). CBT is one of the most extensively researched forms of psychotherapy. Increasing adaptation of CBT for wider range of disorders and problems (Beck, 1997; Salkovskis, 1996). To better understand Collaborative approach outcome effectiveness, examining relational to CBT, an evidence-base practice, provides standardized comparison.</p>
	<b>The joint development of Scientific, Professional, and Academic Center for Excellence (SPACE) between Sam Houston State University (SHSU, USA) and Patna University (PU, India)</b>
Presenter(s):	<i>Madhusudan Choudhary, Sam Houston State University</i>
Rationale:	<p>A major challenge in higher education is how to transform the wealth of scientific and educational information into "critical knowledge" and integrate that knowledge for scientific research, academic teaching, and faculty professional enhancements. SHSU and PU propose to jointly develop a "Scientific, Professional, and Academic Center for Excellence (SPACE)" through which faculty, graduate students, and post-doctoral fellows from these two institutions participate in collaborative research and teaching activities to achieve their satisfactory professional enhancements. While SHSU will play a key role in coordinating this OSI project, both SHSU and PU will serve as the main sites for research and teaching activities. Both institutions have a growing student population of underrepresented communities, including minorities and women. The objective of this project is to strengthen the collaboration of teaching and research between USA and India, and offer an opportunity for students from underserved communities pursuing studies in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Additionally, the project will help develop standard core courses in biology, teaching methods and evaluation strategies for the course curriculum. The long-term impact of this project will be to increase the quality and rigor of modern teaching and research skills through collaboration among faculty members between SHSU</p>

and PU to prepare underrepresented students for graduate studies, academic teaching, and other professional careers.

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### **The Impact of Limited Language Proficiency on Academic Performance of International Students**

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Presenter(s):

*Nara M. Martirosyan, Eunjin Hwang, Denis Akwar Sam Houston State University*

Rationale:

The United States has been one of the largest host country with 22% market share in the global higher education (Robertson, 2007). Even though the proportion of international students in American higher education is less than 4%, they significantly contribute both to the US higher education and local economy (IIE, 2012). It is important for administrators and educators to consider the needs of international student population and address challenges associated with their academic experience in American colleges. Many of these students come from countries where English is a second, third or even a fourth language. Limited language proficiency could put international students at risk and result in their departure from US without earning a degree, which will in turn have negative impact on overall student retention and graduation rates in American higher education. The purpose of this study was to investigate the relationship between English language proficiency and academic performance of international students enrolled in a 4-year university in north central Louisiana. The findings of this study was intended to contribute to existing research on the relationship between English language proficiency and academic performance of international students.

**4:30-5:00**

**Concluding Remarks & Conference Feedback**

**Room 110**