



VOLUME 23, NUMBER 1, 2004

World Gifted

NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD COUNCIL FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN



A Message from the President

Dear Members, Colleagues, and Friends,
In just one more year our next World Conference will be held in New Orleans where I hope to meet many of you. The preparations are getting more and more impressive and it is certain to become an exciting event. Anyone interested in the most recent developments and trends, as well as current research and proven practices in gifted education, should not miss this conference. A new format for the pre-conference day promises to provide deep insights by experts as well as lively discussions of ideas and issues. Prominent keynoters and featured speakers will "feed" us with their knowledge and wisdom. In addition to the professional work, New Orleans offers so many opportunities for enjoying life, for stimulating the senses, and for relaxing. So, come and join us for a

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Strategies for Developing Online Courses for Gifted Students

By BETTIE POSEY BULLARD, University of South Alabama, USA



"Social interaction may be implemented by assigning online groups or partners and requiring contact by electronic mail, bulletin boards, threaded discussions, or chat rooms."

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Online courses, using innovative techniques through global networks, have the potential to transform gifted education. Expanding exponentially, it is estimated that by 2006 a majority of high school students in the United States will have completed an online

course (Rose, 2001). Although online courses are an option for all students, they hold exceptional promise for gifted students because their learner-centered, virtual learning environments can present challenging curricula not provided in the general education classroom. Most online courses, however, are being developed and utilized by teachers who have no training, coaching, or mentoring in online instructional development and techniques. In fact, very little information is available to indicate the best methods for developing online

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The World Council for Gifted and Talented Children, Inc. (WCGTC) is a nonprofit international organization dedicated to the needs of gifted and talented children throughout the world. For membership information contact Headquarters:

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WORLD COUNCIL PUBLICATIONS

World Gifted is the newsletter of the World Council. Published three times a year, it contains the latest news and information concerning the organization, its membership, and the international gifted education community. Any article or portion thereof may be reprinted with credit given to the source. Send all news and articles to Barbara Clark, Editor, clarkbj@earthlink.net or to Headquarters.

Gifted and Talented International, refereed by an editorial review board of leading international gifted educators, is the official journal of the World Council. The purpose of the journal is to share current theory, research, and practice in gifted education with its audience of international educators, scholars, researchers, and parents and is published twice a year. Prospective authors are requested to submit manuscripts or queries to:

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Calendar

July 26–30, 2004

8th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness

"Rebirth of Giftedness in the Trans-Modern Society: Vision, Values and Leadership"

Korea

Contact Jenny Choi, Tel: +82-2-3462-2525, Fax: +82-2-3402-0589
www.koreagifted.org or e-mail giftedness@ioconvex.com

August 15–17, 2004

10th National Conference of the Australian Association for the Education of the Gifted and Talented

Melbourne Convention Center

Hosted by the Victorian Association for Gifted and Talented Children
www.vagtc.asn.au

September 10–13, 2004

9th Conference of the European Council for High Ability (ECHA)

"Educational Technology for Gifted Education—From Information Edge to Knowledge Era"

Pamplona, Navarra, Spain

Contact Conference Secretariat Ortra Ltd. 1 Nirim Street, P.O. Box 9352, Tel Aviv 61092, Israel; Tel: + 972-3-638-4444, Fax: +972-3-638-4455
www.ortra.com/echa/ or e-mail: echa@ortra.com

November 11–13, 2004

4th Salzburg Conference on Gifted Children With a Special Interest in Math & Science

Organized by the Austrian Research Center for Gifted Children

Salzburg, Austria

For information and registration, visit the website at:
www.begabtenzentrum.at/veranstaltungen
Conference in German

November 10–13, 2004

Fifth Latin American Congress of Giftedness and Talent Iberoamerican Federation of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children

"For Education, Toward a More Intelligent Life Together"

Loja, Ecuador

Conference in Spanish

August 3–7, 2005

16th Biennial Conference

World Council for Gifted and Talented Children

"Celebrating Les Enfants Surdoués du Monde"

New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

www.worldgifted.org

Update from Headquarters

News Briefs



2007 Biennial World Conference Bids Open

Proposals are now being accepted for the 2007 and 2009 World Conferences. Organizations interested in submitting a bid should request a copy of "Biennial Conference Planning Guide" from headquarters.

Win a Free Registration for the 2005 World Conference!

Two ways to win! Join the 2004 World Council Membership Drive.

- 1 Sign up the most new members for the year and you automatically win a free registration for the 2005 World Conference in New Orleans.
- 2 Recruit one new member and your name goes into a lottery pool.

Contest ends June 1, 2005. One name will be drawn for a free conference registration.

Openings

Two World Council positions are currently open: Editor, *Gifted & Talented International* and World Council Headquarters site. Responsibilities for these two positions will commence after the 2005 World Conference in New Orleans. See page 9 for details.

2005 World Conference Call for Papers

Submit your proposals for the 2005 World Conference, August 3-7, 2005, New Orleans, LA USA. Submit hardcopy form (page 10) or preferably, complete the online form at www.worldgifted.org. Papers and proposals are due November 30, 2004.

Welcome New Delegates

The Executive Committee welcomes newly appointed delegates, Gholamreza Habibi, Iran and Khalid Al-Jabali, Saudi Arabia. Both delegates were recruited by Taisir Subhi Yamin. For a complete list of delegates and e-mail addresses, visit the World Council website at www.worldgifted.org.

