

ABSTRACT

“Negotiating Definitions and Manifestations of Values for a Culturally Diverse Global Civil Society”: A Keynote Address on the Themes of the 14th Triennial Conference of the World Council for Curriculum and Instruction by Betty A. Reardon, Founding Director Emeritus, International Institute on Peace Education, Pecs, Hungary, July 13, 2010

As educators concerned with preparing learners to be active, constructive and responsible citizens of a global civil society, we are challenged by how we ourselves learn the skills and capacities of becoming an essential component of that society. If global citizenship is to become a political reality for most of the human family, then we educators who have the opportunity to collaborate in our striving toward commonly held professional goals must take on the roles of practitioners of and as well as instruction in global civic responsibility.

Reflection on the themes of this 14th WCCI conference provide participants with a unique and appropriate occasion in which to consider how this council might facilitate our taking on the practitioner as well as the instructor role in negotiating our own conceptual and practical definitions of democracy, freedom and entrepreneurship. This presentation will address that negotiation as a learning process through which we prepare ourselves for practical collaboration within WCCI, with other professional associations and with our students, so as strengthen to role of education in the evolution of a viable world polity infused with practical manifestations of the values integral to these three theme concepts