



## North Carolina in the World **NEWS**

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



### Tarheel Highlights

**Global readiness** is a top priority described in The University of North Carolina (UNC) Tomorrow Commission report released earlier this month. Input from 11 community forums, along with faculty, staff and students from the 17 UNC campuses, led to multiple recommendations on how UNC can “respond more directly and proactively to the 21st century challenges facing North Carolina...” Like the NC Board of Education guiding mission, the report calls for enhancing the global competitiveness. To read a downloadable copy of the report, [click here](#).

**International Affairs Council** will host a WorldQuest competition on February 16. Teams of four members from any high school in the Triangle and east are invited to take part in this world knowledge event, designed to mirror the national WorldQuest competition in Washington, D.C. in April. Questions will cover such areas as current events, economics and the UN Peacekeeping Initiatives. For more information: [TCulpepper@iacnc.org](mailto:TCulpepper@iacnc.org).



### National Notes

**Sesame Workshop**, the non-profit educational institution behind Sesame Street, has created a new website to help four- to eight-year-olds learn about global citizenship. "Panwapa" is designed to promote an awareness of a wider world, an appreciation of similarities and differences among people, and an understanding of issues of economic inequality. The site features activities with Sesame characters in five languages. To go

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

*Submitted by Christopher Garner, John T. Hoggard High School, Wilmington*

**Students at John T. Hoggard High School** are being prepared to succeed in a world with rapidly expanding global connections through their participation in a partnership with a high school in Ikast, Denmark. Students at Hoggard and Ikast Gymnasium have been working together on interdisciplinary projects throughout the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 school years. As a part of each partnership collaboration students from both schools work together both virtually and in-person. The use of technology such as web conferencing allows students to communicate and contribute to projects while seeing each other on computer screens. In addition, students from North Carolina and from Denmark visit one another's home country.

During the fall of 2006 students learned about their partner school and its students through participation in a "Getting to Know You" project. This activity involved groups of students working to create and exchange PowerPoint presentations and converse electronically to introduce not only the individual students in each group, but also their respective schools and cultures.

During the spring of 2007 groups of students from both schools worked together on their study of war. Students worked via web conference to research and create a group presentation on various world wars and regional conflicts. Using the same technology, presentations were shown simultaneously at both schools.

During the fall of 2007, 19 students from Ikast, Denmark traveled to Wilmington, NC, as a part of an 11-day exchange program. Danish students attended classes at Hoggard High School and experienced American culture by staying with host families. Together, students from both schools examined the trial of John Scopes and researched the ongoing controversy involving the teaching of evolution and creationism that has continued since the famous 1925 John Scopes (Monkey) Trial.

Our partnership with Ikast Gymnasium in Denmark has provided students at both schools with the opportunity to experience the shrinking nature of the world in which they live, while learning with students 4,000 miles away.

### Progress **Report**: North Carolina in the World

#### Teacher Knowledge

**In collaboration with the Universidad Regiomontana** in Monterrey, Mexico, East Carolina University will offer a four-week teacher education program this summer for its students. Education students from North Carolina will explore Mexican/Hispanic culture, education, and history as a way of better understanding Latino students in North Carolina classrooms. While in Mexico education students will have the opportunity to interact with students and assist teachers in Mexican classrooms. For more information, [click here](#).

to the site, [click here](#).

**The number of US students** studying abroad increased by 8.5 percent in the last academic year to nearly a quarter of a million, according to the 2007 Open Doors Report. North Carolina alone sent over 8,000 students abroad in academic year 2006/2007, according to the report. For more information on the national report published annually, [click here](#).



#### Business Perspective

*"For businesses to be successful in the future, both business and political leaders need to understand what is going on around the world. Our competitors know more about us that we do about them. This is not a good thing."*

**Tommy Harrelson**  
Vice President, Earth Tech

#### Business profile

Earth Tech is an international environmental company with NC offices in Charlotte and Raleigh.

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## Higher Ed K-12 Relationships

**The North Carolina Teaching Asia Network (NCTAN)** seminar series at UNC-Chapel Hill and UNC-Wilmington began in November and will continue through April. These Saturday seminars are for teachers and are designed to build a solid foundation of knowledge about East Asia and explore means of making East Asia and its culture more accessible to students. For more information, [click here](#).

## Partnerships and Exchanges

**Student exchanges**, where North Carolina students spend time abroad and host their counterparts in their own communities, is a major goal of North Carolina in the World. One successful example of an exchange happened in October when Hayesville High School in Clay County, close to the Georgia border, sent 14 students to visit its partner school in Denmark. Principal Gail Criss said, "In my 20-plus years as a high school principal I cannot think of a better experience than our partnership with Avedore. The students were awed and inspired by their time in Copenhagen."



**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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