Reminder to Delegates

Gathering and submitting news for the "News Around the World" section of *World Gifted* is one of the responsibilities of World Council delegates. Delegates should contact members in their countries and send articles via e-mail to headquarters at worldgt@earthlink.net.

University of South Alabama Sponsors World Gifted

This issue of *World Gifted* is sponsored by the the University of South Alabama. The Executive Committee extends its appreciation and thanks to:

The University of South Alabama
College of Education
Richard L. Hays, Ed.D., Dean
Department of Special Education
Terry Cronis, Ed.D., Chair
Graduate Programs in Gifted
Education
Bettie P. Bullard, Ph.D., Director

UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

2005 Conference Deadlines

- **Call for Papers**
Deadline: November 30, 2004
- **Barbara Clark Scholarship Applications**
Deadline: January 15, 2005
- **Conference Pre-Registration**
Deadline: June 20, 2005
- **Hyatt Regency Room Booking**
Deadline: July 7, 2005

Elections

- **2005-2009 Executive Committee Nominations/Elections**
Deadline: December 31, 2004/
March 31, 2005
(Elected by membership)
- **Call for President Nominations/Elections**
Deadline: December 31, 2004/
March 31, 2005
(Elected by Delegates)
- **Call for Awards Nominations**
Deadline: January 15, 2005
- **2005-2007 Delegate Elections**
Deadline: February 28, 2005
Forms are available on the website

THANK YOU!



ONE-YEAR SILVER MEMBERS

Nadia Buhannad
Dubai UAE

James Lee
Sydney AUSTRALIA

Maria Michaelidou
WCGTC Elected-Delegate
Athens GREECE

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WCGTC Appointed-Delegate
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News from Around the World

FROM THE EMERALD ISLAND

Busy Year for Irish Association for Gifted Children



The Irish Association for Gifted Children had a busy year. A very encouraging outcome to our links with the World Council for Gifted Children, came from our contact with Dr. Shirley Kokot, a

professor from South Africa, who did us the kindness of coming out to Ireland to speak at our last conference.

During our conversations about the lack of teacher training, or indeed any training in the area of Gifted in Ireland, it came to light that Dr. Kokot ran a distance learning Certificate Course in Gifted Education. I would like to report that as a result of this conversation, we now have four people in our organization, including myself, who completed this course and received their official certificates in May 2004. Two of the others were Anna Giblin, IAGC Membership Secretary, and Fiona DeBuitler, a teacher. I mention this because it always builds strength in people to achieve a goal like this and may help each of us advocate with greater authority and confidence. Thank you Shirley, and well done to our Irish members. Knowledge is power as someone said.

The Association had three evening speakers this year including Dr. David Carey, a psychologist working in Special Education with Froebel Teaching College, Trinity, in Dublin, who spoke about inclusion in our country's "Disability and Special Education Bill" and what it might mean to our group. The second speaker was Aisling Whelan, an Educational Psychologist, who presented research entitled "Irish Teachers Attitudes Toward and Perceptions of Gifted Learners." This was a very interesting evening for our membership. The findings of the study showed that there is no real training for teachers in Ireland in this area, and information about gifted learners is only covered very briefly in modules on special needs. It was stressed that it was crucial that teachers receive specific training in the area of gifted education in order that they may gain understanding of and the tools to adequately provide for gifted learners.

The third speaker, Ita Corduff, a primary vice principal, spoke on how to use Whole School Planning and Policy and how it could be used as an opportunity to include gifted children. Ms. Corduff gave a very informative talk and was met with thanks from many parents who had an opportunity to learn how these systems work in the schools.

The association also ran a family day excursion to the W5 Hands-on Science Museum in Belfast. This was a wonderful success and enjoyed by all the children involved, from 2- to 60-years-old. I am sure it will be an event that will bear repeating.

Julie Anne Stevens and Nicola O'Leary (former chairperson and vice chairperson of our association) traveled to Australia to the World Conference. This resulted in the development of a series of teacher training sessions on critical thinking culminating in an in-career teachers course entitled "Supporting Gifted Children in the Mainstream Classroom" to be given over 4 days, August 23-27 of this year. Two other presenters will be Anne Marie Hogan, a primary principal, and the previously mentioned primary principal, Ita Corduff.

On a personal note, I co-presented a session on gifted and learning challenged children at the Irish Learning Support Conference, and gave a workshop on same subject at the Mayo Education Centre. Handouts with information on WCGTC and IAGC were available at both sessions.

In addition to those who spoke to our association this year, we have seen a welcome increase of graduate students in special education approaching the association for information as they choose to do research in areas such as; "The Provision of Mathematics to Gifted Children in Ireland," "Asperger's and Gifted Children," and "Creativity and the Gifted Mind."

During the coming year, we hope to host a speaker's night on Advocacy, a Parent-to-Parent evening, and also, a return visit from Dr. Pat Shuler, sometime in the autumn, who will speak to us about "Adolescence and the Gifted." She will be met with a thousand welcomes.

We also hope that some of us can be present at the Conference in New Orleans next summer to say hello. Yours in Gifted.

Submitted by Leslie Graves
WCGTC Elected-Delegate, Ireland

FROM IRAN

PYRAMID of Research Training for Gifted Students

There has been a question regarding why gifted students are not necessarily good researchers. To investigate this question, a new system of research methodology education for talented students is being tried at Tehran University, Iran with rewarding results. The PYRAMID of Research Training is an ongoing system for research methodology education that includes an integration of education with real research involvement based on training in data processing and problem-solving skills.

