



# International Education in the Schools

Asia Society's monthly digest of news and events in K-12 international education.  
April 2007

To share international education events that are of interest to leaders and educators throughout the country, please email: [hsingmaster@asiasociety.org](mailto:hsingmaster@asiasociety.org).

## In this issue

- **Goldman Sachs Foundation Youth Prize**
- International Education and Foreign Languages Are Key: New Federal Reports
- National Essential Skills Survey
- Preparing Our Graduates
- Grants and Opportunities

### International Education and Foreign Languages Are Key: New Federal Reports

*International Education and Foreign Languages: Keys to Securing America's Future*, a new report from the National Research Council, finds that more support from all levels of the U.S. education system is needed to develop an integrated approach to improving foreign language skills and expertise on other cultures, beginning in the primary grades. The U.S. Department of Education's programs to strengthen education in foreign languages and international and area studies, known as Fulbright- Hays and Title VI, have had some positive results, such as boosting the instruction of more than 250 uncommonly taught languages and the development of curricular materials. Funding and staffing however, have not continued to grow as the programs have expanded and the report recommends that additional resources be allocated to develop an integrated approach beginning in K-12 to address this critical need. It also recommends that a high-ranking official be appointed by the President to coordinate these efforts. Click below to view the report.

### World History and Geography on the Rise

Another new report, *America's High School Graduates: Results from the 2005 NAEP High School Transcript Study*, shows that enrollment in world history and world geography classes by U.S. high schools students has risen faster over the past 15 years than

## Goldman Sachs Foundation Youth Prize



### Five Prizes of \$10,000 Each to Be Awarded to High School Students

Asia Society and The Goldman Sachs Foundation are pleased to announce the 2007 Goldman Sachs Foundation Youth Prize for Excellence in International Education. The 2007 competition asks students to select a problem or challenge that affects their local community as well as a community outside the United States; to create an in-depth written, audio, video, or animated feature that compares and contrasts how these two communities have addressed the issue; and to explain why these

enrollment in any other social science course. To view the report [click here](#).

[National Academies Report »](#)

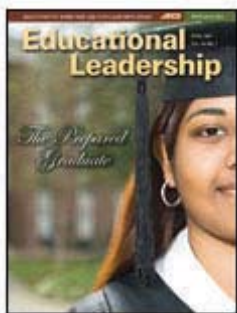
### **National Essential Skills Survey**

When everything is a priority, nothing is a priority. The International Center for Leadership in Education is conducting a nationwide study to identify what are considered to be the most essential skills and knowledge in the core areas of English, mathematics, science, and social studies that all students should master to be successful after they graduate from high school. The NESS is an updated version of the International Center's 1998 Curriculum Survey of Essential Skills, expanded to include social studies in recognition of the recent demand to improve social studies instruction as a result of a world economy that continues to grow more interdependent.

Take the survey and show your support for international education. (You can answer the questions for all subject areas or just social studies).

[NESS Survey »](#)

### **Preparing Our Graduates**



"The Prepared Graduate," is the focus of the April edition of *Educational Leadership*, the magazine of the ASCD. Articles focus on the characteristics, skills and knowledge that students will need to survive and thrive in the 21st century. The lead article by Vivien Stewart, Vice President, Education, Asia Society, discusses the importance of skills in world languages and cultures to prepare our students to be globally literate citizens.

[Educational Leadership »](#)

### **Grants and Opportunities**

**Student Fulbright Competition:** The competition for the 2008-2009 student Fulbright awards will open on May 1, 2007. For more information [click here](#).

**STARTALK 2007**, a National Security Language Initiative administered by the National Foreign Language Center at the University of Maryland, will provide summer programs in Arabic and Chinese for high school students, and professional development programs for prospective and current teachers in K-12 public and private schools, heritage language schools, and community college and university faculty members. Thirty-four institutions from twenty-two states and the District of Columbia will host these programs. Click below for more information.

[STARTALK »](#)

approaches reflect the different cultural backgrounds of those involved, and what lessons the different communities could learn from each other. Five winners will be selected and will receive up to \$10,000 each as well as an all-expense paid trip to New York City in early November 2007 where they will be recognized at Asia Society's Gala Annual Dinner. Please click below for the contest question, guidelines, rules, and online application. **The deadline for applications is June 11, 2007.**

[Youth Prize](#)

### **Quick Links...**

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