THE WHOLISTIC EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM:

A THEORY AND FRAMEWORK FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CURRICULUM

The significance of this chapter in the textbook

*The Internationalization of Curriculum Studies:*

*Selected Proceedings from the LSU Conference 2000*

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In 2003 a summary of the Wholistic Educational System, the author’s attempt to further develop the Anisa Model of Education, was published as "Chapter 2: WES: A Theory and Framework for an International Curriculum" in *The Internationalization of Curriculum Studies: Selected Proceedings from the LSU Conference 2000*, edited by Donna Trueit, William E. Doll, Jr., Hongyu Wang, and William F. Pinar, (New York: Peter Lang Publications, 2003).[[1]](#footnote-1) The summary also includes a chart and three diagrams which are important for understanding the system as a whole.

The back cover states: "The Louisiana State University (LSU) Conference on the internationalization of curriculum studies was held April 27-30, 2000. As a result of this breakthrough meeting, the International Association for the Advancement of Curriculum Studies, the American Association for the Advancement of Curriculum Studies, and the movement within American curriculum studies known as ‘internationalization’ all emerged. This book, which documents the conference proceedings, is an important one for courses in teacher education, foundations of education, and curriculum studies."

The principal editors are quite well known in the curriculum field. William F. Pinar teaches curriculum theory at Louisiana State University, where he serves as the St. Bernard Parish Alumni Endowed Professor. He has also served as the Frank Talbott Professor at the University of Virginia and the A. Lindsay O’Connor Professor of American Institutions at Colgate University. Dr. Pinar is President of the International Association for the Advancement of Curriculum Studies.

William E. Doll, Jr. is Co-Director of the LSU Curriculum Theory Project and Director of LSU’s Holmes elementary education program. He has written *A Postmodern Perspective on Curriculum* (1993) and (edited with Noel Gough) *Curriculum Visions* (Peter Lang, 2002). Dr. Doll is a fellow member of the Association for Process Philosophy of Education that published a summary of WES in its December 1999 number of "Process Papers." The article caught Dr. Doll’s attention and he invited the author to present it at the LSU conference. Of those who presented papers and those who were invited to present them, 93 scholars from 27 nations arrived in Baton Rouge to share and learn. The experience was quite amazing due to the incredible diversity of approaches to and experiences of education. Of the 93 papers presented, 18 were selected for publication. Future plans of the author include the expansion of this chapter into a book.

(Note: This paper and WES have also been presented at the International Dialogue on Education [educators from 7 countries attended] which was sponsored by the Institute of Bahá’í Studies and was held at Louhelen School in Davidson, Michigan in July of 1999; at the ANISA Reunion held as a satellite conference of the Bahá’í Social-Economic Development Conference held in Orlando, Florida during December of 2000; at a teacher training conference at Colegio Bolivar, Cali, Colombia in 2006; and for the staff of Bluefields Outdoor Education in Bogotá in 2008.)

From the year 2000 to 2009 the author used WES to guide program development at Colegio Nueva Granada's middle school in Bogotá, Colombia where he served as the middle school principal. Several members of the faculty were so intrigued that it was decided to spend a weekend at a farm simply to learn more about the background of the system. This event led to three years of teacher training in the Developmental Activities Program (logical, mathematical, and scientific thinking for children) and the birth in 2007 of the Foundation for Multidimensional Education in Colombia (with its headquarters in Cartagena) which uses WES as its philosophical and theoretical framework.

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1. Available via Amazon.com: <https://www.amazon.com/Internationalization-Curriculum-Studies-Proceedings-Conference/dp/0820455903/ref=sr_1_1?crid=2QKLV5OBB0C8A&keywords=The+Internationalization+of+Curriculum+Studies&qid=1698684714&s=books&sprefix=the+internationalization+of+curriculum+studiesblications%2C+2003+%2Cstripbooks-intl-ship%2C1071&sr=1-1> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)