Internationalizing is not a predominant theme in technology education either in the United States or in Europe. However, the case for internationalizing education and technology education is compelling, especially since the goal of promoting genuine understanding and tolerance is accepted. Four major purposes or themes for internationalization include analysis of the world as a series of interrelated systems, perspectives on the development of modern civilization, cultural understanding, and preparation of citizens to make public policy. Respect for diversity and the concept of sustainable development might well be added to the preceding themes. The essence of internationalization is collaboration, not competition. Based on a literature review, research, and personal experience, a sample list of possibilities can be suggested for evolving a plan for internationalization of technology education. These suggestions fall into the following categories: practice (teaching of technology education in elementary and secondary schools), research, student association activity, graduate education and university faculty, professional association activity, school administration and state departments, and university administration. The key to progress towards internationalization is systematic planning and support of multiple points of contact across the entire faculty, student, and administrator body. Frequent and extended contact are also critical features. (The paper lists 67 references and 41 associations and 18 agencies operating in the internationalization arena.) (KC)
Internationalizing Technology Education

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Mississippi Valley Conference
Chicago, November 12-13, 1992
Internationalizing Technology Education: An exploration of the possibilities

The context for internationalization

Today, we give much lip service to the notion that many aspects of our society are increasingly international in nature. The globalization of national economies, information systems and corporate competition are widely recognized. Not surprisingly, our own profession, education in this case, has called for an increasing level of internationalization. Similarly, it is not hard to find technology education leaders who call for a similar thrust in our own part of the larger profession. The bad news, however, is that by and large, we must conclude that the bulk of this is lip service. Frankly, when examining our profession, unbiased observers will be forced to conclude that we do far more talking about than actually internationalizing our programs.

The following points should provide evidence supporting the above conclusion. These points are intended as representative samples of the state of our, i.e., technology education, profession. Note that the intent is merely to document a pervasive condition in our profession, not to assign blame.

- The ITEA and the TED are not truly international nor are most of our other professional associations in technology education. E.g., there is no effective way for an international practitioner to hold major office; we have not held our conferences overseas; international professionals are not routinely represented on our journals' editorial boards, and international/global education very rarely surfaces in our publication lists.

- The mainstream thinking of our profession is not yet international, witness the absence of internationalization in the CTTE monograph on graduate education (Wright, 1991). Nor is our nation alone in this. The EGTB (n.d.), and UNESCO as evidenced in Morris (1986), both genuinely international groups, speak much more of sharing ideas across nations rather than infusing a systematic internationalization thrust into and throughout the curriculum. Nor do our research thrusts generally propose international dimensions, e.g., Waetjen's (1989) proposal for a problem-solving research project. Similarly, one of our field's basics, Colelli's (1989) Technology education-A primer, does not mention internationalization—an omission also perpetrated by Barnette (1990). Barnette's dissertation did not identify internationalization or globalization as one of the 24 key concepts defining technological literacy nor did Householder & Boser's (1990) program assessment model. Neither does the Holmes group (n.d.) allude to internationalization in their document Tomorrow's schools.

Internationalizing is simply not a predominant theme in technology education either here or overseas, e.g. ITEA publications list, TVEI Developments, the technology education demonstration projects as described in Wicklein et al.'s...
The case for internationalization

Notwithstanding the previous section, the case for internationalizing education and technology education is compelling. It has been presented most cogently by Lauda (1992) in addressing the International Conference on Technology Education in Weimar, Germany. Essentially the reasons tend to be either altruistic, or competition oriented. Such efforts serve to address the challenge of students being *internationally undernourished* (Lauda, 1992) and their goal is to promote genuine understanding and tolerance. Additionally, of increasing importance is the comparability and portability of worker qualifications. The OECD has characterized much of the force towards internationalization as techno-globalism.

Purpose

Given our profession's sincere interest in internationalizing, my intent in this paper is to present a rubric to guide our efforts in internationalizing. Additionally, I will present an exploration of selected possibilities for activities. Then, appended to this paper is a set of resources that should prove helpful to members who wish to pursue matters in this vein.

