I'm not on Mute, are you on Mute?

Dr. Divya McMillin, Associate Vice Chancellor for Innovation and Global Engagement

What an opportunity to rethink visibility and voice brought to us by Spring quarter! When news of COVID-19 and subsequent remote learning on UW campuses broke in mid-March 2020, we felt suddenly muted as we waited for news on impact. Waves of mandates followed while some of us struggled with symptoms and many more reorganized life and work to care for immediate and extended family. Clearly, COVID-19 was global. National government and health systems were tested, political borders were rendered impotent to its spread. The value of our global framework in
the Global Honors (GH) Program and the Global Innovation and Design (GID) Lab was never more apparent. We had vivid examples of interdependency as travel was shut down, trade was curtailed, and workers in the gig economy were left to fall without a safety net.

And then, stories of police brutality on Black communities broke afresh, with the murder of George Floyd compelling people in the thousands to the streets. The outrage quickly became global, with the impact of racism around the world mapped in real time, as was COVID-19. Many of us joined our community in protest and many more volunteered to fill gaps in social services as people dealt with the interconnected impact of the pandemic and systemic racism. At UW Tacoma, almost as suddenly as we felt muted from the physical spaces of campus, we witnessed unmuting in the ways we came together to act on our commitment to social justice.

This newsletter is filled with examples of our response to Spring quarter, of remote learning and of our plans for the future. Upon the announcement of COVID-19 shutdowns, we used human centered design to ask GH students, “How might we create the best Senior capstone experience and Global Engagement Conference?” From their responses, we co-designed the Global Honors Zoom Colloquium of May 20, where Seniors presented on such topics as anti-racist education and the decriminalization of migration through cultural understanding. We launched the interactive Global Engagement Conference website on May 26, featuring a range of papers on global engagement and innovation through design thinking. Read more in Dr. Joanne Clarke Dillman’s article in this issue (page 8).
We saw a significant increase in attendance and active participation at our special Zoom events. Distinguished Speaker Rep. Derek Kilmer spoke on "The Corona Virus, Pandemics, and Globalization" on April 28, arranged by GH Alumnus Colin McCann ’14, Political Director for Kilmer. GH Alumni Chelsea Huddy ’17 (2016 Gilman Scholar and currently with the Japan Exchange & Teaching (JET) Program) and Brandon Jacobsen ’10 (former White House intern and currently Communications & Outreach Lead for the U.S. Office of Personnel Management in Washington, DC) shared their journeys to their exciting careers. Juniors particularly appreciated hearing the specific ways in which Chelsea and Brandon continued to connect current work to the questions and theses developed in Global Honors.

Professors Orlando Baiocchi, Margaret Griesse, and Beverly Naidus provide us with snapshots of their experience in the Zoom classroom, on page 5. Students share their study abroad experience before the travel restrictions hit, on page 7.

Brandon Jacobsen ’10 and Chelsea Huddy ’17 call in from DC and Japan for the Global honors Alumni Panel

In the GID Lab, we began the quarter by sharing our experiences of remote-everything and as an all-minority Spring quarter team—faculty, staff and students. This environment of sharing under conditions of the pandemic and racial injustice brought forth renewed inspiration and creative energy. Students created prototypes for safe distancing and re-opening of campus classrooms, and co-designed our brand new GID Lab monthly newsletter, IDEATE. The newsletter will allow us to communicate the rapid innovations of the Lab more expeditiously than the bi-annual IIGE newsletter, and will supplement our GID Twitter account (@globalidt) and GID blog. We saw a great victory in the full approval of the Minor in Innovation and Design, scheduled to open in Winter 2021. We reviewed collaborative software and designed from the ground up virtual design thinking workshops for the City of Tacoma, United Way, and the UWT Office of Student Transitions.
We gained the support of the Office of the Chancellor in our Innovate Tacoma series, which specifically assists organizations with a human centered response to COVID-19 work conditions. Knowing many of our students were struggling with access to technology and with other basic needs, we created and distributed care packages for all students during final week.

![Care Packages for Global Honors Students and recognizing four of our GID Lab Assistants](image)

We saw private investments grow as our community engaged work became more visible. The Bamford Foundation continues its generous support for undergraduate research and experiential learning. We worked with campus building and architect committees to plan dynamic spaces for interdisciplinary innovation in the upcoming Milgard Hall. Most exciting was the announcement at the end of Spring that the IGE was renamed the Institute for Innovation and Global Engagement (IIGE). The new name makes our mission of inclusive innovation more visible and facilitates deeper alignment across core functions.

