

ECNEICS RETOPMOC **

Ecneics Retopmoc is a relatively newly discovered tribe that has been insulated from the outside world. It prides itself in its sophisticated language, elaborate rituals and traditions, unique artifacts and ceremonial dress, and elite values, beliefs, and attitudes. Recognizing the need to change with the changing world outside, Ecneics Retopmoc has begun to open its borders to the Dradnats.

There is great enthusiasm among the Dradnats entering this culture. They see it as a great opportunity to enrich their lives. Yet, once there, they experience culture shock. The way things are done in Ecneics Retopmoc are foreign to them. The Dradnats do not feel accepted. At the same time, they feel compelling pressures to conform to a range of unstated rules and ambiguous norms. The Dradnats want to fit in but not at the cost of their own cultural identity. Because Ecneics Retopmoc doesn't feel safe or welcoming to them, their only solace is to band together in this strange and lonely place.

The Ecneics Retopmoc tribal elders are concerned about this poor adjustment and the inability of the Dradnats to understand the Ecneics Retopmoc culture. Some are fearful that Dradnats are just too different.

The Dradnats would like to be able to stay and flourish in Ecneics Retopmoc. In an attempt to bridge these boundaries, Ecneics Retopmoc is inviting a team of three esteemed Dradnats investigators to visit Ecneics Retopmoc to find ways that to help other Dradnats overcome their culture shock.

** M. C. Petrone, "Supporting Diversity with Faculty Learning Communities: Teaching and Learning Across Boundaries," in *Building Faculty Learning Communities*, M. D. Cox and L. Richlin (eds): Jossey-Bass, San Francisco, pp. 111-122.

Ecneics Retopmoc



- *New and exotic culture*
- *Insulated from the outside world*
- *Sophisticated language*
- *Elaborate rituals, traditions & ceremonial dress*
- *Elite values and beliefs*
- *Recently opened borders to the Dradnats*