One caveat is important. Since the international sphere of activity is so vast, we need to be very humble and know that one doesn't know. For example, I've been to 15 countries yet I know that I know less and less each time I travel to a new country—there is just so much to know—and even more to understand!

What is Technology Education

Technology education is the place where the rubber meets the road. It is not theory, an abstraction or rhetoric. It is real. As such it consists of practice at all levels of education, from K-12, and beyond into post secondary and university levels. It also includes the research conducted to improve the profession and to chart new directions for it. Additionally, it includes the developmental initiatives of all
engaged in delivering it, i.e., the inservice and professional development of its practitioners. Be careful to note that it exists as a continuum of programs, both in and outside of the school. The combined practice field is depicted in Figure 1.

![Diagram of Association Activity, Graduate Education, Teacher Education, Elementary/Secondary, Post Secondary, Professional Development, Other... Research & Development]

Figure 1. Graphic representation of technology education's practice field

### Nature of internationalization

Internationalization is our response to the increasing globalization of perspective and practice that we observe in the world. Lauda (1992) cites four major purposes or themes for internationalization:

*The Study Commission on Global Education (1987) in the United States identified four basic themes for global education. While these were written for U.S. educators and all disciplines, they offer “food for thought” for those engaged in technology education in all nations (Kerr, 1987, pp. 17-22). Most assuredly they offer unique opportunities for helping students internalize concepts such as “limits,” “mutual causality,” “interdependence,” “equilibrium,” “systems,” and “irreversibility” which seem to be conspicuously absent in our content base. The four basic themes were:*

1. **Analyses of the world as a series of interrelated systems** (physical, biological, economic, political, communication and evaluative). A unique opportunity is provided for infusing concepts and information on such topics as global production systems, finite resources/infinite demands, resource distribution, ecological issues, the information age, technology assessment, etc.

2. **Perspectives on the development of modern civilization.** The study of technology has a temporal dimension, a history which has altered human history. The development and implementation of technologies which developed world-wide make a rich resource for content derivation.
3. **Cultural understanding.** Technology, as a primary determinant of culture, must be explored in terms of its reason for existence and its impact on the humans, the natural environment and our basic institutions.

4. **Preparation of citizens to make public policy.** Students need to recognize technological problems/opportunities and achieve the ability to resolve/utilize them in a technological environment. Today’s technological society mandates the ability to identify problems, unravel complexities and find connections and assume responsibility for a global social consciousness.

Respect for diversity might well be added to the preceding themes as well as the concept of sustainable development. The latter leads directly to the concept of appropriate technology which Budgett-Meakin (1990) explains with "'sustainable development' as defined in the Brundtland report (1981) cited development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs”

In addressing these themes, we typically seek to develop faculty and student understanding of and capability with a set of key concepts which are central to internationalization:

- **Lauda (1992)**
  - Limits
  - Mutual causality
  - Interdependence
  - Equilibrium
  - Systems
  - Irreversibility

- **Dyrenfurth**
  - Geographic literacy
  - Parallel between internal and external perspective

- **Ballisteri**
  - Types of impacts
    - environmental
    - technical
    - financial
    - social
  - Technology assessment
  - How and why technology has had an impact on people's lives

- **O'Neil (1989)**
  - The study of human values
  - The study of global systems
  - The study of global problems & issues
  - The study of the history of contacts and interdependence among, peoples, cultures and nations

- **Pytlik et al. (1991)**
  - Irreversibility of technological change
  - Interaction between technology, society and culture
  - Technology and world awareness
  - Technology and individual decisions

- **Maley**
  - Competitiveness and collaboration
  - Peacekeeping and war
  - Governmental operation
  - Communication
  - Financial data systems
  - Commerce
  - Technology education as life long education
  - Civic procedures
Five common objectives from the European ministers of education statement, *Conclusions on cooperation and community policy in the field of education in the run-up to 1993*. They characterize much of the intent driving globalization around the world with:

