Global Institute Sponsors
The Global Institute is a collaboration involving the Gerald H. Read Center at Kent State University, the Office of International Affairs and Area Studies Centers at the Ohio State University, the Ohio Geographic Alliance and the Ohio Department of Education. It is funded by a grant from the Longview Foundation and by contributions from the partner organizations.

Global Institute Planning Committee
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The Ohio State University

Lance Erickson
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Ohio Department of Education

Participating School Districts
Athens
Aurora
Batavia
Bellefontaine
Berea
Cincinnati
Cleveland
Columbus
Diocese of Cleveland
Diocese of Columbus
EHOVE Career Center
Franklin Local
Gilmour Academy
Hilliard
Hudson
Mayfield
Medina
Oberlin
Perrysburg
Pickerington
Rocky River
Ross Local
Shaker Heights
Western Brown
Wooster
Worthington
August 3  Arrival at Kent State University

10:00  Optional Golf Outing

4:00  Optional Museum Tour

12:00 - 5:00  Conference Center Check-in

At registration participants will receive “flashcards” which can be used to offset the cost of some meals on campus or at local eateries. You will receive a list of places where flashcards are accepted. There will be a group buffet dinner on August 5 and a group buffet lunch on August 6.

6:30  Institute Registration  Moulton Hall Lobby

7:30  Welcome Reception  Moulton Hall Ballroom

Dr. Linda Robertson
Director of the Gerald H. Read Center for International and Intercultural Education
Kent State University

Meet fellow participants and institute facilitators while enjoying light refreshments and previewing the institute. The reception will be hosted by Dr. Dan Mahony, Dean of the College and Graduate School of Education, Health and Human Services
August 4  Exploring Global Issues

Breakfast on your own
Lodgers will use your flashcard at your choice of eateries on or near campus.

8:15  Registration for optional credit

8:30  Registration

9:00  Morning announcements and overview

9:10  Ohio is Changing; The World is Changing
      Dr. Linda Robertson
      Director of the Gerald H. Read Center for International and Intercultural Education
      Kent State University

10:15  Global Citizenship
       State Representative Dr. Vernon Sykes

10:45  Break

11:00  Breakout sessions on world issues
       Sessions were assigned based on pre-institute survey responses. Please check your tickets for
       admission to the session.

   Economy
   Michelle Settecase,
   Global Center for Business Knowledge, Ernst & Young, LLP
   Adjunct Professor in the Executive MBA Program at KSU

   Global Sustainability
   Matt Campana
   Corporate Motivation, Kent, OH

   Health
   Dr. Ratchneewan Ross
   Associate Professor, Kent State University College of Nursing

   Population
   Dr. Kelechi Kalu,
   Professor, Department of African American and African Studies,
   The Ohio State University

   Security
   Earl Mack,
   Deputy Director of Ohio Homeland Security,
   Ohio Department of Public Safety
12:15  Lunch – On your own (Participants may use flashcard at your choice of eateries on or near campus)

1:15  Sessions were assigned based on pre-institute survey responses. Please check your tickets for admission to the session.

Economy  Moulton Hall Room 333
Michelle Settecase,
Global Center for Business Knowledge, Ernst & Young, LLP
Adjunct Professor in the Executive MBA Program at KSU

Global Sustainability  White Hall Room 200
Matt Campana
Corporate Motivation, Kent, OH

Health  White Hall Room 104
Dr. Ratchneewan Ross
Associate Professor, Kent State University College of Nursing

Population  Moulton Hall Room 317
Dr. Kelechi Kalu,
Professor, Department of African American and African Studies,
The Ohio State University

Security  Moulton Hall Room 334
Earl Winn,
Deputy Director of Ohio Homeland Security,
Ohio Department of Public Safety

2:45  Break  Moulton Hall Ballroom

3:00  Synthesis Activity  Moulton Hall Ballroom
Dinner - On Your Own (Not covered by institute)

7:00  Using Documentaries in the Classroom  Moulton Hall Ballroom
Esther Gottlieb, International Education Development, Ohio State International Affairs
Lance, Erickson, Assistant Director, Center for Slavic and East European Studies, Ohio State

This session will feature three short documentaries and provide supporting resources.

- Young Arabs
- Everyday Life of Roma Children from Block 71
- Families of Korea
August 5   Internationalizing Instruction

Breakfast on your own (Lodgers will use your flashcard at your choice of eateries on or near campus.)