In the two semesters that have elapsed from the onset of the project that includes 60 undergraduate students, there have been over 20 articles written to be presented at the annual conference of gifted and talented students. Over 25 grants have been awarded to the project the the university vice chancellor for research. Continuous methodology consultation, facilitation of cooperation with university professors, and ranked diplomas are some of the unique features of our delicately devised system.

This project is supervised by the Office for Gifted and Talented Students, Tehran University. We eagerly welcome any kind cooperation of comments. Please contact us at info@farzaninstitute.com.

Submitted by Gholamreza Habibi
WCGTC Appointed-Delegate, Iran

FROM SCOTLAND

The Scottish Network for Able Pupils (SNAP)

SNAP was established in 1995 as a partnership between the Faculty of Education, University of Glasgow and the Scottish Executive Education Department. SNAP works to abate or moderate four related aspects that limit the education of able pupils.

- Underrepresentation: those whose abilities may not be identified as a result of disability, race, gender, and other such characteristics.
- Underachievement: those who may, for a variety of reasons, do less well in school than could be expected, for example, disaffected individuals.
- Insufficient challenge: those who do well at school but of whom more could be expected.
- Exceptional individuals: these individuals are hard to ignore. They do not conform or learn to underachieve but make demands on

the system, and in many cases, have needs that remain unmet.

SNAP is steered by a committee that involves key personnel from a variety of national organizations with a vested interest in nurturing the very best of Scottish talent. In order to make clear the philosophy that underpins the work of this national body the committee has compiled a set of principles and aims on which all of its work is based.

- All children have a right to an education that is appropriately challenging and takes account of individual needs.
- Each person has a unique profile across a wide range of abilities that should be recognized, enhanced, and valued equally.
- Recognition of an individual's ability profile is only possible in partnership with parents and other significant individuals in that person's life.
- Appropriate challenge must be provided at all points on an individual's ability profile.
- The key to recognition of an individual's abilities lies with the provision of appropriately challenging opportunities
- Errors are critical to the learning process thus appropriate educational opportunities may require challenge that takes the individual to the point of failure. This is only possible, however, within an ethos where it is safe to fail.
- An inclusive education system is the most supportive framework for offering opportunities to prevent underachievement and provide appropriate challenge across the ability range.

In the light of these principles SNAP advocates approaches that will promote more effective learning and teaching experiences for every learner, including those with particular and outstanding abilities. The network exists to encourage the recognition of children's individual abilities and to enable teachers to identify, respond to, and celebrate these with confidence.

SNAP has three main aims.

1. To bring together relevant developments and ideas from a variety of disciplines and initiatives. To give coherence to this often piecemeal approach, and make it accessible to schools and teachers: in other words to facilitate and promote 'joined up thinking' in Education.
2. To ensure a strong national awareness of the issues as they arise and support national initiatives that pertain to the education of

more able pupils.

3. To support and model for schools appropriate challenges for more able pupils within an inclusive framework.

In order to forward these aims SNAP works collaboratively with a range of partners in ways that recognize its stated principles by:

- offering a network of support to schools and teachers through sharing ideas and practice;
- providing forums for debate and discussion;
- offering advice to schools and teachers on how to provide appropriate challenge for their most able children;
- providing the educational community in Scotland with opportunities to hear and question international leaders in the field of gifted and talented education;
- providing findings to the educational community in Scotland;
- providing links to national support groups such as NACE and NAGCS;
- offering advice and information to policy makers.

Submitted by Chris Smith
University of Glasgow, Scotland

FROM UK

National Academy for Gifted and Talented Youth

The National Academy for Gifted and Talented Youth (NAGTY) was established in 2002 by the UK government and is hosted by the University of Warwick (England).

The purpose of the NAGTY is to work in partnership with government to improve educational provision for gifted and talented young people up to the age of 19 years. Its role is to advance improvements in student provision by developing a nationally coordinated approach that can provide leadership and support for education professionals working in this field. To achieve this NAGTY works with students, parents, teachers, education professionals, specialist providers, universities, and business.

NAGTY's headquarters is located at the University of Warwick; however, as a national body NAGTY has a strong virtual presence including communication, dissemination, and e-learning functions. NAGTY events for students and/or teachers occur throughout England and are offered through a variety of organizations working in collaboration with NAGTY. In particular NAGTY works in collaboration with a set of top universities that deliver events for students on NAGTY's behalf and through key

agencies in the school sector (e.g., Local Education Authorities) to support work with gifted and talented students in schools.

One of the most innovative aspects of NAGTY's work is its pioneering Student Academy. This revolutionary concept enables students 11-19 years of age to attend their local school but also benefit from being part of a national cohort with access to a wide range of additional academic opportunities. The Student Academy currently has 30,000 students whose schools ensure that the students make the best of both aspects of their educational provision. This approach has already demonstrated an ability to change the lives of individuals, particularly those from underrepresented groups.

Submitted by Deborah Eyre
WCGTC Elected-Delegate, UK;
Director, National Academy for Gifted & Talented Youth

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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wonderful experience!

A year from now will also bring several important changes in our organisation. First, the term of my presidency will be over and a new president will take the leadership of the World Council for the next 4 years, from 2005 to 2009. The new president will be elected by the delegates and new delegates will be elected by you, our membership, months before the World Conference.

Second, after many years, our indefatigable headquarters team, Sheila Madsen and Dennis Stevens will end their work for us and turn the Council's business and files over to new management at a new site. The search for such a person and place is underway at this moment.

And third, our successful journal editor of several years, Joyce van Tassel-Baska, will finish her editorship in 2005 and a new editor will begin a new term.

