

# IDEATE

INNOVATE - DESIGN - ENGAGE AT TACOMA.EDU

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## DESIGNING A BIPOC INCLUSIVE MINOR IN INNOVATION AND DESIGN

*A student-led project by Ayda Kedirkhan*



Each quarter, Global Innovation and Design Lab student Awardees receive a stipend and independent study credits to assist with Lab programming and projects. More importantly, they are encouraged to create projects they are passionate about.

In Autumn 2020, Ayda Kedirkhan began her "Designing Towards a BIPOC- Inclusive Minor in Innovation and Design" project. With the launch of the Minor in Winter 2021, Ayda felt it was important to understand the needs and challenges of BIPOC students. The following are excerpts from Ayda's design thinking research and process.

### The Problem

BIPOC students are disproportionately marginalized in higher education. This is also visible in the field of design.

### How Might We...

- Find and promote aspects of design that will interest BIPOC students?
- Create a safe and diverse environment for BIPOC students to learn about Innovation and Design?
- Empower BIPOC students to join the Minor and feel comfortable staying as active members
- Create a system that welcomes all
- Engage students in important discussions/ conversations that may be uncomfortable

### Project Vision and Goals

- Implement the Design Justice Network principles to build/co-design a hospitable Minor
- Be transparent about our work and progress
- Maintain accountability
  - Students of color are always going to need advocacy and support; therefore, this project should be maintained throughout all quarters

## WHAT'S INSIDE

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## WINTER '21 COMMUNITY PROJECTS



Tacoma Pierce County Chamber of Commerce



Institute for Black Justice

*Designing for BIPOC Inclusivity cont.*

**Project Plan**

- Ask the right questions!
  - Understand the issue
  - Understand the Minor
  - Understand the students
  - Understand the best UX methodologies to implement
- Design solutions that can be iterated and maintained throughout all quarters
- Understand the project scope and identify gaps/missed areas

**Recommendations**

- Find allies and utilize other communities that are doing similar work
- Do more user research
- Track the progress of this project & efficiency
- Document discovery so we can keep the work going

At the end of the quarter, Ayda sent out a survey to gather initial BIPOC student data. The GID Lab is currently assessing the data to continue her work and will recruit future GID Awardees to assist with implementation and accountability.



Picture 1: Affinity mapping conducted by our GID Awardees

**MINOR FOR INNOVATION AND DESIGN INFO SESSION**

*Hosted by Dr. Emma Rose and Lan Allison*

On Tuesday, February 9, the Global Innovation and Design Lab hosted a Minor for Innovation and Design Info Session led by Dr. Emma Rose, and GID Administrative Specialist, Lan Allison. The info session was attended by 8 students, some who were already enrolled in the Minor, and some who were interested and ready to learn!

Dr. Emma Rose started the session off with a mini design challenge: How might we celebrate big life moments during COVID-19?

The participants went into breakout rooms to interview their partners and gain empathy and understanding before designing to solve the problem. This led to a sketching sprint to solve their user's problems.

Screens that improved Zoom visibility, a virtual concert platform that would allow people to attend concerts through their computer, or a virtual wedding platform that would allow guests to have a more interactive role in the experience, were some of the ideas.

After the sketching and sharing, Dr. Rose explained the importance of iterating, prototyping, and testing. She emphasized inclusivity, accessibility, and diversity in design, and what happens when those aren't taken into consideration.

The rest of the info session was led by Lan Allison who went over information regarding the Minor and answered questions. The students were also able to meet their peers and network with those also interested or declared in the minor. All of the participants were thanked with a \$10 Starbucks gift card for attending. Enrollment more than doubled after the session, so we know it was a success!

**Spring Quarter Minor Course Information**

Registration for the following begins on **February 12!**

- T GID 320 with Dr. Emma Rose
  - Prerequisite TWRT 350 is currently waived
- T GID 420 with Dr. Huatong Sun
  - Prerequisite TWRT 350 and T GID 320 is currently waived
  - Open to all seniors

For more information or enrollment, please contact the appropriate professors.

