



Consortium for Innovative Environments in Learning

www.cielearn.org

**Environmental Justice and the Liberal Arts
Global Perspective, Civic Engagement and Scholarly Application**

2009 Fall Meeting, September 25 & 26, 2009

Daemen College
Amherst, New York

The *Consortium for Innovative Environments in Learning* invites you to join us to advance innovative approaches to teaching, centering on the theme of Global Environmental Justice and its place in a Liberal Arts curriculum. Environmental Justice, defined by the Environmental Health Coalition (2003) as the inequitable distribution of environmental burdens borne by groups such as racial minorities, women, residents of economically disadvantaged areas or residents of developing nations, is an ideal theme to advance the work CIEL institutions are doing to meet the expanding challenges of preparing students to be effective global citizens. This is an ideal opportunity for faculty members to come together to create collaborative curriculum that engages students in global service learning, meaningful action research and promotes the development of Liberal Arts values, including intercultural capabilities, essential for success in the 21st century.

Member institutions in the consortium are dedicated to serving students through interdisciplinary, integrated, and high impact pedagogy. The advancement of progressive education is fundamental to our mission and we want to provide an opportunity for faculty members to take leadership roles in the development of student-centered curriculum and scholarly action research that produces graduates who can demonstrate their competence and have the ability to implement their learning through authentic engagement.

This is a working conference where faculty members will meet in small Affinity Groups, based on common academic interest, to initiate curricular or research projects that not only reach across disciplines, but reach across



campuses to ultimately serve and empower students. The goals of the conference are:

1. To build upon and advance work that has emerged from prior CIEL meetings –
 - a. Global Citizenship project
 - b. Virtual Foreign Language Initiative
 - c. Social Justice Education Book project
 - d. Food Shed Curriculum project
 - e. National conference presentations
 - f. Student Symposium
2. To create new collaborative research & curricular projects that showcase integrative and applied learning –
 - a. Environmental Perspective Rubric Project
 - b. Mission-based Assessment and the AAC&U Value Rubrics
 - c. Other
3. To foster strategies that sustains innovation –
 - a. Wise use of technology
 - b. Faculty exchanges
 - c. Consulting opportunities
 - d. Faculty enrichment

The conference will be organized around plenary sessions, workshops, and discussion groups. Faculty members will work on projects in cross-institutional teams (Affinity Groups) whose work will continue after the conference. Faculty members in any area of study are encouraged to consider attending this conference as a way to bridge disciplines, make collegial connections and enhance professional development. We would like you to identify projects of interest to you in order for conference planners to organize the Affinity Groups.

Ideas for Affinity Group topics that have emerged are: Environmental Perspective/Ecological Thinking Rubric, Global Service Learning Curriculum (Dominican Republic), Grand Canyon Service Learning & Research Project, Democratic Thinking and the Global Citizen, Cross-cultural Environmental Ethics, Global Environmental Justice Case Study, Sustainability Education and Ecological Thinking: the Place-based



Curriculum. We invite you to tell us what your emerging interests are, but more important: What are your students asking for?

Campuses are encouraged to bring 1-3 faculty members, as well as the CIEL campus coordinator. There will be a parallel set of meetings for the CIEL coordinators whose tasks are to review achievements and set a strategic direction for the consortium. (If you are unable to attend in person, we can arrange for video conferencing.) Please direct questions for Affinity Group ideas to Gret Antilla, CIEL Executive Director at gantilla@prescott.edu

The meeting will be hosted by Daemen College located in Amherst, New York and is being held in conjunction with an Environmental Summit that Daemen College sponsors on an annual basis. The Environmental Summit brings together local sustainability practitioners and participants can choose to attend the workshops and presentations.

About Daemen College...

