Global Migration and Education: 
Schools, children and families. 
An Interdisciplinary and Community Dialogue

November 26, 2007 
Columbia Room, Werner Center 
Western Oregon University

Monday, November 26th, 2007 
8:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. 
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Western Oregon University

A collaborative project from the WOU College of Education and the 
Departments of Anthropology, Geography, Social Sciences, Sociology and 
Student's Multicultural Services. Plus the Salem-Keiser Public Schools and 
representatives of the Hispanic and Russian/Ukranian communities in the area.

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This one-day conference is intended to begin an interdisciplinary and school-community based dialogue which will contribute to a better understanding of the issues faced by immigrant children, their parents, and educators as they interact in schools and community settings. It is intended to create a forum which will help educators and others to validate diversity as a condition for learning which when well understood, embraced, and supported, leads to rich learning opportunities for all children, including the culturally, linguistically and diverse immigrant children, who directly live these processes. This conference intends to reflect on migration as a growing trend in our current global world, and its unparallel impact in the way educational settings have been traditionally established, and how this is confronting us with the need to reformulate pedagogical approaches and public educational policies that will enable all our students to benefit from the rich diversity in languages and cultures that this process brings.
8:45 Welcome by Dr. Hilda Rosselli, Dean of the College of Education

9:00 Panel 1: The socio-cultural and political context of Global Migration

Dr. John Rector (Social Studies, Chair) will present on the Latin American Diaspora
Dr. Isidore Lobnibe (Anthropology) "Peasant immigrants in Ghana and their struggle for access to higher education"
Dr. William "Doug" Smith (Anthropology, Chair) "The US borderlands with Mexico"
Dr. Mike McGlade (Geography) "Mexican Immigration in Oregon: Labor Networks, Urbanization, and Socioeconomic Integration"
Mrs. Anya Sekino, Oregon Commission on Children and Families "Changing Oregon's Demographics and Academic Achievement Gap"

11:00 Panel 2: Voices from the Hispanic and Russian/Ukranian communities

Mr. David Bautista, Director of Bilingual Programs (Salem-Keiser Public Schools) "Undocumented voices: the struggle to have a dignified life"
Ms. Natalya Gritsenko and Victoria Voronko "Cultural and Linguistic Challenges for Russian/Ukrainian Students in Salem-Keiser Public Schools"
Mr. Eduardo Angulo & Adrian Castro (Salem-Keiser Coalition for Equity in Schools) "La Lucha Comunitaria Para Lograr Igualdad en la Educación K-12"
Mr. Juan Venegas & Jaime Arredondo, community leaders of Farm Working Housing Development Corporation "A view from the Hispanic migrant community"

1:45 Panel 3: The impact of Migration in Education:

Dr. Patricio Ortiz (ESOL/Bilingual Ed.) "Global Migration and Education: Cultures in contact and the need for multicultural/multilingual spaces in educational settings"
Dr. Wangeci Gatimu (COE/Teacher Ed.) "Constructing one's identity in border crossings"
Dr. Chloe Myers (COE/Teacher Ed.): "From aliens to patriots? Contemplating immigration and acculturation from a European perspective"
Dr. Steven Wojcikiewicz (COE/Teacher Ed.) "Ideas without borders: some thoughts on migration across disciplines"

3:00 Panel 4: Voices from WOU Students of immigrant background

Dr. Maureen Dolan (Sociology) and 4 students will present "Latino Immigrants and Higher Education: Mentoring as Critical Pedagogy"
Mrs. Ana Hernandez (Director of WOU Multicultural Services) and 4 students will present "Cultural and Linguistic Challenges for Immigrant Students in Higher Education"

4:30 Final Q & A