



Danish Agency for
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TRANS-ATLANTIC
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TRAINING ALLIANCE

TA³ Connections

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The Trans-Atlantic Technology & Training Alliance is an international network of community, technical, and further education colleges from the United States, western Europe, and South Africa dedicated to learning, innovation, and collaboration. For more information about the TA³ see <http://www.ta3online.org>.

Next Meeting: Tknika and the TA³ will co-host the 20th symposium and meeting of the TA3 on May 1-4, 2011 in San Sebastian in the Basque Regio. The theme this year will be fostering creativity and innovation among students and within institutions. The events are being organized with the help of José Luis Fernandez Maure co-hosted by Tknika. They will include visits to College IEFPS Tartanga GLBHI and the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao. Tknika is supported by the Basque Department of Education, Universities & Research under the auspices of the Sub-Department of Vocational Training & Lifelong Learning. <http://www.tknika.net/liferay>



San Sebastian

On May 2 the TA3 will host a one-day symposium on **"Stimulating innovation and creativity in education: Sharing practices across the Atlantic"** that will highlight ways education and training institutions can nurture creativity among their students and within their institutions to produce a workforce with the talent to innovate, and how that creativity and innovation can be enhanced by collaborative networks and alliances involving colleges, companies, research and technology centres that complement one another and share knowledge and practices. For more information see <http://www.ta3online.org>.

Member News

Gateway Community and Technical College on NBC evening news

On March 1, news correspondent Tom Brokaw addressed the issue of workforce development on his series "America at the Crossroads" The story was called "Finding the 'next big thing' to create jobs." In following the story of one worker, Brokaw highlighted Gateway's Center for Advanced Technology, where that person was getting the training he needed and wanted.

When Gateway President Ed Hughes was asked if this approach represents the future of community college education, he said, "Absolutely — not only the future, it's the present." Hughes, Brokaw stated, is firm in his belief in American manufacturing — and in Gateway. "More than 80 percent of the graduates find work in their chosen fields, Ed told the correspondent. "We like to say we're about the bottom line....We can train the worker for your bottom line. You all win."

EUC-Syd in Vietnam

Following are a just a few of the projects in which EUC Syd has been involved over the past six months.

- Under the Danish Danida Programme, EUC Syd and TEC in Denmark and the Rogaland Competence Centre in Norway are working together on a training programme for **Dung Quat College of Technology (DQC) in Viet Nam**. The team will train and upgrade the pedagogical skills and competences of a selected group of DQC teachers and technicians in welding, machining, service and maintenance, and petrochemical laboratory; and establish a "teach the teacher" model to train DQC staff in planning and upgrading skills of their colleagues in these same areas. EUC Syd teachers have been in Vietnam to teach about the equipment.



EUC Syd in Vietnam

- EUC Syd has an on-going cooperation with **Compagnon de Devoir**, a large organisation in France that sends more the 1,000 apprentices abroad annually. EUC Syd welcomes about 80 of these young people as carpenters, joiners, black smiths, and bakers. Each group is accompanied by a French teacher and a translator. For the teachers it is an opportunity to talk about education and different competences and skills in their crafts and trades, and the apprentices experience another culture and a different pedagogical approach between teachers and students.

- EUC Syd has been approved as an **International Baccalaureate (IB)** granting school and will begin its pre-IB in August 2011 for students who have completed 11 years of studying and have the equivalent of the first year of the Danish gymnasium. It has been a long and also developing process for the school to prepare for the IB but it expects the IB to have an impact on the development of EUC Syd. Students will be able to stay in a newly renovated boarding house very near the college. During preparations the college is grateful for the support it received from other schools in the area, large companies, and the University. For more detail see <http://www.eucsyd.dk/Vis.aspx?id=30366>

“Global Distinction” at Howard Community College

Students in Howard Community College 's academic enrichment program, Global Distinction will complete their first year in May 2011. Global Distinction is a collaboration between the Howard Community College and the Community College of Baltimore County, both located in Maryland. The colleges teamed up to address the needs of students, employers and the colleges to develop globally aware students. The approach on the campuses is three pronged: globally intensive general education courses, including proficiency in world language; engagement in on-campus global activities; and cultural immersion through either study abroad or a domestic experience. Employers and transfer schools recognize the value of globally fluent students as critical to success in the interdependent world. Colleges and universities across the country are being tasked with graduating or transferring students with skills necessary to succeed in their chosen profession. The Global Distinction program helps students prepare to become active participants in the interconnected world.

