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Title: Integrating Global Education into Higher Education

Abstract:

The integration of global education into higher education curriculum, especially for digital age learners, can be a complex endeavor.

Even the initial step of defining global education can lead to an interesting discourse. Further, a full integration across and among the academic disciplines suggests the faculty move away from the comfort zones of the academic silos that traditionally define higher education presents another challenge. Today's millennial college students present another dynamic--for instance, the emergent media tools that they use on a daily basis, from smart mobile phones, to multiplayer game environments, to intricate social networks--all of which *should* be incorporated into contemporary global education programs.

This presentation will offer examples from Kean University's School for Global Education, which is considering all the factors above in developing a unique program for millennial students.

Biographical information:

Michael Searson is executive director of the *School for Global Education & Innovation* at Kean University. He is also President-elect of the *Society of Information Technology & Teacher Education* (SITE)—term 2011-2014. Searson previously served as SITE Vice President and Chair of the *Consultative Council*, and is founding chairperson of SITE *SIG on Games & Simulations*. In the fall of 2010, he led a group on important educators on the topic of *virtual schooling* at the National Technology Leadership Summit in Washington, DC.

In fall of 2009, Searson led an international delegation as conference chairperson to the *Xi Hu Conference on 21st Century Learning* in Hangzhou, China. He has authored or co-authored about \$8 million in state and federal grants, including a recent a *StarTalk* program, designed to introduce college students to Hindi and Indian culture.

Other recent distinctions include

- Invited speaker, *eLearn* Conference, US, Fall 2010
- *Apple Distinguished Educator* (2004-present), recently serving on its Advisory Board.
- *Curriki Hearst Fellow* (2009-2010), where he served with a number of higher education colleagues exploring Open Education Resource applications.
- Participation in the *Google Teacher Academy* (2008)
- *Global Learn Asia Pacific* Executive Committee Future of Education *Global Awareness Panel* (2009-present)

Dr. Searson received a Ph.D. from Rutgers University in Cognitive Psychology and Child Development.