## A CALL FOR APPLICATIONS!

### Annual Global Engagement Conference

The Institute for Innovation and Global Engagement hosts the annual Global Engagement Conference (GEC) to showcase undergraduate and graduate research regarding global issues and solution-oriented projects. This conference will be held on **May 20, 2021**, and is open to campuses in the greater Tacoma area.

This conference will be held virtually this year given the current climate. Students will be able to submit their research papers, posters, or visual art to showcase their work. The conference has five themes for research topics which cover the following:

- Global Innovation and Design
- Climate and Environment
- Globalism
- Health and Human Rights
- Media and Security

Also, the GEC welcomes submissions that address "innovation and inspirations in the Era of COVID-19". This conference is an amazing opportunity for students to present their hard work, network with the community, and share their research. The Global Innovation and Design Lab Awardees will be presenting their work from the Lab, as well as their collaboration with Dr. Weichao Yuwen and the CoCoBot Team.

Tune in on May 20th to see the amazing work that has been done over the past year by students across Tacoma!

### Global Innovation and Design Lab Award for Spring Quarter

Every quarter, the Global Innovation and Design Lab selects students to work with the Lab and gain hands-on, real-world experience with design thinking and community projects. A \$500 award, as well as 2 credits towards an Independent Study, is given to the selected Awardees. Awardees assist in community projects, GID social media, blogs for the website, and stories for our monthly IDEATE! Many of our Awardees go on to pursue careers in UX design and leverage their experience and skills that they learned at the GID Lab. It is also an amazing way for students to make connections and network with community organizations.

This quarter, the Awardees will be chosen by two UWT faculty serving on our Committee Review Board. *Dr. Emma Rose* is an Associate Professor in the School of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences. She teaches design thinking classes. She is also faculty for the Minor in Innovation and Design. *Dr. Weichao Yuwen* is an Assistant Professor for the School of Nursing and Healthcare Leadership. This quarter, Dr. Yuwen is also serving as the GID Lab Award Faculty Supervisor. She and our Awardees are working with the UW [CoCoBot Team](#)

We are very excited to continue to provide students real-world experience even in a remote environment. We encourage all **juniors and seniors** to apply for the award.

#### SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT!

Submit your title and abstract [here!](#)

Abstracts are due  
**March 1, 2021**

For more information, check out the GEC [website!](#)

#### APPLY FOR THE GID AWARD!

Submit your application [here!](#)

Applications for Spring Quarter are due **MARCH 10, 2021**

For more information, check out the GID [website!](#)

## GLOBAL CAREERS: INNOVATION AND DESIGN IN HEALTHCARE

Small, focused roundtables on topics that matter, is the new format of events for the Institute for Innovation and Global Engagement (IIGE) in the remote learning environment. With a mission to connect classroom to world, its Community Advisory Board was faced with redesigning how to deliver experiential learning to students. Bringing student voices to the center through a design thinking session at its Fall meeting, Board members had their definitive results: students wanted small, interactive, virtual sessions.

The IIGE team went to work, taking into consideration students' career and research interests polled in an annual Fall survey. The result was **Global Careers**, a new series launched on February 19. As a top career interest, healthcare served as the topic for our panelists, *Dr. Enrique Leon*, Faculty Physician at the UW Faculty School of Medicine and Family Medicine at Multicare, as well as *Chris Barnes*, Founder of Emphatic Communications, an Olympia-based communications design consultancy for healthcare. Moderated by Dr. Divya McMillin, Associate Vice Chancellor for Innovation and Global Engagement, the panel addressed the new opportunities in design and human centered research under the pandemic, as a result of telehealth and virtual communication.

Barnes explained that organizations are trying to reduce the stigma surrounding self-reporting illness. Dr. Leon provided examples of recent designs that allow patients to monitor their health at home, rather than always needing to see a doctor. MyChart, for example, puts the power back in the hands of the patient by giving them access to the medical records and information.