Global Distinction is available to all students at the two community colleges regardless of major. There is no charge to join and many courses fit into a student's general education requirements. Students compile a portfolio and reflect upon the collective experiences in coursework, on-campus activities and cultural immersion. At graduation or transfer, they receive a letter recognizing their accomplishments that can accompany their resume or transfer documentation.

NSF programs for community colleges

The second TA3 webinar occurred on February 10, when National Science Foundation (NSF) Program Director Dr. Gerhard Salinger described the current and anticipated programs at the agency that address community colleges. The program aimed at technical education in two-year college, which he helped design in 1993, currently funds 9 national centers, 11 resource centers, and 18 regional centers. and well as 220 projects and 6 targeted educational research projects. Dr. Salinger pointed out the importance of middle skill occupations to the economy and their contributions to innovation, which led the NSF to direct resources to community colleges, and the expectations of advanced



technology education (ATE) centers (<http://impress-creative.com/ate-centers/>) and projects. His powerpoint can be found at <http://www.ta3online.org/news-events/>.

Friends and Associates

Wisconsin's **Milwaukee Area Technical College** (MATC) School of Media and Creative Arts is building fiscal sustainability while developing a model to bring industry partners to the classrooms. MATC programs in Animation, Computer Simulation and Gaming, Television and Video Production, Graphic, and Web Design have recruited industry partners to work with students and faculty to build products and services. The contracts with industry pay student interns for results, with a percentage going to the college foundation for scholarships, equipment, and other needs. The programs already have more than 20 businesses and non-profits working with students and faculty. Students gain experience with real clients in making deadlines and working in cross-discipline teams. MATC's goal is to use this experience of working with real clients to extend their learning well beyond their technical competencies to help make the transition from associate degree program to work seamless.

Network News

Twenty community colleges took part in RTS's Ford Foundation-supported **Community College Alliance for Sustainability** in Little Rock, Arkansas on February 14-16. Karin Jespersen and Lene Bonnen Sandholdt from EUC-Syd in Sønderborg, Denmark described the college's green construction curriculum. Other speakers included Steve Leach, Tom Riley, Director of the Public Policy Center at the University of Arkansas, John Ahlen, Arkansas Science and Technology Authority, and Rick Parker, Director of NSF's AgrowKnowledge at Kirkland Community College. The Alliance continues to work on sustainable food systems, green building and other conservation methods, and renewable energy, all with an eye towards creating wealth in rural communities.



CraftNet continues to hold monthly conference calls, shares information, and is planning a series of webinars, and Courtney Long from Western Piedmont Community College in North Carolina presented the first, describing the college's plans to convert a historic agricultural site into classrooms, showrooms, and outdoor space for its agricultural systems, crafts, and sustainability programs. The initial plans are in process for a meeting in conjunction with the annual Craft Organizations Directors Association (CODA) meeting in Portland Maine in mid-June, 2011.



Opportunities

Call for Proposals for the EU-USA Programme ATLANTIS: A new call for proposals has been launched under the European Union-US Framework for Co-operation in Higher Education and Vocational Education and Training (EU-US ATLANTIS Programme) to fund innovative projects that develop and implement double or joint "transatlantic degrees" for students in the EU and U.S. It also can support projects that promote other forms of EU-U.S. cooperation in higher education and vocational training such as mobility projects and policy-oriented measures.