We need your support for all these important changes so please, ask yourself and others you know who should stand as a candidate for the next president or become the next editor. Give us your advice and suggestions for persons who would be suited for these leadership positions and for sites that might possibly be interested in hosting our headquarters. We need to hear from you now and look forward to seeing you in August 2005 in New Orleans.

With warm regards,

Y'all Come!

By BOB SENEY, Local Conference Chair



Plans for the 2005 World Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA are well underway. An important feature of this conference will be the focus on the unique culture of our venue city, New Orleans. Here is the birthplace of jazz, the blues, and the po'boy sandwich. You will have an opportunity to enjoy all of these and much, much more.

In past conferences a free afternoon has been scheduled for you to experience the host city. The current conference committee has made similar plans so that you will be able to enjoy our Crescent City and its surroundings. There will be a desk hosted by local teachers and parents of gifted children to assist you in gaining information on New Orleans, making dinner reservations, and arranging for a large variety of tours. There is a tour office conveniently located in the lobby of the Hyatt, our conference hotel, and the Hyatt's concierge will also be available to assist in making reservations. You can make arrangements for swamp tours, alligator farms, the wonderful Audubon Zoo, the amazing Aquarium of the Americas, historic homes and plantations, and more museums than you could possibly see in just a week. The Mardi Gras Museum is very popular. Of course, you could just stroll through the historic French Quarter. Walk down Bourbon Street, one of the most famous "party" streets in the US if not the World, and have beignets and New Orleans' special coffee at the Café du Monde in the French Market. Shopping and historic sites abound, not to mention the plethora of places to sample the sumptuous food!

During the conference, we will celebrate New Orleans and Creole culture with student performances, special events, and the Thursday night dinner: Celebrating New Orleans. The optional Gala Dinner will combine dinner, music, and dancing on a riverboat as it travels up the Mississippi River. Space will be limited so you will want to get your reservations in early for this spectacular event.

In New Orleans, there is a *jote de vivre* that is unique. This special spirit has created a tradition of having a good time that is all summed up in what may well be New Orleans' motto: "*Laissez le bon temps rouler!*" "Let the good times roll!" We are looking forward to welcoming you to New Orleans. Please continue to consult the website www.worldgifted.org for updates and new information.

Answer the call for papers, register, and make your reservations today.

See you in New Orleans!

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS AND DEADLINES

Call for Papers

The deadline for proposals is November 30, 2004. You may submit your proposal on line by going to the website or by hard copy. Please check the instructions for both methods on the website at www.worldgifted.org.

Conference Hotel

The Hyatt Regency New Orleans at the Super Dome has been selected as the conference hotel. This beautiful recently renovated hotel is unusually suited for our conference. The conference facilities will provide us a large number of banquet sites, well-appointed presentation rooms, large group meeting spaces, and nooks and crannies for meeting with friends. We have received unusually good rates. Make your reservations directly with the hotel at 1-800-233-1234. Be sure to ask for World Gifted group rates. The deadline for group rates is July 7, 2005. Check the website for alternate conference accommodations.

Pre-Conference

This year's pre-conference sessions will provide several options with lunch included. Morning panel sessions on a variety of issues in gifted education will include research, international perspectives, practical applications, and dialogue between participants and the panel.

Afternoon workshops will feature experts sharing their work in-depth.

You may choose to attend one or both sessions. See the conference registration form (centerfold) for a list of session titles.

Keynote and Featured Speakers

Keynote speakers will be: **Hall Davidson**, "Uniting Children Around the World Through Technology: Television, Computers, Videos, and Radio"; **Robert Sternberg**, "Gifted Leadership"; and **Shirley Passow**, "A. Harry Passow: For Him Everyone Was Potentially Gifted." Throughout the academic program, you will have the opportunity to meet and learn from an array of international featured speakers and seminars. With the innovative quality of our breakout sessions, we can assure you of a unique and enriching conference.

Special Events

Included with your registration are the **President's Welcome Reception**, and Thursday night's dinner, **Celebrating New Orleans**. The optional **Dinner on the Mississippi** is an event you won't want to miss. Sign up early as space is limited. The talent of local gifted students will be spotlighted throughout the conference.

Youth Conference

Watch for plans for a Youth Conference that will meet in conjunction with the World Conference. Special activities and events are being planned. Students will be staying in the facilities of a local university. Check the website.

We look forward to welcoming you to the World Conference, 2005.

—Bob Seney

16th Biennial World Conference

Sponsored by

WORLD COUNCIL FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN

AND

COALITION OF LEADERS OF STATE GIFTED ASSOCIATIONS

August 3–7, 2005

Hyatt Regency New Orleans at the Louisiana Superdome



“Celebrating les enfants surdoués du monde”

Join us in New Orleans, one of America's most unique cities,
for the 16th Biennial Conference of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children

- pre-conference • panels • workshops • current research papers • seminars
- symposia • roundtable sessions for parents & educators
- poster sessions • cultural & educational tours • youth summit
- pre- and post-conference tours • Mardi Gras Gala • Dinner on the Mississippi • and more

FOR UPDATED CONFERENCE INFORMATION AND CALL FOR PAPERS, VISIT WWW.WORLDTALENTED.ORG

ONLINE COURSES

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courses. There is practically no information related to the development or implementation of online courses designed specifically for gifted students.

According to Porter (2000), creating an online class is "not a simple matter of typing up lecture notes and making them available to students on a website" (p. 84). If the teacher has not developed techniques for instruction using online capabilities, course development may be little more than a web search. Without the proper attitude, skills, and long-range planning, valuable teaching time may be lost. Teachers need to know how to utilize online possibilities to guide their students to explore and discover with maximum benefit.