1. **A multicultural Europe**
   - strengthening young people's sense of belonging to a European community by developing the European dimension in teaching and teacher training
   - the progressive achievement of genuine multilingualism by promoting foreign language teaching in school, university and vocational training systems
   - taking the variety of cultural approaches into account in education and training systems
   - drawing educational and training establishments closer together

2. **A mobile Europe**
   - the free movement of persons and ideas, in particular systems for the recognition of diplomas and for establishing the comparability of vocational training qualifications
   - support for youth exchanges and for training periods abroad for teachers, instructors, pupils, students, and education administrators,
   - the introduction of procedures providing teachers with the opportunity to teach temporarily in educational establishments of other Community Member States.

3. ...

*(CEDEFOP News 1989, December #5, p. 2)*

Given the preceding, it is clear that a person's capacity to secure and internalize international perspectives is enhanced if he/she possesses a significant language capability. This capability contributes so much to understanding and sensitivities, that we in the technology education profession must address ourselves to ways by which we can encourage development of our personal, and that of our colleagues' and students', foreign language capability.

It is also useful to spend some time thinking about what internationalization is not. For example, comparative education is not internationalization! Indeed, the latter is not any single activity or perspective. That would be to hope for a "bandaid" that could be easily applied and soon forgotten. Internationalization is not the enhancing of our nation's position relative to other nations on comparative tests as described by Bracey (1992, October). Furthermore, given the altruism vested in the movement's key concepts, it does not ring true to base our arguments for internationalization on our decreased competitiveness. The very essence of internationalization is collaboration **not** competition.

Internationalization, in the mindset of those who champion it, is a "through to the bone" systemic change in individual and group perspective. It is based on understanding and mastery of some key concepts and their routine application—not
just when someone is looking or when we encounter a "foreigner". Internationalization is more than just knowing about other nations and regions instead it seeks to help students "understand, and deal with the connections and ties that today link individuals and peoples the world over" (Becker, cited by O'Niel, 1989, p. 2).

**Implications for implementation**

It is clear that much will have to be done to implement a viable program of internationalization of technology education. Lauda (1992) has suggested drafting an "action plan" to better organize how we accomplish the task of internationalization. Based on a literature review, research and personal experience, the author has compiled a sample list of possible actions that may prove useful in evolving such a plan. The possibilities are categorized according to the model provided by Figure 1's depiction of the practice of the profession. As such, the main categories of suggestions are:

- Practice, i.e. teaching of technology education in elementary & secondary schools
- Research
- Student association activity
- Graduate education and university faculty
- Professional association activity
- School administration and state departments
- University administration

**Practice at elementary, secondary & post secondary levels**

- participate in international students exchange programs
- incorporation of internationalization concepts into the curriculum as well as geography and economic components
- infuse international studies perspective into basic social studies courses, history, political science, geography. (Holderman, 1983)
- participate in international teacher exchange programs
- communication with sister classes in international settings
- engage in international space simulations, joint production, competitions, joint design, student association work
- enhance the language facility of teachers and students
- capitalize on community resources appropriate to internationalization, e.g., corporations doing business abroad
- have students apply international concepts to local situations
- share resources on a global basis (i.e., content, instructional (strategies) using new communication systems, e.g., INTERNET, FIDONET
- capitalize on foreign students/faculty and/or discipline strengths, e.g., German pedagogics & didactics, Dutch primary technology education
experience, British design and problem solving, African appropriate technology.

- extend personal invitations to foreign colleagues to visit, work, vacation, tour or whatever.
- offer to help international student and/or faculty exchange agencies with local arrangements. Examples of such agencies include student exchange programs, Rotary and other service clubs, etc.
- when foreign visitors tour your site, have them make a presentation and videotape it for future use.
- participate in international corporate linkage/training programs