8:00  French and Spanish Conversation in the Kent Student Union Hub
Haven't used your French or Spanish since college or the trip to Mexico? Join other French or Spanish speaking participants at specially marked tables in the HUB (student center), Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 8:00. Eat your breakfast and converse with native language speakers provided by KSU.

8:45  Register for Optional Credit  
Moulton Hall Lobby

9:00  Daily Overview
Ohio Teachers Going Global Curriculum Tool  
Donna Nesbitt  
International Education Coordinator  
Ohio Department of Education

Tom Marhaffa  
Senior Assistant to the President and Professor of Geography,  
Youngstown State University

Moulton Hall Ballroom

9:00  Daily Overview
Ohio Teachers Going Global Curriculum Tool  
Donna Nesbitt  
International Education Coordinator  
Ohio Department of Education

Tom Marhaffa  
Senior Assistant to the President and Professor of Geography,  
Youngstown State University

Moulton Hall Ballroom

10:30  Break  
Moulton Hall Ballroom

10:45  Subject-specific breakout sessions
(If you teach more than one subject you may participate in the session of your choice.)

- Promising practices  
- Sharing

Careers  
Donna Nesbitt, Ohio Department of Education  
Davison Mupinga, Kent State University

Moulton Hall Room 317

Arts  
Esther Gottlieb, The Ohio State University

Moulton Hall Room 333

English Language Arts  
Diana Garvey, Hudson City School District  
Alexa Sandmann, Kent State University

Moulton Hall Room 334

K-5  
Francine Lasley, Shaker Heights City School District  
Nancy Barbour, Kent State University

White Hall Room 109

Mathematics  
Patricia Koontz, Kent State University  
Genevieve Davis, Kent State University

White Hall Room 117

Science  
Aeran Choi, Kent State University  
Linda Robertson, Kent State University

White Hall Room 124B

Social Studies  
Natalie Mroz, Bexley City School District

White Hall Room 200
Ken Cushner, Kent State University

**Technology**
Mary Tipton, Kent State University

**World Languages**
Theresa Minick, Kent State University
Ryan Wertz, Ohio Department of Education

12:00 **Lunch on your own**
(All participants may use flashcard at your choice of eateries on or near campus.)

12:45 **Planning for Implementation** (the same groups as the morning session)
- Preparing for video conference tomorrow
- Preparing for 2009-2010 school year

2:00 **Breakout sessions on World Regions presented by**
The Ohio State University Title VI Area Studies Centers
Sessions were assigned based on pre-institute survey responses
Please check your tickets for admission to the session

**East Asia**
Amy Carey, Assistant Director, East Asian Studies Center, The Ohio State University

**Middle East**
Melinda Wightman, Assistant Director and Cory Driver, Outreach Coordinator
Middle East Studies Center, The Ohio State University

**Russia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia**
Lance, Erickson, Assistant Director, Center for Slavic and East European Studies
The Ohio State University

**Africa**
Laura Joseph, Assistant Director, African Studies Center, The Ohio State University

**Latin America**
Carol Robison, Assistant Director, Latin American Studies Center, The Ohio State University

3:15 **School Team Time**
- Planning for School Year 2009-2010
- Preparing to share ideas at last session on August 6

6:00 **Group Dinner**
Panel of teachers who have done groundbreaking work in international education
- Lee Link, Career, Eastland Fairfield Career Center
- Steve Robbins, Plain Local School District
- Terry Pollack, Shaker Heights City School District
- Carol Sphar, Hathaway Brown School

Kent Student Center
August 6   Integrating Technology
Breakfast on your own (Lodgers will use your flashcard at your choice of eateries on or near campus.)

8:00   **French and Spanish Conversation in the Kent Student Union Hub**
Haven't used your French or Spanish since college or the trip to Mexico? Join other French or Spanish speaking participants at specially marked tables in the HUB (student center), Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 8:00. Eat your breakfast and converse with native language speakers provided by KSU.

