

FOUNDATION FOR MULTIDIMENSIONAL EDUCATION:
(Founded in Spanish-speaking Colombia, hence known as FEM:
Fundación por la Educación Multidimensional)

BACKGROUND, MISSION, VISION, AND GOALS OF FEM

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The Foundation for Multidimensional Education (FEM) focuses on research, publication and training in multidimensional, holistic, integrative and developmental educational systems and programs. FEM places the understanding of the nature of the learner, that is, the nature of human beings, and, necessarily, the nature of the reality within which human beings grow, mature, develop, learn, and live, as a central prerequisite for creating a comprehensive, coherent, logical, and applicable system of education. It holds the manifold aspects of human beings and of reality as a whole to be spiritual, psychological, social, and material in nature. It views human beings as being embedded within a single, seamless, yet multidimensional reality and, at the same time, embodying all dimensions of that reality. FEM draws on the inspiration of the world's faith systems and the humanities, is organismic in its philosophical orientation, and is scientific in its outlook and method. FEM is committed to creating partnerships with governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations to develop capacity in all aspects of multidimensional / holistic / developmental education.

FEM uses the Wholistic Educational System (WES)¹ as a coherent, comprehensive, and conceptual framework to orient and organize its work. WES is founded on a set of philosophical first principles and corollary principles and is informed by faith systems, by the humanities, by all sciences related to the educational enterprise such as neuroscience, genetics, nutrition, biology, sociology, and psychology, and by educational praxis. WES sets forth research-based theories of human development and learning, curriculum, teaching, administration, community-institution relations, and evaluation.² (For more information on WES, see the following website: www.williamkeithbookwalter.info.)

From this multidimensional perspective, the well-being of every created thing and eco-system on planet earth depends on the human race's ability:

- To become whole, well-rounded, and balanced, and, thereby, become united, healthy, happy, and prosperous rather than fragmented and disunited resulting in the current reality of conflict, war, genocide, racism, greed, poverty, disease, and disillusion.

¹ "The Wholistic Educational System: A Theory and Framework for an International Curriculum" in *The Internationalization of Curriculum Studies: Selected Proceedings from the LSU Conference 2000*, William F. Pinar, ed., (New York: Peter Lang Publishing, 2003).

² **FEM and WES** draw on a significant body of prior work carried out over several decades by various people including Dr. Daniel C. Jordan and Dr. Donald T. Streets, et. al., Dr. W. Keith Bookwalter; Dr. Elena Mustakova-Possardt; Dr. William Huitt; Mr. Roger Coe; Dr. Alfred North Whitehead; Dr. Malcolm Evans, Dr. Teilhard De Chardin; and Dr. Ervin Lazlo.

- To gain a multidimensional perspective of reality in which all creatures and eco-systems are viewed as being interconnected, interdependent, and having a manifold yet seamless nature; one that is at once physical, social, psychological, and spiritual; and
- To embrace the vision of a culturally diverse yet organically united world as the next, natural, and necessary phase of social evolution on planet earth.

In view of all the above, the following is a statement of FEM's **Mission**:

To develop, promote, and apply multidimensional, holistic, systemic, developmental, and research-based educational systems, programs, services, and materials in collaboration with like-minded individuals and organizations.

FEM's long-term **Vision**:

FEM is the foremost educational foundation in Colombia engaged in the development, promotion, and application of a coherent, holistic system of education that enhances the material, social, psychological, and spiritual well-being of all peoples everywhere.

FEM has identified the following as its central **Goals**:

1. FEM will continually expand the number of its personal and institutional collaborators through dissemination of information about its educational theories, purposes and programs; through various methods for delivering training; and via demonstration sites.
2. FEM will be increasingly independent and effective financially through a variety of fund-raising activities, investments, and sound fiduciary management.
3. FEM will continue to articulate, develop, apply, and carry out research on a holistic system of education aimed at developing a sustainable and ever-advancing civilization which will, in turn, increase human happiness, goodness, unity, and well-being.
4. FEM will develop approaches to and policies for increasing and enhancing communication among stakeholders and participants.

For further information about FEM see:

<http://creamoscontigo.org/>

<http://www.facebook.com/FEMcolombia>

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