A handheld ultrasound that connects to one's phone, or wearable devices that monitor blood pressure, glucose levels, etc. are a few examples of resources that have helped in the pandemic world to reduce physical contact.

In response to students' questions about accessibility and economic disparity, both panelists agreed these challenges were exacerbated in the virtual environment. Students asked, *How are healthcare practitioners ensuring that all groups of people - seniors, those with disabilities, those who are marginalized, for example - are not being left behind?* Barnes and Leon noted that healthcare, although improving, has not been designed to treat inequities and inequality for their patients. Barnes stated, *"the principle of designing with people, instead of for people, is foundational...sometimes we - in the excitement over technology - we lose sight of the fact that it doesn't work the same for everyone"*

To help students prepare for a career in healthcare, Dr. Leon said, *"the Healthcare system isn't really a system, it's a conglomeration so getting involved in your community and knowing the population you will one day be serving is huge."* Barnes added that *"Volunteering and being open to alternative job titles could help leverage your skills in the healthcare field."*

Dr. McMillin thanked the panelists and noted in summary, that both emphasized the ongoing need for multilingual communicators, as well as designers, writers, and researchers, to fill the increasing need for advocacy, interpretation, and translation for patients.

Stay tuned for more such events for the entire UW Tacoma community!



Picture 3: Chris Barnes discussing the importance of community in the healthcare field

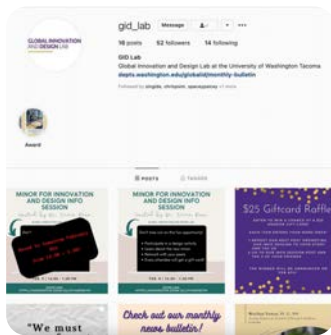


Picture 4: Dr. Enrique Leon showing a portable ultrasound tool

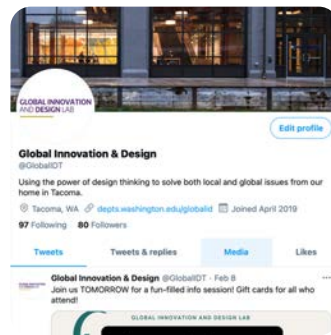


Our vision is a world of ethical and creative problem solvers  
Our mission is to create the conditions for inclusive innovation

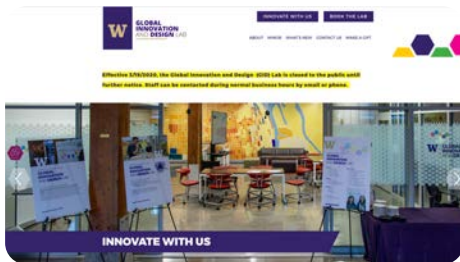
**STAY CONNECTED TO ALL THINGS HAPPENING AT THE GLOBAL INNOVATION AND DESIGN LAB!**



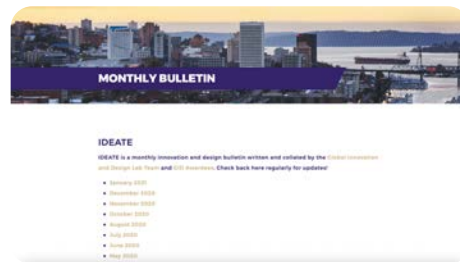
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Website



Monthly Bulletin

**INNOVATE WITH US!**

WE WELCOME YOUR IDEAS AND INVITE YOU TO GET INVOLVED IN OUR COMMUNITY PROJECTS BY CLICKING THE THE LINK BELOW.



**GET FEATURED IN IDEATE!**

THE GID LAB WELCOMES STORIES OF INNOVATION, DESIGN, AND RESEARCH FROM THE COMMUNITY.

SUBMIT STORIES TO [GLOBALID@UW.EDU](mailto:GLOBALID@UW.EDU)



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