### The Transformative Educator

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Janet M. Bennett, Ph.D. Intercultural Communication Institute Portland, OR The man who finds his homeland sweet is still a tender beginner;

he to whom every soil is as his native one is already strong;

but he is perfect to whom the entire world is a foreign land.

From an obscure 12th century Saxon monk called Hugo of St. Victor in *Global Souls* by Pico Iyer

## Intercultural Competence

is a set of cognitive, affective, and behavioral skills and characteristics that support effective and appropriate interaction in a variety of cultural contexts.



### What are our goals?

 To increase our student's and colleague's knowledge of differences.

\* To increase the knowledge of international students specifically about differences related to diversity issues.



### What are our goals? (cont'd)

\* To increase the knowledge of domestic students specifically about global differences related to international students.

\* To reduce anxiety on everyone's part!



What are the compelling reasons we should integrate diversity and inclusion and intercultural competence... What are the reasons *not* to?

# Exporting diversity initiatives globally can be ethnocentric



Training must include both global and domestic diversity

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#### Who Is Ethnically Diverse?



#### MISSION STATEMENT

Fostering a more inclusive, aware and socially just community by:

Fostering DIALOGUE that explores issues of identity, diversity and social justice.

Supporting the diverse COMMUNITY in their personal, professional and academic lives.

Creating education initiatives and campus-wide programming that ENGAGE the community.

Cultivating allies and advocates to create and promote positive CHANGE.

Mission statements urge the workforce to value, respect and appreciate diversity

#### Global competency demands local competency; Local competence is now global



# Understanding and sharing privilege is essential to intercultural competence.

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Social Justice

Education challenges us to cross barriers created by prejudice



Ma maison - notre Suisse



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#### **Made in Switzerland**



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#### The Work of Thomas Pettigrew and Linda Tropp: <u>When Groups Meet</u>

There are three widely studied mediators of how contact affects prejudice:
New knowledge about the other group
Anxiety reduction
Empathy with the other group

#### Pettigrew and Tropp (continued)

- \* Anxiety reduction is essential; reducing threat and uncertainty helps create a context in which positive interaction can take place.
- \* Empathy and perspective taking are far more important than knowledge.
- Recent research suggests that knowledge is useful, but of minor importance.



### Anxiety Reduction

# Empathy

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Knowledge About the Other Group