Research

- engage in international co-authorship of technology education materials.
- engage in research activities conducted jointly by educators from two or more countries. Perhaps our field's best examples of collaborative research is the PATT research. Although it is somewhat limited in concept, it is an exceptionally useful example and it was/is genuinely valuable in bringing brought the people together. Fruitful/promising areas for future collaborative research might be assessment, problem-solving, didactics and foundation/theory building.
- compare the differences in impact of a technology in varying cultures
- incorporate international information sources in reviews of the literature
- insure that key international research journals are in library and require graduate students to review them
- participate in the international round table of scholars of technology education
- systematically infuse international information by subscribing to foreign journals in the categories of general information, technical and professional journals
- develop cultural/education analyses/comparisons across countries of interest, e.g.:
  - comparing the objectives of technology and vocational/technical education
  - comparing evaluative criteria used to judge programs
  - analyzing the flow of students from education system component to component

Student association

- interface TSA, TECA and/or local association chapters to overseas student associations
- invite exchange teams of association officers to participate in chapter or association activities
- share international linkages with other associations
• develop packet to help visitors understand our operation and field of action

**Graduate education & university faculty**

• audit your program from the perspective of an international student. Conduct a follow-up evaluation targeted on identifying your international students' assessment of their experience. Include internationalization questions in addition to program evaluation ones.

• conduct special international student advisement sessions for those enrolled in your programs. Give them a chance to talk out their feelings. Recognize the cultural differences that affect interaction patterns.

• consult with international development corporations, e.g., Bechtel, Daniels, ITECO, Westinghouse, RCA, General Electric, Academy for Educational Development, etc. Recognize that this is typically a long-term exercise, that it requires much up front investment and that the players change rapidly.

• look for bilateral and country specific agencies such as the German Marshal Fund, The GTZ, etc. I have found that the consulate's educational attaché is often very helpful in identifying these.

• participate in delivering papers at overseas conferences and then take an active part in their conferences.

• prepare recruitment and program information materials targeted especially on international students and their special needs for information and security.

• serve as foreign student association advisor

• serve, remotely and in person, on external doctoral committees for overseas students.

• serve on institutional international education committees

• plan and conduct study (course-based and credit granting) tours to foreign countries. Perhaps these are more likely to succeed when serving a consortium of universities and a larger region. Arrange for reciprocal credit to encourage enrollment.

• setup personal foreign study tours. Careful preparation and research is essential here. Plan to incorporate visits to key international and national agencies, e.g., UNESCO, ILO, OECD, and while there be sure to scan their libraries and publication arms. Similarly, get the UNESCO overview of each country's education system and then visit local schools/universities and their administrative agencies as appropriate.

• establish student and faculty exchanges with specific goals in mind to advance international perspectives.

• incorporate parts of the non-taught (research only) Ph.D. degree

• consider the practice of inviting an external examiner from overseas

• capitalize on international graduate students to build a bank of resources and understanding, e.g., have graduate students with language capability translate foreign articles.
• conduct seminars/professional development activities promoting international linkage via BITNET, INTERNET, JANET etc.
• permit a "semester abroad" as part of the degree program
• teach classes abroad
• establish contacts with educational attaches of nearest embassies
• remember that the faculty's personal interaction is the key to promotion of significant international contact and understanding
• develop a departmental and/or institutional international capability statement
• include international activity as a section in each faculty resume and annual evaluation procedure
• note that an infusion of internationalization concepts across much of the curriculum is necessary. However, this is not sufficient. Particularly for graduate school, it would seem wise to offer a special course focusing on international aspects of our profession and on the internationalization of our thinking. Note that this too is not sufficient. Indeed, both approaches must be employed for maximum effect.

Association activity
• jointly plan a conference between two or more associations, e.g., ITEA, TED and EGTB or between a local/state association and its sister state or city association.
• develop a "mission statement" committing educators from all nations to internationalization of the curriculum.
• work to make our associations, e.g., the ITEA and TED more genuinely international
• provide support to help other associations develop programs of work
• exchange officer teams
• create visitor association slots in our conferences
• provide for conference participation and association membership by professionals from countries without currency conversion capability
• facilitate international journal exchange. Seed key associations, libraries and people with subscriptions
• de-emphasize the competitiveness rationale from our promotional statements
• create an international column in our journals
• carry articles in other languages, with English abstracts, or invite translation and recognize contribution of translators
• strengthen the internationalization component of the CTTE standards
• formally join world wide networks such as WOCATE and ICASE
School administration & state departments

