Title of Project:
Realizing College and Culture (RCC)

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Type of Grant (check all that apply):
______ Curriculum Transformation (ex. Projects that develop material(s) that can be used in university courses.)
___X___ Student Recruitment & Retention (ex. Projects that would encourage a more diverse student body at EWU and/or address barriers in recruiting and retaining students.)
___X___ Campus Climate (ex. Projects that would make Eastern’s campus climate more inclusive and welcoming of different perspectives.)
___X___ Community Engagement (ex. Projects that would involve various members of the local or regional community.)

Which of the Following Priorities Does the Project Meet? (Check all that apply.)
___X___ Project is collaborative, interdisciplinary, and/or interdepartmental.
___X___ Project helps to further EWU’s mission and the EWU Board of Trustees’ Diversity Initiative Plan.
___X___ Project will have long term impact and positive and lasting change.
___X___ Project improves understanding of the diverse groups represented on EWU’s campus.
___X___ Project uses innovative and unique approaches to helping EWU become a diverse institution.

Project Summary:

The Realizing College and Culture (RCC) program is a collaborative project between English as a Second Language, Modern Languages, Education, Social Work, and the English Development program at Lewis and Clark High School that will increase students' cultural competence; EWU’s campus cultural competence; act as a recruiting tool for highly promising refugee students, and provide acculturation assistance for these promising student's families.

The RCC course/internship students would offer weekly mentoring for college. Our students here at EWU in an interdisciplinary effort would connect two to two with the ESL students from LC (Lewis and Clark) with carefully guided assistance enjoy weekly excursions here at EWU to explore the academic, social and arts aspects of our campus culture.

The planned excursions are as follows:

Social/Arts
1. A tour of Pub and eateries
2. Watch a intramural soccer game
3. Attend a football game
4. Attend an EWU theatre production

Academic
1. An (honorarium-supported) motivational presentation at LC by immigrant alumni who have succeeded in obtaining their degree
2. A visit to Admissions to learn how to apply for acceptance to college
3. A visit to Financial Aid to learn how to apply for grants and loans
4. An (honorarium-supported) presentation at LC on work study and how to find jobs on campus
5. A visit to Registration to learn how to register and what counselors do to help students find and take the right courses
6. A visit to the Computer Lab and Academic Support Center(ASC)

Further, twice quarterly the EWU students would offer the families of the LC students the opportunity to come and learn valuable acclimation tools such as:
- How to draft a résumé
- Different forms of getting around town
- How to contact employment agencies
- Information on the American school system
These opportunities would be done by sign up on the part of the families and catered to the issues they feel would best meet their acclimation needs. All needs will be based on family surveys at the end of 2010 LC school year. These will both help families acclimate better, and build a trust between the high school students’ families and the EWU students and faculty.

The vehicle for the RCC program is an unpaid 1 credit internship meeting twice weekly that falls under the Psychology 495 community service internship category, offering hands-on experience for beginning ESL (English as a Second Language), Education, Social Work, and Modern Language and Literatures students.

Projected Time line:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week One</th>
<th>Week Five</th>
<th>Preparation for sixth excursion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to the program</td>
<td>Preparation for third excursion</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week Two</td>
<td>Intramural soccer</td>
<td>Week Ten</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preparation for family acculturation seminar</td>
<td>Week Six</td>
<td>Preparation for seventh excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motivational presentation by immigrant alumni/Acculturation seminar</td>
<td>Week Seven</td>
<td>EWU theatre production</td>
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<td>Week Three</td>
<td>Preparation for family second acculturation seminar</td>
<td>Week Ten</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preparation for first excursion</td>
<td>Financial Aid</td>
<td>Preparation for eighth excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tour of eateries/ Familiarizing session</td>
<td>Week Seven</td>
<td>Computers/Academic Support Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week Four</td>
<td>Preparation for fifth excursion</td>
<td>Week Nine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preparation for second excursion</td>
<td>Football game</td>
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<tr>
<td>Admissions</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The first beneficiaries of this project would be the EWU students from the ESL, Education, Social Work, and when possible, Modern Language departments as they have irreplaceable experience in their fields by increasing their comfort levels, abilities in comprehensible instruction for ELL’s, broadening their second language proficiency, and building peer networks. With support, they would also be able to see firsthand the difficulties these immigrant and refugee students and families face and learn and create new innovative methods for dealing with these.

The second beneficiaries would be the high school students receiving the mentoring. They would be able to understand a process that has eluded other immigrants and refugees for generations. They might be more inclined to obtain college education and the education level of each generation directly effects the following generations likelihood of obtain a degree of equal of high level. * Further, as these students attend this program they will in turn be role models for lower level students who will look forward to following in their shoes, which sets a wonderful example for up and coming LC ELL's (English Language Learners). Having friends here on campus will make the transition from High School to college that much easier, giving these youths faces to look forward to. Likewise EWU’s admissions and recruiting program will gain knowledge on how best to accommodate and foster these invaluable youth.

The third beneficiaries would be the EWU admissions and recruiting programs and campus make up in general. If these students decide to go to college it is likely that they will choose EWU for either a direct education or as transfer students. Through this experience the population and diversity of the Eastern student body will grow. People will have the opportunity to learn about people and their cultures through interaction and fellowships.
Sustainability:

This program was already test piloted in the fall of 2009. The success was measured and the results tallied by Gina Petrie’s ESLG 480 class. The increase in the number of students considering a college education was over double. The session was a singular event. It is the opinion of the ESLG department that these numbers would be even higher and more sustainable if the fostering of these promising students was started earlier, lasted longer, and went into greater depth.

It has been built in that at the beginning of each new session of the RCC program we will allow a student leader shadow to follow us as we fulfill our duties. Thereby, ensuring that the RCC program will remain a student and teacher cooperative, and can continue for many years to come. As student leaders graduate they take with them the legacy the Realizing College and Culture (RCC) program will instill in them of language, education, community service and leadership. And a new trained generation will take over inscribing on the fresh students here at EWU this great and shining promise.

Further it is our aspiration to eventually expand to other high schools and reach other English Language Learners in order to help even more immigrant and refugee students share foster their bright young futures through EWU and college educations. The population of English Language Learners will only continue to grow and with it the schools that need college mentors, and the hope that EWU will be at the forefront of this rich field. Cultivating students for EWU and future professionals for our global market is one goal for the RCC program.