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NCIW Partner - Here is the current issue of North Carolina in the World NEWS.



Increasing Student **Knowledge** and **Skills** About the World



Tarheel Highlights

► **A series of town meetings** is being planned throughout the state to elicit input on new core graduating requirements, including two units of a foreign language for all students. New graduation requirements would begin with the freshman class of 2008. Members of the State Board of Education want to hear from parents, educators and members of the public. The possibility of substitute classes and examining other ways to fulfill the goals of the core course of study are under discussion. To read a press release...[click here](#).

► **At a time of increased demand** for foreign language speakers, the State Board of Education has approved a plan to provide licensing of teachers in world languages. Varying types of licenses can be earned through a series of oral and written assessments available through the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. To read more...[click here](#).



National Notes

This Is **What It Looks Like:** Global Education at Work in NC

*Submitted by Isaac Lake, teacher at Enloe High School
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Enloe teachers are finding new ways to open our classrooms to the world. One of the most exciting is our new partnership with Eyuboglu High School in Istanbul, Turkey. This is the first partnership to involve high school students from North Carolina with students in Turkey. Supported by North Carolina in the World and the International Affairs Council, the partnership involves students from Theory of Knowledge (TOK) classes, a core of the International Baccalaureate diploma program, and will grow to include other students in the years ahead.

We began with a video conference in March of this year, during which students and teachers introduced themselves, described their schools and cities, and began making plans for collaboration.



This semester our students have researched and made presentations on questions of culture developed by Eyuboglu students for their annual TOK conference, which brings students and teachers from Norway to Ethiopia to Istanbul for three days each November. This year, thanks to funding from the Turkish Cultural Foundation and Bridge to Turkiye, as our partnership coordinator, I was able to represent Enloe at the conference. Next year we hope to bring students to meet their peers from around the world.

Now the partnership will expand. Students in a Contemporary World Literature class will read Turkish writers suggested by our partners and share their responses with students at Eyuboglu. Chad Ogren, the chair of Enloe's Science Department, is planning with his counterpart at Eyuboglu for collaboration involving environmental science classes. Enloe broadcasting students will make a film about Raleigh and Enloe, and students at Eyuboglu will produce a film about Eyuboglu and Istanbul.



Progress Report: North Carolina in the World

▶ **A new report**, "Tough Choices or Tough Times," presents education reform recommendations to assure high skills and competitiveness among US workers in the global marketplace. The report, produced by The New Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce, a group convened by the National Center on Education and the Economy, was released Dec. 14. It states, "The core problem is that our education and training systems were built for another era. We can get where we must go only by changing the system itself." To read more...[click here.](#)

▶ **A Minnesota high school** student has won the inaugural youth award as part of the Goldman Sachs Foundation Prizes for Excellence in International Education. The State of North Carolina won the prize in the state category in 2003. Elyse DeLaitre, 17, won a \$7,500 scholarship for her video documentary on the international issue of water conservation. To read more...[click here.](#)

Advancing Policy

A 2006 Legislative Special Provision has provided an opportunity to highlight the activities and progress of North Carolina in the World. Legislators have asked for a plan to "ensure that public K 12 international education efforts such as teacher and student exchanges, curriculum development, and other initiatives for students, teachers, and administrators are focused on key countries and regions of strategic economic interest to North Carolina." Meetings are taking place with the Department of Commerce, the State Board of Education and the Department of Agriculture to form linkages between international education and state economic development priorities. A report to the legislature is due March 31, 2007.

International School Partnerships

The Center for International Understanding is launching international school partnership programs with China and Mexico next fall. This will provide North Carolina students the opportunity to work in multinational teams, learning with and not just about other countries. Travel to Mexico (Mexico City and Puebla) and to China (Shanghai and Jiangsu Province) in October will lay the foundation for partnerships between schools in North Carolina and Mexico and China. Principals and faculty members from North Carolina schools paired with partner schools will learn about that country's education system and visit their partners to establish relationships and begin designing collaborative student activities. For more information on Mexico program, contact Matt Friedrich, mfriedrick@northcarolina.edu; for China program, contact Marty Babcock, martyb@northcarolina.edu.

Partnerships and Exchanges

More than half of all North Carolina school districts are hosting VIF (Visiting International Faculty) educators in classrooms this year. From Argentina to Zambia -- and representing 51 other nations in between -- 900 VIF international exchange teachers are teaching a wide variety of subjects and serving as cultural ambassadors to help prepare a new generation for the global marketplace. This year in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, two VIF teachers from China are teaching Mandarin at Smith Academy of International Languages and the International Studies School at Garinger High. For more information...[click here.](#)



Business Perspective

"When I started the company 12 years ago, I had no idea that we would become a global company. Although it's been a bit of a challenge dealing with different languages and cultures, it's also one of the most enjoyable aspects of our business."

**Dr. Jason Caplan, Pres. & CEO
EnSolve Biosystems
Raleigh, NC**

Business Profile

EnSolve is a biotechnology company that produces a biologically-based filtering system that removes oil from bilge water. EnSolve has seven employees in North Carolina and its shipowner clients operate vessels in waters throughout the world.



North Carolina in the World is a statewide collaborative effort to prepare students to be citizens, workers and leaders in the global age of the 21st Century.

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