

Shared Futures Workshop

Y Lai
B.A. Marketing

INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

The purpose:

The shared futures workshop creates an opportunity where IIGE students and South Sound community leaders can come together, make connections, and together build Tacoma's future (IIGE). This 2022, we finally have an in-person meeting. Together we come up with ideas for designing the future of the Global Innovation and Design Lab in Milgard Hall.

Design challenge “How might we” statement:

How might we best use the different spaces in the new GID Lab to offer inclusive, engaging programming and events?

REFLECTION

I feel honored to be a part of Shared Futures and motivated by knowing our school is open to students' opinions and dedicated to building an inclusive community. This workshop gave me an opportunity to work with others who have a big impact on the University of Washington Tacoma community. I get to raise my concerns, contribute opinions from a perspective of a student, and make new connections with talented people. Moreover, I got hands-on experience with the ideation process which is one of the most important aspects of design thinking skills. This will be a valuable asset for me in my future career. I hope this workshop will continue to take place in the future and get more exposure to the students.

PROPOSED SOLUTION/RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to make the new GID Lab an inclusive space, we need to understand the perspectives of our users – faculty, staff, students, and our Community Advisory Board members. Therefore, we come up with ideas based on what our users want to see, and what they think it is necessary to have in the new GID Lab to make it a diverse, inclusive place that creates a welcoming feeling when people come into the Lab. In the end, each group presented their ideas with details explanations. The solutions that the four groups mentioned were mainly about inclusivity events, wellness, respect, skill-based workshops, design-thinking competitions, cultural entertainment events, and accessibility for community members.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The ideation process was super productive, inclusive ideas and thoughtful suggestions were come up by faculty, staff, students, and our community members. After the presentations and discussions of each group, all the participants were able to understand others' needs and perspectives better. Thoughtful ideas and considerations were raised and noted. Those great ideas will help the new GID Lab one step closer to becoming an inclusive place at the University of Washington Tacoma.

REFERENCES

IIGE. 2022. Shared Futures, April 5th Instagram. <https://www.instagram.com/p/Cb-kDMCJE2K/>. Accessed May 16th, 2022.

