Linguistic Cultural Swap Worlds

Mylene J. Catel
Suny Potsdam (USA)
catelmj@potsdam.edu

Abstract

COLLABORATIVE TEAM OF PHILANTHROPIC EXPERTS: We are not going to change anything alone. We should work with a team of experts. Philanthropically. It takes many good people to come up with a solid plan. Make a profit but give a lot back. As to change, it is not imposed, it is wanted. Core missions should be revisited though and we should learn more from "peace core" and profit from non-profit foundations.

GLOBAL SKYPE PROJECT: LANGUAGE and CULTURE CLASSROOMS. To travel, to go and study abroad all that costs money alas, and the budget is horrendous. This is why SKYPE allows teachers and learners alike to plug in, and wire their classrooms with global classrooms and participate in exciting projects all around the world, not only American based. Unfortunately, there aren't many functional Global Skype classroom exchanges that I know of. There aren't many Skype-enhanced textbook-kindle types of technologies because Skype teaching is a new phenomenon. I actually do not know of any!

PEACE FOR A GLOBAL WELFARE LEGO. Reality shows are keen on swapping lives to the entertainment of voyeuristic viewers. This is why we have virtual life simulation programs and technologies that can be used as a teaching/learning tool. We have many second life, virtual lives, simulation life programs in which we can live vicariously another live as an avatar but they do not really have the right cultural background. I have been teaching French with the life simulation game Sims 3 to enhance my students' learning experience but again I have had to work very hard to fill in the cultural gaps. We need a cultural, linguistic virtual "swap world" to learn better about each other’s worldwide with “peace core” missions.