To create an online virtual program, the teacher must decide curriculum intent, content, methodology, infrastructure, and assessment methods. The following ideas, collected from 4 years' experience in developing educational online programs, can make course development easier and more effective.

Steps in developing an online course:

Determine the basis for the course. There are two major reasons to develop online courses for gifted students. One reason is to extend or supplement on-campus gifted resource programs. Underlying factors related to supplementing on-campus programs are varied. The teacher may want to extend class time or expand learning opportunities. Because gifted education in the United States is not mandated by the federal government, few identified gifted and talented students are placed in self-contained classes designed to extend their specific talents. Usually, students are assigned to gifted classes just a few hours per week. Online programs for on-campus classes provide increasing opportunities to supplement the curriculum.

The second major reason for developing an online course is to begin serving gifted students in areas that have no gifted programs. Online courses are particularly effective in rural areas where gifted students may be isolated from other students with comparable abilities.

Whether the purpose of an online course is to extend the on-campus program or to develop a stand-alone program, the following goals should undergird courses created for gifted students. The goals include individualization, maximizing students' abilities,

using global resources, accommodating students' interests, providing pacing commensurate with ability, and encouraging students' self-motivation.

Make sure that management and support systems are in place. It is necessary to have continued technological support for online courses, particularly if credit is issued.

Establish the online environment. Just as in a traditional classroom, one is affected by environment. The type of course may determine when and how the use of text, color, graphics, audio clips, video clips, or animation is needed. The school system's equipment or students' technological capabilities will determine some of those decisions. For example, visuals may need to be limited because of student equipment or downloading time.



“Courses for gifted students should always require outcomes that go beyond knowledge acquisition. Expect and require critical thinking—analysis, synthesis, and evaluation”

Select the content. Relevant and challenging content should be aligned with national, state, and district standards. Check out websites and be aware of their information and reliability before assigning a web search. Research virtual libraries, museums, government, and science databases for supplementary materials. Build a list of references related to the assignments.

Use the semiotic approach to enable students to create new understanding through exposure to a variety of cultures and ideas.

Content should provide a logical continuity, not jump from one module or unit to another without relevance.

When choosing content, do not post full-text articles without permission from the publisher. If information is online, do not assume that it is permissible to include it in your course or supplement. Instead, provide URL's to protect you and your school from copyright issues. Short excerpts from published materials may be posted.

Make the course highly interactive. Active learning engages the learner and should be within the teacher's plan, not left to the student's own initiative. Use multiple tools for generating interpersonal growth. Social interaction may be implemented by assigning online groups or partners and requiring contact by electronic mail, bulletin boards, threaded discussions, or chat rooms. In general, provide an opportunity for the student to be a facilitator as well as a participant. Keep in mind that intellectual contact is just as stimulating with a friend halfway around the world as with a friend on campus.

Use the problem-solving model. Decide on desired outcomes based on course objectives. For example, what project can be assigned to achieve the desired learning outcome? If learning is meaningful, it must be more than reading lecture assignments then posting or clicking on answers to questions. Possible outcomes may be the same things that you would assign in an on-campus class: posters, presentations, poetry, musical compositions, or games. If lectures are used, brevity is the key. Use the lecture for emphasis of main points, only.

Create a rubric. Assessments should be broken into progressive steps rather than having most of the grade hinge on a midterm and final exa. (Breaking assessment into steps also helps reduce grading time at semester's end.)

Courses for gifted students should always require outcomes that go beyond knowledge acquisition. Match expectations to the individual student and give suggestions or requirements that necessitate application of knowledge. Expect and require critical thinking—analysis, synthesis, and evaluation—providing appropriate opportunities to demonstrate skills and knowledge obtained during the course. Maintain high standards of grammar and spelling on the finished product.

Choose a method for making the online course or supplement available to your students. You may be able to use the school

website or commercial delivery systems. Some delivery systems such as Blackboard (www.blackboard.com) or eCollege (www.ecollege.com) provide a free trial period. Do not post to an individual's website. In all instances, it is necessary to get district approval because of liability issues.

After the course is online, allow time to evaluate it personally. Pretend to be a student and check the requirements and links. Keep standards high. "Generally, the same standards are applied to traditional and distance education programs" (Simonton, Smaldino, Albright, & Zvacek, 2003, p. 16). Whatever the method of course delivery, the teacher is still responsible for creating events to ensure that learning will occur in the most effective way.

Check on intellectual property rights (Simonson, Smaldino, Albright, & Zvacek, 2003). If the course is very popular and you want to market the material you have developed, will you have that right or will the school "own" your material?

In conclusion, just as each teacher has a unique style in the concrete classroom, it is important that you find and maximize your personal style in the virtual classroom. Once a decision has been made to utilize online learning, maintain a positive attitude. Keep in mind that technology should support, not drive the curriculum (Goddard, 2002). Online teaching is a medium for sharing fresh perspectives through innovative techniques using a global network. Developing an online course can be a dynamic instructional design experience. ■

BETTIE P. BULLARD is director of Graduate Programs in Gifted Education, University of South Alabama.

For more information about online course development for gifted students, contact the author at bbullard@usouthal.edu or call 251-380-2766.