- establish communication channels for administrators, teachers, and students, e.g., satellite linkage
- develop an international capability statement that outlines what your department and institution's strengths are with respect to international activity.
- evolve bilateral reciprocity and/or development programs with specific institutions overseas. Be creative, for example UMC is involved in one that has us serve as a professional development/graduate education site for Chinese faculty from a specific university and in turn, they serve to provide Chinese language training sites for our students (not in our department).
- schedule foreign faculty to teach a regular course in your program.
- pool satellite uplink/downlink access via participation in consortia, e.g., the Missouri School Boards Association's Educational Satellite Network, the Star Schools Program, etc.
- establish subscriptions to international and foreign journals
- have librarians secure international and foreign resources and feature them in a special section in the library
- develop a plan to capture/tap into the international people in your community
- link the various curriculum development centers internationally

University administration

- recognizing that costs need to be controlled everywhere, conduct faculty development seminars on how to use E-mail to take advantage of efficient and low or no cost communication. Establish how one can access the networks, e.g., BITNET, INTERNET, FIDONET, JANET overseas in the countries you are most interested in.
- use the experimental program provision of state teacher certification rules to promote reciprocal certification. Infuse foreign approaches to pedagogics/didactics, language facility development (French, Spanish, German, Russian, Japanese, ...), and comparative education into experimental teacher education programs
- establish international internship opportunities
- rethink travel policies, e.g., negotiate bulk travel with airlines
- establish housing capabilities for international visitors by capitalizing on surplus dorm space
- require an international component in all degree programs
- suspiciously guard against any central "international" office becoming too powerful. The object is to encourage multiple diverse and ubiquitous strengths through the faculty, not a few well-traveled, well-meaning administrators.
• establish an international contacts and linkage database accessible to all
• involve international faculty in professional development efforts
• match faculty personal investment in international travel
• capture university-paid travel frequent flyer miles on all 100% covered trips of all administrators and faculty
• consider translation the equivalent of co-authoring an article in faculty assessment procedures
• restructure sabbatical programs to encourage international contact

Summary

The key to progress towards internationalization is systematic planning and support of multiple points of contact across the entire faculty/student/administrator body. Frequency and repeated contact are also critical features as is extended contact. These characteristics tend to mitigate against shallow, pseudo-understandings. A collaborative planning effort involving international participants would seem desirable so that the entire thrust is launched in a way that models the desired behavior. The generation of a possibilities/goals matrix could well form the initial activity of such a planning effort.

Ultimately, however, the dream of internationalization is realized in the individual and collective mindsets of faculty, students, researchers and administrators. It is this liberalization of what tends to be a strongly ethnocentric perspective that must be nurtured. It will be a long-term task and one that requires ongoing commitment by all. We must incorporate a sustainable reform to enable us all to live together in our global village.

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MJD/MV-92


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Mission

WOCATE's mission shall be to promote technological literacy for all people through the facilitation of communication, encouragement of cooperation, and the development of technology education throughout the World.

Goals

The goals of WOCATE are to focus international efforts towards:
- the enhancement of the quality of technology education
- recognition of technology's diverse nature and the importance of the interface between technology and the natural world
- establishment of Technology Education as a priority area of learning
- establishment of the right of all persons to participate in Technology education
- enhancement of communication among Technology Educators throughout the world
- clarification of the interface between technology education and other discipline areas
- recognition of the role of Technology Education in life-long learning, and
- the promotion of research.

