

Global Citizenship Annual Report 2019-2020

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

The Global Citizenship initiative was launched at Santa Monica College in 2007 with the purpose of developing and promoting activities that prepare students for the 21st Century. Such preparation includes awareness of the social, cultural, and environmental transformations taking place in our world of unprecedented global interconnection; attitudes of tolerance and respect for diversity and of anticipation and adaptation toward global change; skillful command of the technologies that revolutionize the way we obtain information and interact with each other; and a commitment to act as responsible global citizens through political engagement, entrepreneurship, and community service.

At that time a “Global Citizenship Task Force” was formed to guide the promotion of global citizenship at SMC. This task force became known as the “Global Council” and was not a committee of the Academic Senate but worked with other Senate committees in the development of programs to promote Global Citizenship. Eventually, the Global Council became an Academic Senate Committee but continued to use the name Global Council. In October 2018, the Global Council voted to change its name to the Global Citizenship Committee.

The definition of the Global Citizenship is:

To be a global citizen, one is knowledgeable of peoples, customs and cultures in regions of the world beyond one's own; understands the interdependence that holds both promise and peril for the future of the global community; and is committed to combining one's learning with a dedication to foster a livable, sustainable world.

The 2018-2020 Theme for SMC Global Citizenship is “Justice”. Coming up for 2020-2022 the new theme will be “Human Rights”. Faculty are encouraged to find creative ways to explore the Global Citizenship theme in their classes. The art department typically asks students to interpret the theme in their artwork, and then sponsors a gallery show to showcase the student creations. The theme is also used as the guiding subject for the Global Citizenship Symposium, discussed later in this section.

The Global Citizenship Committee continues to focus on improving processes and striving to reach more students to promote global citizenship. Global Citizenship Grants for faculty proposals provide funding for worthy projects that are centered on student participation. The Global Citizenship Committee sponsored a variety of activities and special events during the 2019-2020 academic year.

Teaching about Global Conflict and Peacebuilding October 31 – November 3, 2019 George Mason University, School for Conflict and Analysis, Arlington Virginia

This was the seventh annual National Community College Peace Building Seminar and the seventh year that SMC has sent participants to this conference. It brings together community college faculty from across the United States. The four-day workshop consisted of visits to domestic and international organizations and institutions, lectures, learning how to use information acquired in the classroom with students, and discussions on a wide assortment of themes as related to the topic, including: international affairs, refugees, human rights, social justice, media, dialogue, and program development. This year SMC sent the following faculty and administrators

to this conference: Catherine Weir, Director International Projects, IEC, Marlea Welton, Business, and Shannon Herbert, English. A fourth faculty member was scheduled but was unable to attend.

International Education Week (IEW)-November 18 – 22, 2019

In November 2019, International Education Week was celebrated across the campus. SMC proudly hosts international students from over 100 countries from Afghanistan to Zambia. International and domestic students enjoyed an International Day Festival on the Quad which was coordinated by the Associated Students Director of Community Relations. SMC students including F-1 international students and the Inter Club Citizenship Committee (ICCC) hosted booths. Each booth represented a different country. Students visited the booths to learn about interesting facts and the culture of each country, play games and have their paper passport stamped. Refreshments were provided by campus vendor Campus Kitchen.

Global Citizenship Symposium

The 11th annual Global Citizenship Symposium was held on May 7th, 2020. Delphine Broccard, GC Chair, coordinated the event. SMC students from all disciplines were invited to submit their course work related to Global Citizenship as well as the annual theme of “Justice” for judging, and for the opportunity to win scholarship awards for the best submissions in each category. Ten students or student teams submitted original work for the symposium and finalists presented their projects to the SMC community at the May 7, 2020 Symposium. Normally, an in-person event, this year the event was presented in a virtual format as the campus was closed in March and all events and classes were held remotely for the remainder of the semester.

Global Citizenship Global Grants

Global Citizenship Grants bring innovative faculty-led programming across a variety of disciplines related to Global Citizenship to the SMC community. Calls for faculty proposals for Global Citizenship Grants for both the fall and spring semesters were announced.

The Global Citizenship Committee approved grant funding for the following events in the 2019-2020 academic year:

Hailing Cesar

Professor John Quevedo, Math

September 16, 2019

Film screening of “Hailing Cesar” with Q and A with director Eduardo Chavez, grandson of Cesar Chavez

Green Screen Series-Fall 2019 and Spring 2020

Professor Sheila Laffey, Film Studies

This informative series of film screenings and panel discussions included films centered on environmental and sustainability issues. Each event began with a screening of the film followed by a Q and A session with the student audience. This year’s films included: *Earthing*, *Free Willy*, *Bringing It Home*, *Poisoning Paradise*, *Into the Wild and Wild*. Five additional films were scheduled for spring but as the campus was closed due the Corona Virus pandemic these events were canceled.

Cesar Chavez Day**Professor John Quevedo, Math**

March 31, 2020 – Music and dancing on the Quad along with speakers and guests remembering the social justice of Cesar Chavez; event cancelled due to SMC closure due to pandemic

Aditya Ensemble performance and lecture**Professor Hari Vishwanadha, English**

April 2020 - Classical vocalist Aditya Prakash and his band perform and lecture on their unique Indian fusion music – event cancelled due to SMC closure due to pandemic

Study Abroad

Global Citizenship offered three Study Abroad opportunities to SMC students. All three were to take place over spring break April 2020.

- Costa Rica – *One indivisible, with Pura Vida and Justice for All*
- Helsinki-Tallinn - *Helsinki and Tallinn: From A-P (Art/Design, History, and Politics)*
- Catalina - *Environmental Justice: Food, Water, Soil, Climate through the microcosm of Catalina Island*

All three trips were able to attract sufficient students to move forward. Unfortunately, all trips were cancelled due the Corona Virus pandemic. These trips have traditionally been subsidized by Global Citizenship Scholarship funds for those students who qualify for financial need.