References

- Goddard, M. (2002). What do we do with these computers? Reflections on technology in the classroom. *Journal of Research on Technology in Education*, 35(1), 19-26.
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Positions Open

Editor, *Gifted and Talented International*

Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska has served as editor of the World Council's peer-reviewed journal *Gifted and Talented International* for the past 7 years. Her term ends in 2005. The Executive Committee of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children is inviting applications from its membership for the position of editor of *Gifted and Talented International*. Interested individuals should submit a vita and letter describing their interest and qualifications as they relate to the following criteria:

1. Significant scholarly activity in gifted education as reflected by grants, publications, and presentations at conferences.
2. An established reputation in the field of gifted and talented education, preferably at the national and international level.
3. Active participation in the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children over a period of 5 or more years (e.g., regular attendance and presentations at conferences).
4. Experience in editing material for publication.
5. Ability to work with a team of editors in formulating and implementing journal policy.
6. Ability to write clearly, concisely, and correctly using APA format.
7. Appropriate institutional support.

Deadline for submissions: September 31, 2004

Send vita, proposed budget, letter of qualifications, and references to World Council Headquarters.

New World Council Headquarters

By summer 2005, the Los Angeles office of World Council Headquarters will no longer be available. The Executive Committee has begun the search for a permanent Headquarters office. All functions of administering the organization are handled at the Headquarters office including membership, budget and financial matters, publication of the World Council newsletter *World Gifted*, conference registration and other conference-related matters, correspondence, clerical support for the president and executive committee, and all other tasks needed to accomplish the World Council's daily activities. For a more detailed description of the functions of the office and the office staff, contact:

World Council Headquarters
18401 Hiawatha St.
Northridge, CA 91326 USA
worldgt@earthlink.net
Tel: 818-368-7501
Fax: 818-368-2163

Details of the office budget and salaries will be negotiated by the President and Executive Committee.



16th Biennial World Conference

Gifted Child 2005

Celebrating Les Enfants Surdoués du Monde

August 3–7, 2005 New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

Sponsored by the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children and
Coalition of Leaders of State Associations for Gifted Education



CALL FOR PAPERS

PROPOSAL COVER SHEET Please print or type clearly

Title of Submission (12 words or less)

Title (Prof. Dr. Mr. Mrs. Ms.)

First Name/Given Name
Primary author or organizer

Middle Initial

Last Name/Surname/Family Name

Preferred Mailing Address (must be complete)

City

State/Province

Country

Postal Code/Zip

Institution/Affiliation

City

State/Province

Telephone (work)

Telephone (home)

E-mail Address

Fax (work)

Fax (home)

Mobile/Cell Phone

TYPE OF PRESENTATION

- ☐ Individual Presentation
- ☐ **Symposium** (Group presentation on a single theme. The moderator is the symposium chair and is responsible for sending in the proposal and notifying the other presenters in the group whether the proposal has been accepted or declined.)
- ☐ **Poster Session** (Must be a free-standing, clear, visual presentation. Author must be present with handouts available.)

EMPHASIS OF PRESENTATION

- ☐ Research ☐ Theory ☐ Practice

PRIMARY TARGET AUDIENCE

- ☐ Researcher ☐ Educator ☐ Administrator ☐ Parent

EXPERTISE OF AUDIENCE

- ☐ Very experienced ☐ Experienced ☐ Beginner

SUBJECT CLASSIFICATION (Check the most applicable categories)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum and Programs for Gifted Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Identification and Characteristics of Gifted Individuals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creativity | <input type="checkbox"/> Social-Emotional |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Needs or Disadvantaged Gifted Individuals | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information and Communication Technology | <input type="checkbox"/> Music and The Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parents | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____ |

AUDIOVISUALS REQUIRED

Please list audiovisual equipment required. Overhead projectors are provided. Other audiovisual equipment can be arranged at the presenter's expense.

Are you a member of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Attach this cover sheet to your abstract.

Electronic submission of abstracts is preferred. Use the Call for Papers form at www.worldgifted.org

PROPOSAL DEADLINE

Proposals must be received by November 30, 2004

FOR OFFICIAL USE

Abstract No. _____

Date _____

16th Biennial World Conference

Gifted Child 2005

**“Celebrating Les Enfants Surdoués
du Monde”**

*Sponsored by
World Council for Gifted
and Talented Children
&*

*Coalition of Leaders of State Associations
for Gifted Education*

**August 3–7, 2005
New Orleans, Louisiana USA**

PROPOSAL CONTENTS

Proposals must be based on research, theory, or practice. Preference will be given to original work.

Proposals should address the concerns and interests of researchers, educators, and/or parents who seek to respond to the needs of gifted children and youth. Proposals will be evaluated by the Program Committee using the following criteria:

- Significance of the proposal
- Clarity and organization of the proposal
- Soundness of concepts to be presented
- Soundness of the methodology
- Originality
- Appropriateness for the conference

E-MAIL AND MAILING ADDRESSES

Submit proposals electronically to:
christensen@nsula.edu

Send hardcopy proposals to:
Gifted 2005

Dr. Paula Christensen
TEC - College of Education
Natchitoches, LA 71497 USA
E-mail: christensen@nsula.edu
Fax: (+1) 662-329-8515, ATTN: Gifted

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

**Proposals must be received on or before
November 30, 2004**

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

If you are sending hardcopy, please include three (3) copies of each of the following items. If you are submitting electronically, please send one (1) copy of each of the following:

- ☐ Proposal cover sheet
- ☐ Abstract's title page (title of presentation, **names of all presenters and complete affiliate listing of all presenters, addresses, including e-mail and fax.**)
- ☐ One-page (single-spaced) 100-word abstract, with title included. Abstracts should also be appropriate for inclusion in the conference program book.

