

ENROLLMENT DEVELOPMENT

Global Citizenship

The 2023-24 Theme for SMC Global Citizenship was “Risk, Refuge, and Resilience.” Faculty were encouraged to find creative ways to explore this Global Citizenship theme in their classes and through planned presentations.

In 2023-24, the Global Citizenship Committee continued to focus on improving processes and striving to reach more students to promote global citizenship. Over the past year, Global Citizenship Grants for faculty proposals provided funding for worthy projects that are centered on student participation.

The Global Citizenship Committee sponsored a variety of activities and special events during the 2023-24 academic year. The Committee hosted both in-person and virtual events that closely connect with the Board of Trustees expressed Annual Goals and On-going Priorities.

In 2023-24 Global Citizenship committee in close collaboration with faculty offered the following variety of programming, initiatives, and travel abroad opportunities that address the following BOT 2023-24 Annual Goals and on-going priorities:

Teaching about Global Conflict and Peacebuilding Seminar October 27 & November 3, 2023. The 11th annual Global Peacebuilding Seminar took place virtually this past Fall on two consecutive Fridays. The seminar feature sessions with different peacebuilding affiliated individuals, agencies, etc. Professor Tia Santana from the Art department attended the conference.

Global Citizenship Symposium. The 15th annual Global Citizenship Symposium was held on May 2, 2024. More than 30 students submitted their works, and seven finalists were invited to present their projects to the SMC community at the Symposium. The event was in person and many faculty, staff, parents, and students were in attendance.

Global Citizenship Grants

Fall 2023 Literary Series. Author Leye Adenle read and discussed their work with students through zoom. Professor Hari Vishwanadha, English (October and November 2023).

Cosmovision Indigena. Professor Alejandro Kee, Modern Languages and Cultures (October 2023). Zapotec artist, Maestro Porfirio Gutierrez, was invited to discuss “The Relationship to Climate and Artist material” from an Indigenous perspective.

Communists, Criminals, and Caravans: Central Americans Seeking Refuge in the United States. Professor Alejandro Lee, Modern Languages and Cultures (September 2023). Dr. Leisy Abrego’s presentation drew the interest of 26 participants, including faculty and students. During the session, she discussed the reasons behind the exodus of Central American citizens to the United States.

Manzanar Diverted: When Water becomes Dust. Professor Alejandro Lee, Modern Languages and Cultures (September 2023). Ms. Ann Kaneo presented her award-winning documentary to an engaged audience of 42 participants. The film was well received and sparked thoughtful discussions during the Q&A session.

Spring 2024 Sustainability Speaker Series. Professor Gillian Grebler, Earth Science (February and April 2024). Ten guest speakers were invited to present various workshops that provided opportunities for students to connect with others dedicated to sustainability, climate-resilience, and environmental justice. Among many of the speakers were Atossa Soltani, Cecilie Stuart, Pascal Baudar, Jamiah Hargins, and Mark Abraham.

Global Afro-Futurism Lecture and Mural-Making Workshop with Nehemiah Cisneros. Brianna Simmons, Art (April 2024). SMC alumni and visual artist Nehemiah Cisneros discussed the Global Afro-Futurism movement and how his own work dialogues with other art pieces from the African Diaspora.

Rethinking Rufus: Sexual Violations of Enslaved Men. Professor Brandon Reilley, History (April 2024). Campus historian Thomas A. Foster was invited to discuss his book centered around the history of African American people.

Asian Pacific Americans and Militarism in Oceania. Professor Brandon Reilley, History (May 2024). Historians Alfred Flores and Christen Sasaki explored the connections through the scope of settler military occupation, imperial jurisdiction, and cultural transformation.

Study Abroad Trips

Costa Rica, Summer 2023. After the COVID pandemic the Global Citizenship committee was able to reinstate study abroad trips. Delphine Broccard, GC chair, along with Christyanne Melendez, from the Science department, led 24 students who participated in the study abroad trip to Costa Rica, in June 21-29, 2023. The students had a great

experience learning about the risk of degrading plastic pollution in the ocean, beach clean-up, understanding what it takes to safeguard a watershed area that supplies drinking water and hearing stories of resilient immigrant women who seek to better their social conditions through entrepreneurial training.

Florence, Spring 2024. In Spring 2024, another study abroad trip took place to Florence in April 6-13. Professor Taneka Washington (Art History) and Professor Susan Kolko (Fashion) led 24 students along with the assistance of Worldstrides agency through the city of Florence. The group explored the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, traveled by train to the Leaning Tower of Pisa, visited a cheese farm, and enjoyed many galleries and museums.

The Global Citizenship initiative continues to provide programming and travel abroad opportunities for students as a means to infuse anti-racist, equity-minded academic and non-academic support in all areas of the college.

Student Life - Infuse anti-racist, equity-minded academic and non-academic support in all areas of the College, implement initiatives that overcome barriers based on students' financial resources and unmet basic needs, devote resources to assist students with personal circumstances that negatively affect student success.