Summer Institute for Ohio Teachers: Tel Aviv, Israel July 3 - July 21, 2011

Co- Sponsored: Kibbutzim College of Education, Technology and the Arts
http://www.smkb.ac.il/en/
The Middle East Studies Center (MESC) http://mesc.osu.edu/

Program Location and Overview
The program objective is to gain an understanding of the diverse educational contexts in Israel, and to integrate and learn with and from Israeli faculty and peers. The learning experience in a new context will allow the knowledge to be further developed when educators return to their regular milieu. Participants will be enrolled alongside Israeli educators and will learn from Israeli and US faculty members. The diversity of both U.S. and Israeli classrooms poses unique challenges, particularly to those who haven’t been exposed to cultural diversity in an international setting. This experience will provide the opportunity for personal insights and learning through comparison of similarities and difference between Israel, United States and other education systems.

The summer institute is based in the modern city of Tel Aviv, the country’s economic and cultural center. It is a lively, young city rich with numerous museums, concert halls, movie theaters, restaurants, cafes and night life. Located directly on the Mediterranean Sea, Tel Aviv also offers a waterfront promenade and miles of public beaches. The program is hosted by Kibbutzim College of Education, which was founded in 1939 as a source of educational leadership. The university currently serves more than 5000 full time students in education, theater arts, dance, environmental studies, communications and film, design and business administration, among other disciplines.

Academics:
The Summer Institute will bring together international and Israeli teachers and graduate students in various fields of teaching. Ohio participants will have many opportunities to meet and compare experiences with Israeli teachers. It is structured so that participants may choose among various options for graduate credit and/or Professional Development Hours.

Comparative Studies of Educational Systems
An examination of educational practices, policies, institutions and systems in various areas of the world with particular attention given to: pedagogical and curricular dimensions of education vis-à-vis contemporary contexts; the relationship between social structure and types of educational institutions; the conflict between traditional and modern education; the nature of the profession at different levels in different places; and teacher organizations for educational change. This course may be taken for 3 graduate credits or for 45 Professional Development Hours.

Pathways Through Israel
This program will focus on Israeli stories, sites and characters, examining how biblical,
historical, and religious narratives are depicted in literature, art, architecture, and music. Participants will have meetings with educators, rabbinic figures, artists and social activists. There will be three full day excursions to Jerusalem, the Dead Sea and Masada and to the Sea of Galilee as well as 3 or 4 half day/evening walking trips around Tel-Aviv- Jaffa plus a visit to a kibbutz. Reflecting on how these messages and motifs play out in the contemporary world, the seminar format will allow students to explore various areas of individual interest. Professional Development Hours certificate provided upon completion of program.

Credit and Professional Development Options
Comparative Studies of Educational Systems may be taken for credit by registering at Kibbutzim College of Education Summer Sessions. Credit participants may be any teacher or student at any Ohio Institution of high learning in Ohio, or taken as Professional Development Hours instead of for graduate credit by paying only $500 fee. Professional Development Credit for “Pathways through Israel” is included in the program cost- each participant will receive 2 credit from Kibbutzim College completion of the program.

Faculty
Pathways through Israel will be taught by faculty of Kibbutzim College of Education. Jaime Grinberg, Professor of Educational Foundations at Montclair State University, will joining the Kibbutzim College of Education faculty in teaching Comparative Studies of Educational Systems in the Summer Institute.

Accommodations and Meals
Participants will be housed in fully furnished air-conditioned apartments, mostly two-bedrooms, with two people per bedroom. Single bedrooms would be available for an additional $1000. Participants may prepare meals or use the inexpensive university cafeteria.

Program Costs:
$2,000 + $500 Prof. Development Fee OR $2,000+ $810 credits.
Cost includes: Housing in double bedrooms in furnished apartments Guided field trips. Orientation, luncheon, & farewell dinner, library & computer facilities. Professional Development Certificate or 3 graduate credits; and 2 Credit Pathways through Israel.

Scholarships: Available, request an application at outreach@oia.osu.edu

Airfare: $1,000-$1,100

Payment Schedule:
Non-refundable application fee: $100
By April 10, 2011: $950
By May 10, 2011: $950 + Prof. Dev. Fee or tuition.