Additional items to remember:

- ☐ If you are sending hardcopy, please provide one self-addressed postcard with your proposal. (USA residents please provide postage.) The card will be used to acknowledge receipt of your proposal.
- ☐ Proposals must be submitted in English. Posters may be in a different language with an English translation included.
- ☐ Proposals, **whether accepted or declined will not be returned.** Make sure you retain a copy of your proposal.
- ☐ Deadline for submissions:
Proposals must be **received by November 30, 2004.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

- 1) The Conference Committee will accept no more than two (2) proposals from any one person listed as the lead presenter. You may, however, be listed as a panelist or secondary presenter on other proposals. If your name appears on accepted proposals, which are scheduled at the same time, you will be required to select the one session at which you will present.
- 2) Proposals received **after** November 30, 2004 will **not** be acknowledged and cannot be considered for the conference program.
- 3) **Presenters and co-presenters must be preregistered by April 30, 2005. Presenters not preregistered by April 30 will not have their abstract listed in the program book and may not be included in the program.**
- 4) Proposals for the 16th World Conference will be reviewed by the Conference Program Committee. You will be notified whether your proposal has been accepted or declined by the end of March 2005.
- 5) Presentations should be structured to allow for audience participation, questions, and discussions (as appropriate).
- 6) Presenters are advised to prepare transparencies or slides that can be easily read on the screen when viewed from the back of the presentation room.
- 7) Presenters are advised to bring sufficient handouts. Photocopy facilities will be available for a fee.
- 8) Expenses for travel and attendance (including registration fee) are the responsibility of each presenter.
- 9) Overhead projectors will be provided. Any other audio-visual equipment can be provided by the conference committee at the expense of the presenter.

Barbara Clark Scholarship Application

The Barbara Clark Scholarship Fund provides partial fiscal support to be used toward WCGTC World Conference or Youth Summit attendance, such as registration fees, housing, or transportation for World Council members and students who show evidence of need for such support.

Selection Criteria

Applicants must:

- Be a current member of the WCGTC in good standing
- Be a dedicated educator who is involved in gifted and talented education—a researcher, professor, classroom teacher, or other education professional with a long-term commitment to gifted and talented education, **or**
- Be a gifted youth
- Demonstrate financial need such as citizenship in an emerging nation or a nation that has financial hardship

Evidence of Need, Amount Requested, and References

Applicants must:

- Send a brief statement that describes their need for financial assistance
- Include a statement of the amount requested and purpose of expenditure (e.g., travel, hotel, conference fee)
- Supply two letters of reference

Application Form

Your Name _____

☐ Educator (Position/Title) _____ ☐ Student (Age and grade) _____

Affiliation (school, university, organization) _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Country _____ Zip/postal code _____

Preferred telephone number _____ Preferred fax number _____

E-mail _____

Name of Reference _____ Position/Title _____

Affiliation (school, university, organization) _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Country _____ Zip/postal code _____

Preferred telephone number _____ Preferred fax number _____

E-mail _____

Name of Reference _____ Position/Title _____

Affiliation (school, university, organization) _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Country _____ Zip/postal code _____

Preferred telephone number _____ Preferred fax number _____

E-mail _____

Include your statement of need and commitment, financial details, and two letters of reference with a completed application form and return by mail or fax to:

World Council for Gifted and Talented Children
Barbara Clark Scholarship
18401 Hiawatha Street, Northridge, CA 91326 USA
Fax: 818-368-2163 E-mail: worldgt@earthlink.net

Deadline for submissions: January 15, 2005

Call for Award Nominations

The World Council for Gifted and Talented Children is accepting nominations for the following awards which will be presented at the 16th Biennial World Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana USA, August 3-7, 2005. Award nominations may be made by any World Council member in good standing. Nominations must be received by **January 15, 2005**.

Distinguished Service Award

Selection Criteria: Outstanding contribution to gifted education as reflected in service to the World Council and the furtherance of its purposes over 10 or more years.

International Award for Research

Selection Criteria: International recognition as a researcher in gifted education; significant contribution through research in establishing gifted education as a recognized field of study in education, in extending the knowledge base of gifted education, and in improving the practice of gifted education.

International Creativity Award

Selection Criteria: International recognition as a researcher in creativity; significant contribution in promoting creativity in education.

A. Harry Passow International Award for Leadership in Gifted Education

Selection Criteria: International stature as a leader in gifted education; a person whose life and work has significantly influenced policy and practices in gifted education; outstanding contribution in promoting the cause of gifted education worldwide.

Previous Award Recipients

Distinguished Service Award

James J. Gallagher, 1997
Wu-Tien Wu, 1999
Barbara Clark, 2003

International Award for Research

John Feldhusen, 1997

International Creativity Award

M. K. Raina, 1995
Arthur Copley, 1997
Morris Stein, 1999
E. Paul Torrance, 2003

A. Harry Passow Award for Leadership in Gifted Education

E. Paul Torrance, 1997
John Feldhusen, 1999

President's Award

Edna McMillan, 1999

Award Nomination Form

Your name _____ Position/Title _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Country _____ Zip or postal code _____
Preferred telephone number _____ Preferred fax number _____
E-mail _____

I nominate the following person for:

- ☐ Distinguished Service Award ☐ International Creativity Award ☐ International Award for Research
☐ A. Harry Passow International Award for Leadership in Gifted Education

Nominee's name _____ Position/Title _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Country _____ Zip or postal code _____

Attach a letter of nomination and nominee's curriculum vitae with completed form and return to:

World Council for Gifted and Talented Children
Award Nominations
18401 Hiawatha Street, Northridge, CA 91326 USA
Fax: 818-368-2163 E-mail: worldgt@earthlink.net

Deadline for submissions: January 15, 2005

Executive Committee Nomination Ballot

World Council for Gifted and Talented Children

The Executive Committee consists of seven members: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three Members-At-Large. The Executive Committee elects a Secretary and Treasurer from its members. Members of the Executive Committee may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms. The Executive Committee may only have one member from a country.