9:00   **Morning Announcements and Overview**
Moulton Hall Ballroom

9:10   **Video Conferencing 101: Connecting to Ohio State University**
**Conversation with visiting artist/educator Jingfei Li**
Vim Vincent, SPARCC
John Ramicone, WVIZ
Jingfei Li, Kunming, Yunnan (China)
Jeffrey Chan, Institute of Chinese Studies, OSU East Asia Studies Center

9:40   **Conversation with teachers in Brazil via the Internet**
International Leadership in Education Scholars
Alex Oliveira, Centro Cultural de Linguas Padre Ratinundo Jose
Joselia Batista Snaro, English Teacher, Centro cultural de Linguas

10:00 **Reflections on Conversation with Teachers in Brazil**

11:00 Break

11:15 **Breakout Sessions**
Moulton Hall Ballroom

**Online Collaborative Projects with iEARN**
Shannon Arnett, Tipp City Exempted Village School District
Terry Tye, Medina City School District

**Teacher and Student Travel**
Natalie Mroz, Bexley City School District
Donna Nesbitt, Ohio Department of Education

**Web 2.0 Resources**
Marian Maxfield, Aurora City School District

**Try Out Video Tools**
Teresa Minnick, Kent State University
Ediz Kaykayoglu, Kent State University

**Try Out Collaborative Tools**
Mary Tipton, Kent State University
12:00  Group Lunch  
Mouton Hall Ballroom

During or after lunch please use available computers to complete the institute evaluation at  
http://www.surveymonkey.com/ohioglobalinstitute09
Your input will help the planning committee with future professional development

1:00  Repeat breakouts

**Online Collaborative Projects with iEARN**  
Moulton Hall Room 333
Shannon Arnett, Tipp City Exempted Village School District  
Terry Tye, Medina City School District

**Teacher and Student Travel**  
White Hall Room 200
Natalie Mroz, Bexley City School District  
Donna Nesbitt, Ohio Department of Education

**Web resources**  
White Hall Room 203
Marian Maxfield, Aurora City School District

**Try Out Video Tools**  
White Hall Room 210
Teresa Minick, Kent State University  
Ediz Kaykayoglu, Kent State University

**Try Out Collaborative Tools**  
Moulton Hall Room 334
Mary Tipton, Kent State University

2:00  Summarizing, Synthesizing and Planning  
Mouton Hall Ballroom
Speakers

August 4  Exploring Global Issues
(In alphabetical order)

**Matt Campana** is President of Corporate Motivation, based in Ohio and Florida. This environmental presentation will focus on the sustainable living aspect including an overview of the global perspective of sustainable living issues and concerns worldwide, and connections to northeastern Ohio sustainable products, services and actions as well as behaviors of students and adults that lead to a more sustainable living. While working as a director of sales for an adventure based training and development company in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, Matt noticed an opportunity to better connect businesses and school groups to their communities as well as the global environment. Corporate Motivation offers sustainable living workshops for groups, schools and universities. These programs serve as a platform for groups to “give back” to the communities where they live, work, and play.

**Dr. Kelechi Kalu** is Professor in the Department of African American and African Studies at The Ohio State University. Professor Kalu will discuss the demographics of today’s world populations—the disparity of the world’s population. A professor in the Department of African American and African Studies, and Director of the Center for African Studies at The Ohio State University since 2009. His research interests focus on the political economy of development and underdevelopment in Africa and elsewhere. Among the courses he currently teaches are *U.S.-Africa Relations* and *Methodical Perspectives in African and African American Studies*. He is editor of and contributor to *Agenda Setting and Public Policy in Africa* and has served as a consultant to the World Bank on Public Sector Governance. His current book project is on Political Restructuring in Post-Conflict States in Africa, part of a larger project funded by The Ford Foundation.

**Earl Mack** is Deputy Director of Homeland Security, Project Manager, Ohio Division of Homeland Security, Ohio Department of Public Safety.

**Dr. Ratchneewan Ross** is Associate Professor, College of Nursing at Kent State University. Dr. Ross will talk about international health problems with an update on:
- Swine flu etiology, world case reports, symptoms, treatment, research and implications for teachers;
- HIV/AIDS and STDs and their prevalence, negative effects on patients’ quality of life, treatment, research, and implications for teachers;
- Tuberculosis and its prevalence, emergent problems related to treatment, research, and implications for teachers;
- Sexual violence and its prevalence, its negative effects on individuals’ quality of life, research, and implications for teachers.

A native of Thailand, Dr. Ross’s area of research and interest include sexual violence, depression and its predictors, and parent-child interactions.

**Dr. Linda Robertson** is Director of Gerald H. Read Center for International and Intercultural Education at Kent State University. She is a former elementary and secondary principal in the Aurora City Schools, and has lived abroad in Germany, Turkey and Austria. Her research interests include internationalization of K-16 institutions, and global leadership.

