Happy Holidays from Global Connect

UCI Visits
All three of our site schools visited UC Irvine, bringing over 300 excited and energetic ninth grade students to campus. Highlights included our keynote speakers, Program Director of OEOD Prany Sananikone, Associate Director or EAOP Santana Ruiz, and Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Mark Petracca. Students got their exercise in during the campus tours and walk to the ARC. They gained valuable insights from our undergraduate interns at our student panels. Everyone’s highlight of the day seemed to be at Pippin Commons, with our special performance from all-male a cappella group Circle of Fifths. For more information about our visits, check out our article at http://www.socsci.uci.edu/node/25042.

Introduction to Globalization
This unit kicked off the new 2013-2014 school year introducing students to the forces, events, individuals, and issues that define the increasing interaction and interdependence of the people and nations of the world. Topics ranged from immigration, to the globalization of science, to the water crisis, to inequality. Thank you to our wonderful faculty [Dr. Alao and Dr. Gilmore] and graduate students [Michael Briante and Sheefteh Khalili] of the Social Sciences for collaborating with Global Connect, and serving as academic advisors and presenters in the classroom!

Project of Change
Students just ended the five week unit on the Project of Change, in which they were introduced to the United Nations Millennium Development Goals and the role of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). As a capstone project, students worked together to create their very own NGOs on local issues that they personally care about. Examples included feeding the homeless with Sandwiches for Salvation, TRAKS focusing on gender and sports equality, and CLEARTH addressing the water crisis. See the photos on the web at: http://flic.kr/s/aHsjPgHyRh

News
Bon Voyage to our site supervisors Celina Gore (Hong Kong) and Karla Castillo (DC). Thanks for a spectacular Fall Quarter. We will miss you!

Welcome back Grant Speckert and Henry Kan from UCDC!

Congratulations to our Interns of the month!
These interns were recognized for their commitment and dedication to both the program and their students, and for going above and beyond the role of an intern. Thank you all and keep up the good work!

October – Christian Castaneda (LHHS), Sunny Thai (ETHS), and Cindy Yan (MVHS)

November - Briana Giarretto (ETHS)

Thank you to our amazing host teachers for their unending commitment and support!
Mrs. Avila and Mr. Weinberger at Laguna Hills, Mrs. Arroyo at El Toro and Mr. Opskins and Mr. Ashbach at Mission Viejo. Welcome our newest teacher, Mr. Ashbach!