Funded activities include curricula development, joint study programs and exchanges, and study abroad with mutually recognized credit and language and cultural preparation that benefit higher education students, vocational education and training learners, and/or teachers/trainers/administrative staff. Each proposal must have one lead institution in the EU and one in the U.S. The deadline for applications has been extended to late May 2011. Additional information is available on the EU Commission website and on the website of EU Department of Education. http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/bilateral_cooperation/eu_us/index_en.php
<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/fipseec/index.html>

The National Council for Workforce Education (NCWE) is requesting proposals for presentations at its 2011 conference, October 22-25 in St. Louis, Missouri. The theme is "Growing the Workforce for a New American Economy." Proposals must address one of the nine strands for the conference, which include "sustainability and going green," "partnerships and collaboration," and "continuing education and community service." Information about the conference can be found at http://www.ncwe.org/?page=2011_conference and about the proposal process and conference strands, at http://www.ncwe.org/?page=call_for_proposals. The event is being co-sponsored by NCWE (TA3's Darlene Miller is new Director) and the National Council for Continuing Education and Training.

TA³ Member Profile: York Technical College, South Carolina

When York Technical College in South Carolina opened in 1964, the college offered seven academic programs, which were all housed in just one building. Formally known as the Technical Education Center, the college enrolled 60 students in its first year. Enrollment today has grown from the initial 60 students to over 7,700 credit students in 90 academic programs and more than 9,700 students in non-credit programs, and it continues to grow. The number of students at York Technical College has increased by 43 percent in the past four years.

York Technical College's campus has expanded from its original single building to 15 buildings. In addition to the main campus in Rock Hill, South Carolina, York Tech has seven off-campus centers across three counties it serves and programs at 17 high schools and career centers.

For four decades the college has been dedicated to economic and community development. York Technical College supports Lancaster, York, and Chester counties by helping to attract new businesses, expand employment in existing businesses, and offering occupational training to prepare community members for successful careers. Its mission established in 2008 is



to maximize student success. The college does this by providing a qualified and caring faculty and offering exceptional student support services. Since 2000, York Tech student have been awarded seven Carolina Careers Governor's Awards for Excellence in Work-Based Learning and two faculty members have received the Governor's Professor of the Year Award.

York Technical College contributes directly to the economic development of the region and state through its Corporate & Continuing Education (CCE) division. Each year the college offers more than 1,500 courses that provide students with opportunities to pursue new careers or advance in their current positions. Students earn nationally recognized Continuing Education Units (CEU) for completion of coursework, which also help students prepare for state licensure examinations.

Some 200 companies have benefited from customized training for their employees, including Rolls-Royce, Boeing, Pratt & Whitney, General Motors, Harley-Davidson, Briggs & Stratton, Ingersol-Rand, Siemens, John Deere, Honda, Toyota, Borg-Warner, and Nissan. The Center for Advanced Manufacturing, which opened in 2002, is a 20,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility offering students hands-on training with high-tech manufacturing equipment. The Center is the result of a partnership between the Okuma Corporation and the College and has trained 2,800 students in industrial technologies. Additionally, the South Carolina Manufacturing Extension Partnership and Upstate Lean Alliance have partnered with the college in training in lean manufacturing and quality-related techniques.



In addition to customized training, York Technical College is dedicated to providing business assistance and support services to area companies. Organized by the College in 2007, the Entrepreneur Network supports local small business owners and entrepreneurs by providing a network for sharing ideas, experiences, and information on upcoming educational opportunities.

The **Hive Business Center (HBC)**, a work-based learning cooperative that opened in February of 2011, offers start-up and small business support with a focus on Internet marketing and web design and development. About 30 students from York Technical College and Winthrop University currently participate in the program, working alongside RevenFlo, a Rock Hill-based web marketing company, to provide Internet services to local small businesses and non-profits. The project is a collaboration of York Technical College, Winthrop University, Comporium, the City of Rock Hill, Becca & Harry Dalton, and RevenFlo.

York Technical College has provided training and support services for its students and the Rock Hill community for the past 45 years and is clearly at the center of the region's economic development strategy. It has a history of academic excellence, provides personal, student-focused learning, offers flexible class scheduling to aid students in achieving their academic goals, and it supports area local small businesses that might someday employ its students.

The York Technical College profile was written by Corinne Cain, RTS

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