Dear Educational Leader,

To be an educated citizen today means being able to see the world through the eyes of others. It requires that we understand our interconnectedness as part of a global society, and the common problems we must work together to solve. Our ability to take up this challenge is enhanced by having opportunities for an international experience. The University of San Diego is one of the leaders in higher education focused on making an international experience an integral part of students’ education. In the School of Leadership and Education Sciences (SOLES) at the University of San Diego (USD), we are determined to graduate a literate citizenry with the international talent necessary to respond to the demands of a globalized world.

To that end, the Educational Leadership Development Academy (ELDA), a two year graduate program educating leaders, principals, and directors of schools in the USA, proposes to open a dialogue with experienced educational leaders. The need for cooperative efforts at the international level to deal with common educational issues is urgently needed. Many countries already have effective practices that exemplify excellence in education. These practices deserve a forum. Our purpose is to create connections and exchange ideas between our own aspiring leaders and yourself. The goal of this project is to bring people together to build the professional relationships necessary to construct effective leadership practices and support social justice. This project is called the World Educational Leadership Link, or WELL. The name implies reaching deep into the well of resources that currently exists in leadership practitioners throughout the world.

The WELL project will be introduced to the new ELDA cohort of 20 students beginning in September of 2013. We hope to capture the interest of 20 seasoned practitioners throughout the world. Participation is completely voluntary, but we feel confident that the benefits of establishing a professional connection across nations will exceed any demands placed upon participants. The exchange of ideas about educational leadership will inspire and challenge those involved and provide a long-term relationship with professional colleagues and the University of San Diego. Each school leader who collaborates with the project will be appointed affiliate faculty status.

For details please go to: http://www.sandiego.edu/soles/centers-and-research/elda/well-program/

Sincerely,

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