

**QEP: The Global Citizens Project**  
University of South Florida, Tampa  
Dr. Karla Davis-Salazar, [Karladavis@usf.edu](mailto:Karladavis@usf.edu); (813-974-5444)

Executive Summary

The University of South Florida has developed a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) designed to prepare students to lead meaningful and productive lives in a global society. Entitled the Global Citizens Project, USF's QEP advances USF's mission and strategic goals as a global research university dedicated to student success through the establishment of curricula and co-curricula designed to enhance student learning in areas related to global citizenship and improve student perceptions of globally related institutional opportunities. The topic was selected based on USF's mission and strategic plan, USF's 2005 QEP, recent USF trends and successes, and institutional assessment data.

The goal of the Global Citizens Project is to develop students' willingness and ability to engage meaningfully and effectively with diverse people, places, events, challenges, and opportunities – USF's definition of a global citizen. To achieve this goal, we have constructed a testable developmental model of global citizenship focused on three competencies: 1) Global Awareness, 2) Global Responsibility, and 3) Global Participation. Accompanying learning outcomes for each competency attending to the affective/conative and cognitive domains provide measurable indicators of learning gains.

To achieve anticipated learning gains, we have defined three programmatic goals targeting the curriculum and the co-curriculum. These goals are: 1) to provide students with an introduction to global competencies through the globalization of general education and capstone course offerings, 2) to provide students with opportunities to practice and apply global competencies through the globalization of degree programs, and 3) to provide students with opportunities to reinforce global competencies through the creation of a Global Citizen Awards program.

With a total budget of \$5,000,000 over eight years, significant human and financial resources are dedicated to support student success, professional development, and assessment of the Global Citizens Project. These include study abroad scholarships, library enhancements, a suite of assessment instruments, and new hiring lines. Several new professional development opportunities, including workshops, learning communities, and a conference, will be developed to support faculty and staff in the redesign of programs and curricula.

Assessment of student learning within the Global Citizens Project relies on existing direct and indirect measures in the published literature as well as internally crafted instruments adapted to our institutional context and developmental model of global citizenship. Existing operational systems and established performance metrics related to program goals enable close monitoring of the progress of the Global Citizens Project.

The Global Citizens Project was developed over the course of a year and a half and represents the work of all university constituencies – faculty, staff, students, alumni, and administrators. Through focus groups, surveys, town halls, a dedicated website and email account, development and implementation teams, and many formal and informal presentations at various university council and committee meetings, we have created a QEP that incorporates a broad range of campus perspectives and expertise.

Please contact Dr. Karla L. Davis-Salazar, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies and Director of the Global Citizens Project, for additional information ([karladavis@usf.edu](mailto:karladavis@usf.edu)).