Strategies for Adopting Virtual Exchange on Your Campus

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Cal Poly San Louis Obispo
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Today’s workshop agenda

• Introductions
• About our organizations
• Definitions
• Value proposition
• Campus engagement

• Virtual Exchange Models
• Syllabi
• Break
• Design Exercise
• Institutional asset mapping
• Q&A/Discussion
About Us

The Initiative is a lasting tribute to Ambassador Chris Stevens
How the Stevens Initiative supports Virtual Exchange

- **Investments**
  - Grant Competitions
  - Targeted Investments
  - Grantee Support

- **Advocacy**
  - Raising Awareness
  - Demand Generation
  - Resource Mobilization

- **Knowledge Hub**
  - Evaluation Data
  - Toolkits
  - Practitioner Resources
  - Webinars, etc
Definitions
What is Virtual Exchange?

- Technology-enabled people-to-people dialogues and collaboration sustained over a period of time
- Use of new media platforms to enable deep, interactive social learning
- Facilitated by teachers and/or trained facilitators
- Making it possible for meaningful, transnational and intercultural experiences

Check out the virtual exchange typology on the Stevens Initiative’s website
Virtual Exchange is Not

- MOOCs
- Virtual mobility
- Digital Penpals
- Distance learning courses
- Informal social media interactions
- Unmoderated, unsustained, unstructured communication
Institutions & Virtual Exchange
The Value Proposition for Institutions

- Universities can provide a global experience to **more students**
- Institutions can reach students **earlier**
- Institutions engage students **more often**
- Virtual Exchange can **integrate** into multiple subjects
- Virtual Exchange can **sustain** the global engagement
- Virtual Exchange offers a **competitive cost per student** when scaled
Why institutions should adopt Virtual Exchange

• Access: Give all students a global perspective

• Campus Internationalization

• Social-emotional benefits/navigating diversity

• Workforce readiness: Prepare your students for a global economy
Why institutions should adopt Virtual Exchange: Coronavirus

• Allows international experiences to continue

• Allows campus internationalization to continue

• Helps develop connection between students

• Can be a way to keep a connection with students at other institutions
How Virtual Exchange/COIL aligns with institutional priorities

Source: SUNY COIL Center
The Institutional Commitment

**Institutional**
- Commitment to Global Engagement for All
- Provide support Services to Faculty
- Incentives
- Integrate into strategy
- Have a clear point person

**Instructor**
- Plan & prepare activities in partnership
- Align tools & activities w/ outcome
- Facilitate & guide students
- Assess & provide feedback

**Student**
- Collaborate w peers across cultures
- Complete discussions & projects
- Problem solve issues of language, communication, tech, content

Source: SUNY COIL Center
Models of Virtual Exchange
Course-Embedded Virtual Exchange

- Two or more professors from different countries connect to add an international and intercultural dimension to their already existing courses.
- Professors develop shared learning outcomes and a syllabus for this new international component, paying attention to the development of activities that promote interaction and collaboration between students.
- Usually blended courses, combining face-to-face sessions with online student interaction.
- They often last 6-10 weeks.
- They may have both asynchronous communication and synchronous sessions.
- They can be implemented in any subject or course.
Examples of Course-Embedded Virtual Exchange

- Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL)
- Telecollaboration
- Globally networked learning
- Online international/intercultural exchange
- Global Virtual Exchange
- Global Learning Experience
- Virtual Exchange
COIL: Collaborative Online International Learning

SUNY Nassau CC Nursing

Constructing a Virtual Hospital

Durban University of Technology Construction

Constructing a Virtual Hospital

Faculty collaboration design, planning

Student collaboration project, discussions

Source: SUNY COIL Center
Typical COIL/VE Module Progression

1. Icebreaker, group formation, developing trust
2. Organizing the project and comparative discussions
3. Collaborative project and problem solving
4. Concluding, reflecting, and presenting

5-12 week collaboration

Source: SUNY COIL Center
‘Outsourced’ Virtual Exchange

- Faculty allow students to participate in Virtual Exchanges organized by external entities
- Programs usually have specific aims i.e. exploring contemporary topics
- Small discussion groups bring together students from many different countries and institutions
- There is a strong focus on synchronous communication
Nahid 32:51:00
it's so great to see people from so many different places in one room!
‘Outsourced’ Virtual Exchange: Soliya

Connects young people from various countries in small, facilitated dialogue groups for exposure to diverse views and cultures, language exchange and practice, and employability skills.