Realization

WOCATE is an umbrella organization for the world's Technology Education associations. The organization's goals shall be realized by the development of an organizational structure, policies, and a program of work that encourages and facilitates:
- liaison with key international agencies
- establishment of networks
- sharing and dissemination of information
- identification of emerging needs, and
- research into Technology Education, its nature and interface with other disciplines, society, industry, economics and the environment.
The text content is a list of sample associations operating in the internationalization arena (draft list). The list includes various organizations with their respective addresses and contact information. The list covers a wide range of organizations from different countries and regions, including Canada, Argentina, the United States, France, Argentina, and more. Each entry provides the name of the association, its location, and contact details such as addresses and phone numbers. The text is formatted in a clear and straightforward manner, making it easy to read and understand. The list is comprehensive, covering a broad spectrum of educational and technological associations.
European Society for Technology Education (EGTB)
Postfach 10 11 39, Graf-Hecke Strasse 84 (VDI Haus), D-4000 Düsseldorf-Düsseltal 1
Germany

French Association AFPA
B.P. 18, St. Etienne - Rou Vaay, 76800 France

Fundacion Empresarial Para El Desarrollo Educativo
VIP 162, P.O. Box 52-0656, El Salvador

Gesellschaft für Arbeit, Technik und Wirtschaft im Unterricht e.V.
c/o Professor H. Sellin, President, Postfach 2503, 2900 Oldenburg, Germany

GIFOP INEURA Association
15 rue des Frères Lumière, B.P. No. 1227, 68054 Mulhouse Cedex, France

Hungarian Association for Research on History in Technology Education
c/o Dr. Ervin Szűcs, Eötvös University, Faculty of Sciences
Department of School Technology Education
Rákóczi ut 5., Budapest H-1088, Hungary

International Council of Associations for Science Education, c/o Dennis Chisman,
ICASE Honorary Treasurer, Knapp Hill, South Harting, Petersfield GU31 5LR
United Kingdom

International Council of Scientific Unions

International Design & Technology Education Conference Series, c/o John Sowerby
Scottish Consultative Council on the Curriculum, 17 St John Street
Edinburgh EH8 8DG, Scotland

International Federation of Training & Development Organisations
c/o Ken Gardner, Honorary Secretary, 22 Sapperton
Glos GL7 6LQ, United Kingdom

International Organization for Science and Technology Education

International Society for Engineering Education
c/o Prof. A. Melizenek

International Vocational Education & Training Association, c/o Joel Magisos
P.O. Box 954, Powell, OH 43210, USA

N. Yorkshire Schools and Industry Association, c/o C. Briant
Park Grove School, Dudley Street, York, YO3 7LG, United Kingdom

National Association of Advisers & Inspectors for Design & Technology
c/o Omry Bailey, Cheshire County Council, Education Professional Services
County Hall, Chester CH1 1SQ, United Kingdom

Philippine Society for Training and Development
Room 400, National Life Building, Ayala Avenue, Makati, Metro Manila, Philippines

Physics Teacher Association (Students at age 16-19)
Slotsgade 2,3, DK-2200 Copenhagen, Denmark

Pupils Attitude Towards Technology, c/o Dr. Marc de Vries
HG 9.29 PO Box 513, Eindhoven University of Technology, 5600 MB Eindhoven
The Netherlands

Saprogex
17 Rte De la Reine, 92100 Boulogne Billancourt, France
Sample agencies operating in the internationalization arena (draft list)

CEDEFOP, European Center for the Development of Vocational Training,
Bundesallee 22, D-1000 Berlin 15, Germany.
CINTERFOR
COMETT
Commission of the European Communities
Commonwealth Secretariat, Marlborough House, Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5XH,
United Kingdom
EuroTecNet
Ford Foundation
Institute of International Education (IIE), 809 United Nations Plaza, NYC 10017
International Labor Organization, Geneva, Switzerland
NATO (Advanced study institutes, advanced research workshops, collaborative research grants)
OECD, 2 rue André-Pascal, 75775 Paris Cedex 16, France
Organization of American States, Washington, D.C.
The Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES)
The International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX), 655 third Avenue, NYC 10017.
UNESCO, Paris, France
UNESCO Institute for Education, Hamburg, Germany
United States Information Agency (USIA), Washington, D.C.
USAID, GTZ, CIDA...(national international aid agencies)
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Editors: Prof. Dr. Dietrich Blandow & Prof. Dr. Michael Dyrenfurth

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