**Michelle Settecase** is Senior Analyst of Global Market Intelligence, Ernst and Young, LLP and Adjunct Professor for the Executive MBA program at Kent State University. The global economy is highly interconnected and becoming more and more so daily. The rising use of the Internet, capital flows and the exchange of goods and
services across borders have all created economies not based on geographic or ethnic lines, but on other definitions. This session will explore the melding of politics, regulations and economics as countries across the world seek to improve their local economies and stabilize the world’s economy. This session will discuss the rise and future of the global economy not in terms of statistics and economic theory, but in the ways that these forces affect every day lives in the US and in particular Ohio across roles and professions.

In her role as senior analyst of Global Market Intelligence, Ms. Young is responsible for analyzing the global economic, political, legislative and regulatory, and social/societal trends and interpreting these trends. Based in the Cleveland, Ohio office, she coordinates resources in the UK and Europe, India, China, Australia and in the US and Canada to build truly global viewpoints and understanding of the marketplace.

**Dr. Vernon Sykes** is a State Representative and Assistant Professor of Political Science at Kent State University. Dr. Sykes will talk about citizenship involvement in democracies around the world, civic engagement as a global trend, and how important grass roots involvement is to help solve the world’s issues such as poverty, education for all, and violence.

Dr. Sykes has had a long and productive career in public service, - is currently the Director of Kent State University’s Columbus Program for Intergovernmental Issues and the State Representative from the 44th District, and Chairman of the Ohio House Finance Committee.

**August 5  Internationalizing Instruction**
(In alphabetical order)

**Amy Carey** became the Assistant Director of the East Asian Studies Center at The Ohio State University in 2006. She manages EASC’s numerous programs, including the East Asian Studies MA Program, scholarship and fellowship programs, conferences, and outreach. Amy coordinates the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia program for the state of Ohio which offers seminars and study tours to train 6th- to 12th-grade teachers to incorporate East Asian content into their curriculum. Previously, she taught in a Japanese public middle school for two years, and also worked in the University of Michigan’s Center for Japanese Studies and Japan Society in New York City.

**Lance Erickson** has been the Assistant Director of the Center for Slavic and East European Studies since October 2007. Prior to OSU he spent two years working at the Russian and East European Institute at Indiana University. From 1997 to 2005 Lance lived and worked in Russia, Ukraine, Lithuania and Kazakhstan for a private medical company that delivered medical training and sales to the region. He has a B.A. in Political Science and Russian and East European Studies from the University of Illinois, and a M.A. in Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies from the University of Texas.

**Esther E. Gottlieb** is coordinating international education outreach and is teaching comparative and international education at the College of Education and Human Ecology at The Ohio State University. She holds a Ph.D. in Comparative & International Education from the University of Pittsburgh, and a M.A. in counseling disadvantage students from Case Western Reserve University. Gottlieb’s more than twenty years experience in teacher education and program evaluation research spans from working at Ha’kibbutzim Teacher College in Tel-Aviv and West Virginia University, to consulting on education reform projects in Bosnia, South Africa, Indonesia and Cuba. Among her publications are Identity Conflicts: Can Violence be Regulated? (2007, edited with J. Craig Jenkins), Education and Social Change in Korea (1993, with Don Adams), and “Appalachian Self-Fashioning: Regional identities and cultural models” (2001).

**Laura Joseph** is the Assistant Director for the Center for African Studies (CAS) in the Office of International Affairs. Laura’s previous professional experience includes eight years with a local refugee resettlement agency, the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association, and eight years with Catholic Relief Services working on
development and relief projects in Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda and other countries. As a graduate student, Laura attended Johns Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies in Washington, earning an MA in the Department of Social Change and Development, with a focus on food and agriculture. As a graduate intern she worked with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and Bread for the World, a Washington-based advocacy group.

Dr. Tom Marhaffa is Senior Assistant to the President and Professor of Geography, Youngstown State University. Tom’s teaching and research interests include transportation and economic geography, map use and interpretation, and retail location. He is a member of the Ohio Geographic Alliance Steering Committee and has been a long time judge at the Ohio Geography Bee. Since the early 1990s, he offered numerous workshops and presentations on geographic education for teachers in the Mahoning Valley and throughout the state.

Donna Nesbitt is International Education Coordinator at the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). She is a National Board Certified Teacher who joined ODE in 1999 and led the development of Ohio’s Academic Content Standards for Social Studies. She served as Executive Director of Curriculum and Assessment from 2004-2007. She is currently working with stakeholder groups to create a more international focus in Ohio schools.