Executive Committee nominations may be made by any World Council member in good standing. Election of Executive Committee members, except for President, are made by the membership through mail ballot. The President is elected through mail ballot by the Elected-Delegates.

Because elections for these offices take place simultaneously, a person may be nominated for President and Executive Committee member in case the person is not elected for the office of President. World Council members will have four votes in electing the three Executive Committee members in case one of the nominees is elected as President.

2005 President

The outgoing President is Klaus Urban, Germany

Eligibility Requirements

- Nominees must be a current member of the WCGTC, normally have served as a Delegate, and must normally be a current or former Executive Committee member
- The President must be willing to serve for four years. (Please verify this information with the person you are nominating.)

Nomination Procedures

- Complete the following form and enclose a one-page, single-spaced biography and statement about the qualifications of the person.
- Include verification signature indicating the person's willingness to serve.
- Include the signature of the seconder who must be a current member from a different country than the original nominator.
- Send nomination materials to WCGTC, Nominations, 18401 Hiawatha Street, Northridge, CA 91326 USA.

Note: The same individual may be nominated for President and member of the Executive Committee.

Nominations must be received by December 31, 2004.

Your Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Country _____ Zip/Postal code _____

Preferred telephone _____ Preferred fax _____ e-mail _____

Name of Nominee _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Country _____ Zip/Postal code _____

Preferred telephone _____ Preferred fax _____ e-mail _____

Seconded by _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Country _____ Zip/Postal code _____

Preferred telephone _____ Preferred fax _____ e-mail _____

Executive Committee Nomination Ballot

World Council for Gifted and Talented Children 2005 Executive Committee Members Election

Eligibility Requirements

- Nominees must be current members of the WCGTC.
- Nominees must be willing serve and must be attending the 2005 World Conference in New Orleans. (Please verify this information with the person you are nominating.)
- The Executive Committee may only have one member from a country. The following members of the Executive Committee have two years remaining in their terms of office; therefore, the nominations you make for the new Executive Committee members may not include:

Canada (represented by Edna McMillan)

Taiwan (represented by Den-Mo Tsai)

You may nominate members from any other country.

Nomination Procedures

- Type or print the names and addresses of persons you wish to nominate for the position of member of the Executive Committee .
- Use a separate form for each nomination, if you are nominating more than one individual.
- Complete this form and enclose a one-page, single spaced biography and statement about the qualifications of the person.
- Include a signature of the nominee indicating verification of willingness to serve.
- Include the signature of the seconder who must be a current member from a different country than the original nominator.
- Send nomination materials to WCGTC, Nominations, 18401 Hiawatha Street, Northridge, CA 91326 USA.
- **Nominations must be received by December 31, 2004.**

Your Name

Address

City State Country Zip/Postal code

Preferred telephone Preferred fax e-mail

Name of Nominee

Address

City State Country Zip/Postal code

Preferred telephone Preferred fax e-mail

WORLD COUNCIL FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN, INC.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Initial _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Country _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Tel (work) _____ Tel (home) _____ Fax _____ e-mail _____

Name of person who referred you to WCGTC _____

Membership Categories (includes journal *Gifted and Talented International* and newsletter *World Gifted*)

- ☐ 1-year Individual US\$50 ☐ 2-year individual US\$95
- ☐ 1-year graduate student US\$40 (to qualify, you must be a full-time graduate student with authorization from your advisor)

Advisor's signature _____

University _____

OR, by selecting one of the following categories, you receive full membership benefits and your additional contribution provides urgently needed support for the ongoing work of the WCGTC.

- ☐ 1-year Silver US\$100* ☐ 2-year Silver US\$190*
- ☐ 1-year Gold US\$250* ☐ 2-year Gold US\$475*
- ☐ 1-year Platinum US\$500* ☐ 2-year Platinum US\$950*
- ☐ Lifetime membership US\$1250*

*10% of membership fee is contributed to the Barbara Clark Scholarship Fund

- ☐ *Gifted and Talented International* subscription only (2 issues/yr) US\$40

Role

- ☐ Professor ☐ Parent ☐ Educator
- ☐ Researcher ☐ Counselor ☐ Psychologist
- ☐ Other _____

Special Interests _____

Payment Method

- ☐ Check or bank note enclosed (made payable to WCGTC, U.S. funds only)

- ☐ Please bill my credit card in the amount of US\$ _____

MasterCard _____ Exp. Date ____/____

Visa Card _____ Exp. Date ____/____

Signature _____

Mail completed form with payment to:

World Council for Gifted & Talented Children
18401 Hiawatha Street, Northridge, CA 91326 USA



World Gifted

WORLD COUNCIL FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN, INC.

18401 HIAWATHA STREET

NORTHRIDGE, CALIFORNIA 91326, USA

Time to Renew?

Check the expiration date on your mailing address label. To continue receiving *World Gifted* and *Gifted and Talented International* as well as conference mailings, make sure your membership is up to date. Fill in the membership application form and mail it with your dues to Headquarters.