As we plan for socially distanced learning in the Fall, we are reminded of our own agency in how we choose to participate. Zoom offers a space of privilege for some, a terrain of struggle for so many more, as in life outside of virtual interactions. Perhaps capturing the teleworking and remote campus experience as a space for serendipitous and activist unmuting is too idealistic. Yet, this forced experience allows us to pause and think through what it means to be in control of when we unmute, when we speak, when we choose to have the camera on, and when we choose to keep it off. It allows us an opportunity to check with our closest friends—are you on Mute? Why? As we tackle our projects ahead: recruiting for and promoting our richly experiential Minors in Innovation and Design and Global Engagement, problem solving with our community partners, and strengthening our collaborations within the IIGE team and across campus, we know we are forever changed by the events of Spring 2020. We embrace this change and act with deeper resolve to collaborate and create for community.

*Thank you for your support!*

*Dr. Divya McMillin*
Faculty Corner: Teaching in the time of a pandemic

Professor Beverly Naidus
TGH302: Global Imaginations

Teaching Global Imaginations in the Time of Pandemic was one of the most unusual teaching experiences of my career. Offering an interdisciplinary studio art class online proved to be an interesting challenge, but not an insurmountable one. Students were eager to discuss how art could precipitate, manifest, support, and document social change. They created public art in their front yards and windows to reflect on how the virus was affecting them, to create dialog with neighbors about ecological issues, and to offer questions about the climate emergency and its connection to the virus. Inspired by reading Lucy Neal's Playing for Time: Making Art as if the World Mattered, they made full-face masks out of scavenged materials to express feelings about the pandemic and created proposals for post-pandemic art projects that could rebuild our communities.

Although I only had the opportunity to work with Global Honors students three times in the past few years, those students were some of the most inspired and inspiring of my many years of teaching at UWT. Although many had no art experience, they were game to work with their imaginations to develop art projects addressing contemporary social issues and ecological concerns.

From all of us in the IIGE: We wish our popular Professor Beverly Naidus all the very best for her retirement! We hope to collaborate with the Center For Art for Social Change and Healing that she plans to open in Tacoma!

Professor Orlando Balicchi,
TGH 301: Global Interactions

Spring quarter went very well with the online classes, using Zoom. Students made their own presentations of the textbook chapters and engaged in productive discussions during classes. The most notable event was the participation of Rep. Derek Kilmer in one of the Zoom sessions. For the Fall, my suggestion is to maintain the same format. I hope IT will leave Zoom alone and stop making unnecessary changes. Also, they will need to review their policy regarding (not recording) the sessions. If we invite external speakers, like we did in the Spring--and that is consistent with the spirit of the GH program--we won’t be able to record. And here’s the only picture I have of myself--one with the very background that was used in all the classes!
Faculty Corner continued...

Professor Margaret Griesse
TGH301: Global Interactions
Bamford Fellowship Adviser

This Spring I had two GH Bamford students who were finishing their capstone projects. Both of them had been in my GH 301 since Winter 2019 and they went on my study abroad to Brazil over the summer, which gave us time to get to know one another. They had been busy over the Winter so they really needed to focus on their paper this Spring. I had weekly Zoom meetings with them individually and we occasionally met all together, also over Zoom, to discuss their projects with one another. The main challenge, however, was everything else that was happening around us. Lack of child care, a busy house, ‘essential’ work were issues we had to work around as well as their participation/reflections on Black Lives Matter. More than ever, it was important for us that the work be relevant! I was very proud of how they both came through for the Global Honor’s seminar and kudos to everyone who organized it. I stayed to watch all of the presentations. Just last week our group of three met, via Zoom again, to have a send off for the student who has graduated and reflect about their experience. Capstone projects are the best part of Global Honors!

From IGE to IIGE..what's new? (hint: it's in purple!)

