The National Center for Teacher Transformation (NCTT)  
St. Petersburg College (Florida)

What Will Be Demonstrated

In 2003, St. Petersburg College received a grant from the Fund for Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) to establish the National Center for Teacher Transformation (NCTT) to address the need for “new and retooled educators”. With St. Petersburg College extending its mission to include “teacher preparation”, it is changing the landscape of the role of community colleges not only in Florida but across the nation. With a new College of Education, the timing for the establishment of the NCTT is imperative. The mission of the NCTT is to be a viable resource to educators through the identification and dissemination of best practices that also includes current renewal training activities. The NCTT is a:

- **Resource** for the systemic improvement of the quality and effectiveness of the education workforce (teachers and school administrators);
- **Clinical laboratory** for the experimentation of best practices in teaching and learning that significantly impact students' achievement;
- **Clearinghouse** for the dissemination of best practices in effective teaching and learning; and
- **Renewal** resource for the vitality, enthusiasm, and knowledge of teachers and school administrators.

St. Petersburg College is on the cutting edge of establishing partnerships with universities across the nation in its University Partnership Center (UPC). The UPC allows 14 colleges and universities to offer bachelor, master and doctorate degrees on the SPC campuses. The NCTT will build on the efforts and strengths of the collaboratives currently in existence at the UPC. The NCTT's role is to establish creative partnerships for education workforce excellence.

The URL for the NCTT website is http://www.spcollege.edu/nctt

Major Aspects

The St. Petersburg College National Center for Teacher Transformation (NCTT) provides, on its website, resource information via several databases from across the nation. The following links represent a very small sample of articles and resources offered everyday on the homepage of the site.

- Principal Standards
- School Leadership Services
- Math Teachers Share Their Ideas for Engaging Teenagers
- Classroom Calendar Entries Connect
- Math, Science, and Other Subjects
- FADSS Home Page
- Classroom Calendar
- Digital Dozen
- Thomas B. Fordham Foundation

The site also includes an overview, mission, and initiatives of the NCTT; a discussion board and additional resources for best practices.

Motivation for NCTT
The Teaching Commission in its 2004 report, Teaching at Risk: A Call to Action, affirmed that our nation is at a crossroads. We will not continue to lead if we persist in viewing teaching as a second rate occupation. Nothing is more vital to our future than ensuring that we attract and retain the best teachers in our public schools. Two decades ago, the National Commission on Excellence in Education in its report, A Nation at Risk: The Imperative for Educational Reform, echoed the same message and awakened the national consciousness about the poor quality of K-12 education in the United States. Achieve, Inc., The Education Trust, and Thomas B. Fordham Foundation reported in The American Diploma Project: Ready or Not (2004), that the troubling result is that far too many young Americans are graduating from high school without the skills and knowledge they need to succeed. The same issues raised twenty years ago are still raging at the national and state levels. These persistent educational issues necessitated the development of the St. Petersburg College's National Center for Teacher Transformation (NCTT).

Relevant URLs

http://www.spcollege.edu/nctt

http://www.spjc.edu/