

CACEE Awards

Name of Nominee: Langara College - Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL)

Nominee Institution/Organization: Langara College

Award: Excellence in Innovation - Student Engagement

Team Size: Small

Project Budget Category: Medium

Nomination Overview:

Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) is a part of a comprehensive Internationalization Strategy aimed at enabling students (and employees) of Langara College in Vancouver, BC to develop their intercultural competence, enhance their international mobility, and become global citizens.

COIL is a way of teaching and learning to encourage faculty and student interaction with international peers at other post-secondary institutions. These courses are co-taught in multicultural online and blended learning environments to emphasize experiential student collaboration.

An example of this initiative in action is a foundation course in Latin American Studies, Latin American Cultural Perspectives, which is being taught using COIL methodology.

This course will leverage social media and collaborative learning technology for students at Langara to work on a capstone project with students in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Learning outcomes emphasize the development intercultural understanding, co-operation and global citizenship.

COIL is one of the first programs of its kind in Canada. It operates in tandem with a myriad of other international partnerships at the college including field schools, educational learning exchanges, etc.

COIL helps to make building intercultural competence and global citizenry more broadly available and economically accessible to all as it is intended to be embedded into existing course learning frameworks and does not require students to travel.

Adoption of COIL has been rapid and student interest/engagement has gone up significantly when COIL is a part of the equation. Stakeholders (e.g. employers) also see tremendous value in having a candidate pool with cultural fluency and global perspectives embedded into their knowledge and skills banks.

It is for the innovation, commitment to accessibility, and benefit to both student and employer communities that the COIL initiative at Langara College is being put forward for this award.