The goal is to engage in:

• self-reflection,
• active listening,
• respect,
• critical thinking,
• effective communication and collaboration
Additional Outsourced Programs

Postsecondary:
Soliya
IREX
World Learning

K-12:
Empatico
Global Nomads Group
Global Cities
World Learning
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examples of Institutional Programs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>William Davidson Institute</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Michigan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• UM – Egypt – Tunisia – Morocco – Libya</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Initial grant for extra-curricular social entrepreneurship program</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Developed a VE hub</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Second grant to develop courses on business &amp; culture</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Johns Hopkins University</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Center for Bioengineering Innovation &amp; Design</td>
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<tr>
<td>• JHU + AUB + Gaza Sky Geeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Course + Hackathon</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Focus on engineering solutions for humanitarian emergencies</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>iPodia Alliance</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Based at the University of Southern California</td>
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<td>• Consortium fee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Teaching set engineering courses across several institutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 14 participating institutions in 10 countries</td>
</tr>
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Questions:
What are your immediate needs?

Which of these approaches helps meet these needs?

Respond in the chat box
Syllabus

Breakout rooms + Response in Chat
Partnering
Partnering

Postsecondary:
• Outsourced
• Institutional Partnerships
• Associations/Professional Networks
• Platforms

Key Lessons:
• Don’t make assumptions
  • Vocabulary (see VE Typology)
  • Common Curricula
  • Common interests
• US/Eurocentric mindset
• Check out SI’s Impact & Learning Report
To get your creativity flowing...

How far along is your department’s internationalization?

Has your department used virtual exchange to internationalize the campus experience?

Challenges?

What impact can virtual exchange have on your students?
Design Walk Through

Take a look at the worksheet
Choose a topic for your virtual exchange program
Curricular Coordination

1) When will it take place?
2) In what language?
3) What are the goals of the VE?
4) What activities and discussions will you have?
5) Which tech-tool to connect?
6) Expectations of students?
Implementation

1) Do you need additional support
2) Curriculum designers?
3) Technology support?
Institutional Planning

1) Asset Map: Institutional resources and support + gaps
2) Budgeting + Sustainability
3) What buy-in do you need?
Evaluating Program Impact

1) What are you measuring?
2) What tools will you use?
Impact Example

During the spring 2017 semester, participants reported that participation in the virtual exchange program helped them build critical knowledge, interest, and skills.

Percent who agree or strongly agree

- **The program helped improve my cross-cultural communication skills**
  - MENA: 90%
  - US: 73%

- **The program helped improve my teamwork or collaborative problem-solving skills**
  - MENA: 87%
  - US: 66%

- **The program increased my knowledge and/or interest in global events**
  - MENA: 88%
  - US: 76%
## Impact Example

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<th>Paired Differences</th>
<th>Scale Reliability</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Mean Growth¹</td>
<td>Standard Deviation</td>
<td>Effect Size</td>
<td>Responses</td>
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<td>Knowledge of Other (retrospective)</td>
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<tr>
<td>XC Communication (retrospective)</td>
<td>1.24</td>
<td>3.25</td>
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¹ Mean Growth

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<th>Post</th>
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<td>Knowledge Seeking</td>
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<td>XC Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>XC Collaboration 1</td>
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<td>0.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>XC Collaboration 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>XC Communication (retrospective)</td>
<td>0.94</td>
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Selected Evaluation Tools

- Self other overlap
- Validated Cultural Instruments: BEVI, IDI
- Stevens Initiative Evaluation Toolkit & Appendix
Impact Alignment

• Planning with Assessment in Mind

• Not a one size fits all
  • Engineering
  • Business
  • Social Sciences
Additional Resources

• SUNY COIL Website
• Stevens Initiative Resource Page
Stevens Initiative:
Additional Engagement Opportunities

• Coronavirus Rapid Response Fund

• Grant Competition

• Ways to Engage
  • Join a Program
  • Design with a Partner: UAE/Morocco
  • Design Your Own
  • Monthly webinars & trainings

• Join the email list on the Stevens Initiative website for regular updates

www.stevensinitiative.org
COIL Center: Additional Engagement Opportunities

• Introduction to COIL: http://bit.ly/whatisCOIL
• Monthly Professional Development
  • COIL Foundations
  • COIL Design
• Study Abroad Goes Virtual Workshop
• COIL Conversations:
  • June 2, 12-1:30: COIL Overview & Global Competencies,
  • June 4, 12-1:30: COIL & Language and Culture
  • June 8, 12-1:30: COIL & Arts, Tech, Media
  • June 10, 12-1:30: COIL & Campus Initiatives
• Upcoming Webinars
  • June 16: Research and Publishing in VE
  • July 21: COIL in Health Sciences
Additional Engagement Opportunities

IVEC Virtual 2020

September 14-16

Go to www.iveconference.org
Q&A - Discussion

LEARN TOGETHER TODAY.
LEAD TOGETHER TOMORROW.

www.stevensinitiative.org
For more information reach out to stevensinitiative@aspeninstitute.org