

Global Cities Education Network Symposium III
National Institute of Education
Singapore
October 7 – 11, 2013

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7

Delegates arrive in Singapore if attending optional school visits.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8

OPTIONAL VISITS

8:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Visit companies with Institute of Technical Education internships**
(Meet in Shangri-La lobby at 8:15am)

12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Lunch and visit to one of the two Polytechnics offering an innovation curriculum: Ngee Ann Polytechnic and Singapore Polytechnic

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

8:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **School visits**
(Meet in Shangri-La lobby by 8:45am)

Participants will visit one of the following:

- Crest Secondary
- NUS High School of Math and Science
- School of The Arts
- School of Science and Technology
- Singapore Sports School

12:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Travel to ITE College Central and have lunch as a group

2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Visit to ITE College Central**

4:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Return to hotel and break

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. **Opening Dinner**

- Remarks by Singapore Director General of Education Ho Peng

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

Before 8:45 a.m. Breakfast at Shangri-La on own (included in room rate)

8:45 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Bus to NIE (Meet in lobby of Shangri-La Hotel by 8:45 a.m.)

9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. **Welcome, Introductions, and Meeting Plan**

- Lee Sing Kong
- Tony Jackson
 - 2-3 minute update by each city on how it is addressing GCEN themes

10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. **Instructional Strategies to Promote 21st Century Skills: How are Cities Defining 21st Century Skills in the Curriculum and Building Teacher Capacity to Teach Them?**

Where and how are 21st Century Skills defined? What teaching practices foster development of 21st century skills? What curriculum resources and professional learning is required to upgrade teachers' capacity to implement these practices? How are city education systems attempting to provide these resources, with what successes and challenges? What are essential steps in an implementation strategy to systematically develop teachers' instructional capacity?

- Discussion Starters: Hong Kong, Denver
- Facilitator: Tony Mackay
- Faculty: Linda Darling-Hammond, Kai-Ming Cheng

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Networking Break**

12:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. **Lunch and Panel Discussion: 21st Century Skills and Workforce Readiness through Vocational Education and Training/Career and Technical Education (VET/CTE)**

How is the changing economy challenging VET/CTE systems and what new approaches are being taking to address these challenges? What 21st century skills should the VET/CTE system address and how are they embedded in skills standards and instructional approaches?

- Panel: Houston, Singapore, Shanghai, Toronto
- Facilitator: Vivien Stewart
- Faculty: Marc Tucker

1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Concurrent Case Study Conversations

Supporting Teacher Training through Effective Induction

What are effective strategies for mentoring new teachers as they enter the profession? What do mentors and mentees need? What policies regarding accountability, work load, etc. make a difference?

- Case Study: Toronto and Seoul
- Facilitator: Tony Mackay
- Faculty: Barnett Barry

Using Technology to Support 21st Century Teaching and Learning

How can 21st century teaching and learning be supported by digital technology? What would be the critical elements of an effective, system wide approach to the use of technology to support learning?

- Case Study: Melbourne and Houston
- Facilitator: Jessica Kehayes
- Faculty: Tom Corcoran

Developing 21st Century Skills among High and Low Performing Students

Must low performing students acquire “basic” skills before developing 21st century skills or can they be developed simultaneously? How can cities effectively address “scaling up the tail” as well as accelerating 21st century skills acquisition?

- Case Study: Lexington and Hong Kong
- Facilitator: Sandra Licon
- Faculty: Seattle

3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Break

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Toward Impact: The GCEN going forward

Given the ultimate goal of improving practice and policies in GCEN cities, what commitments are required, what information is needed and what structures and collaborative processes will best enable us to achieve success? What are the most effective roles for Asia Society and GCEN members to progress the Network forward?

- Facilitator: Tony Jackson

5:00 p.m.

Bus to hotel. Dinner is on your own, options will be provided.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

Before 8:45 a.m. Breakfast at Shangri-La on own (included in room rate)

8:45 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Bus to NIE (Meet in lobby of Shangri-La by 8:45)

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Assessing 21st Century Skills: The State of the Art

What is state of knowledge on assessing 21st century skills? What is the state of testing of 21st century skills in GCEN districts? How are cities preparing teachers to respond to new forms of summative assessments? What potential equity issues need to be addressed as new forms of assessment are deployed?

- Presenters: Brian Stecher, Low Ee Ling
- Facilitator: Tom Corcoran
- Faculty: Toronto

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Concurrent Case Study Conversations**

Assessing 21st Century Skills in the Classroom

What is the “state of the art” in assessing student proficiency in critical thinking, problem solving, and related 21st century skills within the context of classroom learning? What would be required to implement effective assessment practices in every school, every day? What are the key steps of an implementation strategy to integrate reliable and valid 21st skills assessment strategies?

- Case Study: Singapore
- Facilitator: Vivien Stewart
- Faculty: Kai-Ming Cheng

Creating a Career Ladder to Support 21st Century School Systems

How can cities ensure an effective, motivated teacher and school leader workforce through opportunities for professional growth and leadership? What are effective approaches to recruitment, training, compensation, and accountability?

- Case Study: Singapore, Shanghai
- Facilitator: Linda Darling-Hammond
- Faculty: Seattle

Teacherpreneurs: Reform on the Ground

Teacher leaders from GCEN cities will speak on the themes of the Symposium. What role do teacher leaders have in education reform? What role do they see for the teaching and assessment of 21st century skills in their cities/schools? How can induction and career ladders be improved to ensure quality instruction?

- Presenters: CTQ Teachers
- Facilitator: Barnett Berry
- Faculty: Seoul

12:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Lunch and Panel Discussion

The Politics of Assessment: Balancing Accountability and Student Learning

Who are the key constituencies and what are the contending policy considerations that influence assessment policy? How are cities addressing these tensions? What would a “balanced” assessment system comprise that effectively uses a variety of school-based and system wide approaches? How can assessment systems both measure and promote student learning?

- Panel: Denver, Melbourne, Tom Corcoran, Lee Sing Kong
- Facilitator: Linda Darling-Hammond
- Faculty: Marc Tucker

1:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

GCEN City Team Consultation

How will we use what we have learned? Where do we want to go deeper?

2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Next Steps for the GCEN

Teams will report on what they plan to do to leverage international learning over the next 12 months to improve their systems.

- Facilitator: Tony Jackson

3:00 p.m.

Adjourn