The mission of Daemen College is to prepare students for life and leadership in an increasingly complex world. Founded on the principle that education should elevate human dignity and foster civic responsibility and compassion, the College seeks to integrate the intellectual qualities acquired through study of the liberal arts with the education necessary for professional accomplishment. This integration which recognizes equal value in liberal studies and professional programs aims at preparing graduates who are dedicated to the health and well-being of both their local and global communities.

With a Daemen education, students will acquire the skill to solve problems creatively and think critically. They will be comfortable with diversity and will recognize the importance of a global perspective. They will be able to work with others and be invigorated by environments that present challenges and demand innovation. Daemen students are expected to be active participants in their own education and informed citizens who understand that learning is a life-long journey.

At the heart of Daemen's integrated learning experience is the relationship that can develop between the College's faculty and its students. Daemen prides itself on maintaining a student-centered atmosphere and a close professional and collaborative association among all members of the College community. Assisted by a supportive faculty, Daemen students are encouraged to pursue goals beyond their initial expectations, to respond to academic challenges, and to develop habits of mind that enrich their lives and their community.



Tentative Agenda

Friday, September 25th –

8:00 - 8:30 - Registration/Coffee muffins available

8:45 – 9:00 - Opening session - Welcome and opening remarks

9:00 – 9:45 - Plenary Session - Global Environmental Justice

10:00 – 12:00 - Concurrent sessions:

Coordinator Business Meeting

Faculty Affinity Groups

12:00 - 1:00 - Lunch

1:00 – 3:00 - Concurrent sessions:

Coordinator Business Meeting

Faculty Affinity Groups

3:00 – 3:15 - Break

3:15 – 4:30 - Progress Reports from faculty affinity groups

6:00 – 7:30 - Catered Dinner

Saturday, September 26th-

8:30-12:00 Concurrent sessions:

Environmental Summit (Breakfast is included. Tours of RIC and Ecotrail will follow the Summit.)

Virtual Foreign Language Initiative (NELL) working group

Faculty Affinity groups

National Conference Presentation Planning

Spring Student Symposium

12:00 - 1:00 - Lunch

1:00 – 2:30 - Concurrent sessions:

Coordinator Business Meeting

Faculty Affinity Groups

2:30 – 2:45 - Break

2:45 – 3:45 - Reports from faculty affinity groups and closure

4:00 – 5:00 – Coordinator meeting – follow-up on Affinity Groups

Faculty - Dinner on your own

Coordinators – Group Dinner



Logistics

Hotel Accommodations -

Rooms will have a cut off date of August 24, 2009. After that date rooms will be released for general sale. All rooms must be guaranteed with the guest's credit card or prior arrangements must be made. A valid credit card will also be required at check-in.

Guaranteed reservations will be held for one night and will be charged a "no show" fee of one night's room and tax should the guest fail to check-in or cancel the reservation at least 24 hours in advance.



[Hampton Inn Buffalo-Williamsville](#)



Compare Hotel



5455 Main Street
Williamsville, New York, USA, 14221
1-716-632-0900
0.6 miles from city center

ROOMS: Standard, Non-Smoking

RATES: \$114.00

DATES: 9/24/09 9/25/09 9/26/09 9/27/09
Check-out



[Homewood Suites by Hilton® Buffalo-Amherst](#)



Compare Hotel



1138 Millersport Highway
Buffalo, New York, USA, 14226
1-716-833-2277
0.2 miles from city center

The rate is \$129 per night for Queen Studio Suites for the nights of Thursday, 9/24 – Saturday, 9/26 and departing on Sunday, 9/27

Travel -

Buffalo Niagara International Airport

4200 Genesee Street
Cheektowaga, New York 14225
Phone: 716.630.6000
Toll Free: 1.877.359.2642
E-mail: BNIAinfo@nfta.com



For a list of carriers into Buffalo:

<http://www.buffaloairport.com/Carriers.asp>

Ground Transportation -

Both the Hampton Inn in Williamsville and the Homewood Suites in Amherst have transportation to the hotel. Just pick up your bag and then call the hotel.