

## **SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM ATLANTA!**

*December 2004*

I hope this newsletter finds all well across the country. Our goal is to keep everyone up-to-date on the news surrounding the World Affairs Councils of America/*World in Transition* Flagship Program. Included you will find:

- Flagship Program Workshops Held To Date In The 2004-2005 Academic Year
- WIT Workshop At The 2005 WACA National Conference
- *Europe In Transition* Professional Development Program Offered By WACA National Office
- Changes/Additions To SCIS And Other Websites
- Update On *South Asia in Transition*
- Important Things To Remember

**Flagship Program Workshops Held To Date In The 2004-2005 Academic Year.** So far, four train-the-trainer workshops have been held in the 2004-2005 second phase of the flagship program: August 18-19 with the **World Affairs Council of Oregon**; October 8-9 with the **Pacific and Asian Affairs Council**; October 29-30 with the **World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh**; and November 12-13 with the **World Affairs Council of Greater Dallas**.

In Oregon, thirty master teachers came together for what SCIS Director of Educational Services **Diane Sloan** called a "dream workshop." Oregon's Education Director **Karen Ettinger** has already organized one follow-up workshop.

In Hawaii, master teachers came from across the islands to the Hawaiian Department of Education, which hosted the workshop and was represented by the state's social studies specialist, **Mary Anne Soboleski**. It is expected that several of the upcoming workshops in Hawaii—which will be organized by PAAC's **Adria Estribou**—will also be held at the state DOE.

In Pittsburgh, **Annie Prucey** and **Sarah Moody** organized an extremely successful workshop at the Pittsburgh council's historic downtown offices. Twenty-three master teachers participated, with two teachers from the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan observing. Not only did this workshop generate much excitement and future plans, but Pittsburgh's **Sky Foerster** has agreed to develop an activity on Kashmir for the upcoming *South Asia in Transition* package.

Finally, in Dallas, the council's new Education Director, **Loretta Williams**, brought together twenty-three master teachers for another excellent workshop in November. With three decades of experience in the Texas school system, Loretta really helped make this workshop "click."

Overall, it has been a very good fall for the flagship program and we look forward to holding workshops in Los Angeles, Minneapolis, and Washington D.C. after the New Year.

**WIT Workshop At The 2005 WACA National Conference.** SCIS will be leading a workshop on the WACA/*World in Transition* flagship program on Wednesday afternoon from 3:30-5:00 at the national conference. This will be a great opportunity not only to explain the flagship program to newly interested councils, but also to exchange ideas with existing partners on how the program is developing in their areas. Councils who have held workshops to date have been asked to participate in the meeting, and, of course, everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. See you in Washington!

**Europe In Transition Professional Development Program Offered By WACA National Office.** Many, many thanks to **Jerry Leach**, **Ljiljana Komnenic**, **Heather Werner**, and **Kendra Link** in the WACA national office for developing an innovative professional development opportunity for teachers who use *Europe in Transition*. This program will be held June 28-July 1, 2005 in Washington, D.C., and will allow 20 selected teachers to engage in in-

depth analysis and discussion of current developments in the European Union. Activities will include meetings with representatives from the EU Commission, Capitol Hill, the State Department, think tanks, and the U.S. Trade Representative's office, as well as with European and American business and military leaders. National sponsorship funds cover all event costs in Washington, with teachers being responsible only for their travel expenses. Applications will be sent out in late-November, but can also be obtained by contacting Heather Werner at [workshop@worldaffairscouncils.org](mailto:workshop@worldaffairscouncils.org) or 202-833-4557.

**Changes/Additions To SCIS And Other Websites.** Soon there will be a new flagship program link on [www.scis.org](http://www.scis.org). Here you will find important information on the *World in Transition*, the WACA/WIT flagship program, and workshops that have been held. You may find a picture of yourself if you have been part of a recent workshop. SCIS is also working with the national WACA office and a number of partnering councils to increase the coverage of the flagship program on their websites.

**Update On *South Asia in Transition*.** SCIS's new educational package on South Asia will be out in the late spring. Most of the writing has been completed and production of the videotape is well underway. This package will cover Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, eight countries that together are only half the size of the U.S., but provide the home for over 1.4 billion people! As always, after listening carefully to comments from many reviewers and advisors, we think this will be our best package yet.

**Important Things To Remember.** Finally, for those councils partnering with SCIS in the flagship program, please keep in mind the following items as you move forward in your area:

- ✓ Each partnering council is encouraged to identify a master teacher to review the activities in the upcoming package, *South Asia in Transition*.
- ✓ Each partnering council is invited to appoint a qualified representative to the Academic Advisory Board, which meets yearly to review the WIT materials.
- ✓ SCIS will work with partnering councils to correlate WIT materials to state social studies standards.
- ✓ SCIS offers "matching grants" to each of its partners (1 set of materials for every set purchased in year 2 of the partnership, and 1 set for every 3 sets purchased in each subsequent year).
- ✓ SCIS can offer fundraising help through foundation searches, sample grant language, flyers, FAQ sheets, etc.
- ✓ Partners are encouraged to place labels identifying their council on WIT materials.

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