Carol Robison was appointed Assistant Director of the Center for Latin American Studies in September, 1999. Her duties include coordination of events, program development, grant writing and administration, communication and collaboration with community partners, faculty, students, and colleagues at OSU and other universities in the US and abroad, staying current with best practices in language teaching and assessment, and evaluation of programs. She holds a B.A. in Spanish from Baldwin-Wallace College, an M.A. in Spanish from Middlebury College in Spain, and taught Spanish for many years in the public schools and at OSU before assuming her current position.

Dr. W. Randy Smith has been Coordinator of Ohio Geographic Alliance (OGA) since its inception in 1990, OGA is linked formally to the National Geographic Society, and works with K-12 teachers, to date a large group of social studies and science teachers in Ohio has been trained by the Alliance in advanced geography content and applications and lead other teachers to bring geography to the classroom. Professor Smith specializes in urban geography, especially urban historical geography, and urban and regional systems. He received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. from York University in Toronto, Canada. He is Vice Provost for academic programs since 1998, main responsibilities, academic learning outcomes, academic program review, and curriculum development and review. He was honored with the Faculty Award for Distinguished University Service in 1997 for his work with the Ohio Board of Regents, and for his role in regional campus performance reviews, enrollment planning, and academic enrichment approach to program funding.

Melinda Wightman is Assistant Director of the Middle East Studies Center at OSU. She holds an M.A. in Near Eastern Languages and Cultures and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in the College of Education. Her research interests include the Infusion of global content and multiple perspectives in the K-12 curriculum and cross-cultural learning.
August 5  Dinner Panel

Lee Link
Lee teaches at the Eastland-Fairfield Career Technical School. As part of the College Tech-Prep Consortium, the program offers students the opportunity to earn up to 45 transferable college credits. The program consists of international business, college-prep English and conversational Japanese language courses, and also requires that students continue studying another world language concurrent with their participation in the program. Students interact with business professionals through job shadowing, internships, conferences and the development of a year-long senior project that makes an impact upon the community. Students are able to develop and engage in real international business activities through friendships with international students who participate in the program and through study tours to Japan and Costa Rica.

Terry Pollack
Twenty-four years ago a group of educators created a course to introduce students and educators to the nations of the Pacific basin. Shaker Heights City Schools partnered with Beachwood School District and the Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) to develop a course focused on China and Japan. The class meets on Wednesday evenings. The students study art, philosophy, literature, history religion, geography, film, and economics of the countries. Once a month a CMA staff member teaches a lesson on the arts of Asia. As part of the class, students travel on sister-school exchange programs to Japan and China. In 2011, India will be added to create a three-year rotation. The program received a Freeman Foundation grant to further develop the program: to offer summer Asian Studies institutes at the Cleveland Museum of Art, to further the study of Asia and make our social studies classroom less Eurocentric.

Steve Robbins
Steve is a Social Studies teacher at Plain Local Schools in Stark County. The Triwizard program began in 2005 as an effort to bring students from three high schools together, two schools from Acco Israel, and Glen Oak High School in Canton. Students from each school were selected to begin a dialogue that would foster an understanding of the values we share as well as the rich cultural diversity we all celebrate. The schools in Israel, one Arab and one Jewish, have worked with our students on projects and activities that have clearly demonstrated that there is much more that can unite us than divide us. One of the primary technology uses that allows for this interaction is the video conferencing between the two countries.

Carol Sphar
Hathaway Brown Primary School students have been collaborating with schools in Italy, Nicaragua, Australia and Canada since November, 2007. The students explore cultural differences and similarities as well as important global topics by postal mail, email and frequent videoconferences. Highlighted exchanges include Postcards for Peace, Tibetan wish flags, Earth Day endangered species, VC for Hope fundraiser, and a peace education mural that was painted half at Hathaway Brown and half at San Filippo Elementary School in Italy. Through iEARN’s Art Miles project, the mural will be part of a global webcast and floating art exhibit on the Nile River in Egypt in 2010.
August 6  Integrating Technology

Jingfei Li, Visiting Artist/Educator

Born in Kumming, China, Jingfei Li’s journey as an artist began as she learned the meanings of shapes, patterns and color from her mother, a weaver. She studied kite making with one of the few remaining Yunnan-style kite makers. The typical Yunnan kite is built up, layer upon layer, and the finished product is seen as representing a unique cultural expression of freedom which contrasts with existing social structures. Her art is a fusion of two traditions: painting and kite making.

Alexandre dos Santos Oliveira, English Teacher
Centro Cultural de Linguas Padre Ratinundo Jose (Language School) Teresina, Brazil (population: 779, 938)

Alex has been teaching English in private and public schools since 1990. His students vary in age from 14 years old to adults, and he teaches classes that typically have between 25 and 50 students. His extracurricular activities including participating and organizing interdisciplinary and cultural events at his school. He received his Bachelor’s Degree and Specialization in English from the State University of Piaui in 2001 and 2006 respectively. Alex is married and has a son, and enjoys playing the guitar.

Joselia Batista Snaros, English Teacher Centro cultural de Linguas Teresina, Brazil

Josey has been teaching English for the past eight years. Her average class size consists of 30 students, and she teaches students ages 15 and older. She is a very active teacher who is engaged in pedagogy and students’ development in education. She has her Bachelor’s Degree in English Language and Literature from the University of Piaui, as well as her teaching certificate. Her hobbies in include traveling, reading and listening to music.

Shannon Arnett is a fifth grade educator for the Tipp City School District. Shannon will be sharing her experience with the iEARN global learning community. In her role as elementary educator for the past 15 years she has strived to provide life-long meaningful experiences for her students. Selected to be a pilot global learning class for the Ohio Department of Education two years ago she was introduced to the power of global learning circles and webcasting. Not only are students actively engaged in learning standard-based curriculum, but are able to present and share information learned to a global audience, preparing students for the technology-enriched world community.

Ediz Kaykayoglu is a PH.D. candidate at KSU in instructional technology, and graduated from KSU with a master’s degree in technology, and Bahcesehir University in Istanbul Turkey as a computer engineer. He is currently working full time for KSU as an international recruiter for Turkey, the Middle East, and Central Asia. He will be connecting with us from Kent State Koleji, a partner institution in Istanbul, Turkey.
Marian Maxfield is a PhD candidate and instructor in Educational Psychology and Instructional Technology at Kent State University. She is currently an adjunct faculty member at the University of Akron in the Educational Foundations and Leadership department. During the past two years she has worked with Kent State University and the International Research and Exchange Board (IREX) instructing international students on technology integration. During the past year she has been an Instructional Technologist for Aurora City School District assisting the integration of technology into the K-12 inquiry-based curriculum. She previously taught secondary English and math in face-to-face web-enhanced and online environments.

Theresa Minick is coordinator of Basic Spanish Studies in the department of Modern and Classical Language Studies at Kent State. She also teaches the technology courses for the Foreign Language Teacher Education Program and conducts technology workshops for PK-12 foreign language teachers. Minick is on the Board for the Ohio Foreign Language Association and serves as Chair of the Technology Committee. She was nominated to the Foreign Language Advisory Council, which resulted in the report “Passport to the Future: Ohio’s Plan for World Languages”. She is also a co-director of the Regents Foreign Language Academy grant and the STARTALK grant. Minick promotes study abroad and has directed various immersion experiences in Mexico.

Natalie Mroz teaches World History to seventh graders at Bexley Middle School. She has taught for 26 years in Columbus City Schools and Bexley City Schools. Ms. Mroz has traveled with teacher groups and independently to countries in Africa, East Asia, Europe, and Central and South America and has led nine student explorations to Costa Rica and Belize. In 2007, she was named the “International Educator of the Year” by the Columbus Council on World Affairs and was selected to represent Ohio at the National Geographic Summer Institute in 2008.

John Ramicone is the Director of Distance Learning Services of WVIZ ideastream and the Program Director of the North Ohio Technology Association Distance Learning Network (NOTA). A former school superintendent, building administrator and teacher, John was instrumental in the development of the NOTA IDL Network in 1995. Since its inception, NOTA has provided its member schools with a variety of distance learning programs and activities (virtual field trips, courses, professional development, meeting connections, community programs, etc.).

Mary Tipton is currently the Director of Technology and Distance Education for the College of Education, Health and Human Services at KSU. She started her career in K12 education as a teacher and library media specialist. She continues to teach in the Instructional Technology graduate program. Her interests include information literacy, copyright, faculty development, distance learning, and technology integration into teaching.

Terry Tye is an eighth grade language arts educator in Medina City School District, where she has worked for fourteen years. She holds two masters degrees, a Master Teacher certificate, National Board certification, and most-recently, an iEARN Master Trainer designation.

Jim Vincent earned his bachelors and masters degrees at Kent State University. He has 29 years in education at the middle and high school and college levels. He has been working with distance learning since 1996. He is currently Manager of Technology Integration at Stark/Portage Area Computer Consortium (SPARCC).