ASSOCIATE VICE CHANCELLOR
ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR [GID LAB]
PROGRAM COORDINATOR
FACULTY COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD
FACULTY

Minor in Global Engagement | Minor in Innovation & Design | Global Honors | Executive Education | Design Thinking Workshops | Global Engagement Conference
IGE Study Abroad Awardees in Amsterdam

**AnAleshea McCord**

“A first-generation college student pursuing a fulfilling career in child and family welfare, I am currently in my senior year and will graduate this spring with a major in Social Welfare and a minor in Criminal Justice. I was more than excited to have earned the opportunity to study abroad in a country as diverse and progressive as the Netherlands... Overall, this experience provided me with tools that I can apply to my last year of my bachelor’s program and a first-hand educational experience that will assist me in my professional development.”

**Arwen Bouton**

“Spending summer quarter 2019 in the Netherlands under the charge of Drs. Falco and Cohen proved to be one of best academic decisions I have made thus far at UWT. As an older, returning student and full-time mom with a fairly rigid schedule, being able to carve out this time was challenging but well worth the demands. Being able to afford this trip was another matter in itself. Without the help of the IGE Study Abroad Award, I might not have been able to budget this trip.”

**Reina Godeck**

“Thanks to the IGE Study Abroad Award, I was able to participate in a study abroad program that involved the ports of Tacoma and Seattle, and compared them with the ports of Amsterdam and Rotterdam in The Netherlands. Before we set out, if you had asked me about the difference between our ports and their ports, I would have said technology, but the reality is that it is much more complex than that, largely due to cultural differences. Moreover, the experience impacted me deeply as an individual, as this was the first time I had ever traveled to Europe. It was also the first time I had ever seen a socialist democracy first hand, and I was inspired by what I saw there... If you are thinking of participating in a study abroad program, I cannot recommend it enough—and do not forget to apply for the IGE Study Abroad Award. Tot ziens!”
2020 Global Engagement Conference: Redesigning Into Two New Formats

by Dr. Joanne Clarke Dillman
Associate Director, GH

The Annual Global Engagement Conference is a signature feature of the Institute for Global Engagement (IGE) - newly expanded into the Institute for Innovation and Global Engagement (IIGE). It is also a banner event for its community, including students, faculty, Community Advisory Board (CAB) members, community partners, and special expert guests like the business leaders from Coca Cola and Boeing who participated in last year’s panel on “From Global Engagement to the Global Work-force.” AAC&U Vice President of Global Citizenship Dawn Whitehead’s 2019 keynote presentation on “Global Connections: Sparking Solutions to Today’s and Tomorrow’s Challenges” spoke to the very raison d’être, or reason for being, of the IIIE.

While we planned for a similar conference this year, as everyone understands by now, it was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We found a way – two ways, actually – to honor our presenters. Global Honors seniors shared their capstones in a special Zoom Colloquium on May 20, the original date of the conference, and all other presenters, including UWT honors and non-honors students, as well as a few students from other area institutions, shared their projects through our Global Engagement Conference website, which launched on May 26. Viewers were able to post comments on posters and videos, through our interactive design. We hope you will click on the site and enjoy the work presented by these great students!

Updates from the Global Innovation & Design Lab!

by Krissy Kimura,
Program Administrator, GID Lab

While COVID-19 ushered in a new normal for Spring quarter as the campus transitioned to all remote instruction and work, demand for the GID Lab’s design thinking workshops has continued to increase. The GID Lab team -- comprised of Associate Vice Chancellor Dr. Divya McMillin and Program Administrator Krissy Kimura, and student assistants

GID Lab Winter-Summer 2020 Events
- Zenith West Gymnastics Academy pro-bono design thinking workshop in January
- Titus-Will executive design thinking workshop in March
- Shared Futures Networking Social in March: Dr. Divya McMillin and HTC Creative Labs VP Drew Bamford led over 60 students and community leaders through the process of ideating pathways to the workforce.
- June-July: Virtual workshops for City of Tacoma, United Way, UWT Office of Student Transitions
Mailyn Abon, Abdul Abubakar, Lan Allison, Anh Lam, and Christopher Sim -- has adapted to this new way of working through the use of new and familiar collaborative tools and software, including Zoom, Miro, Mural, Trello, and Slack.

This new normal comes with a new set of challenges -- from social isolation and feeling stuck inside, to not being able to walk at commencement, to name a few. While acknowledging this, the GID Lab team also sees new opportunities -- like being able to connect more with family and learning new software. In anticipation of the eventual return to campus, we are also strategizing what that future will look like. What would it take for students (staff and faculty) to feel safe on campus again? While we may not know what tomorrow will bring, we hope to continue our work tackling tough local and global challenges with empathy and a human-centered focus. For updates on the GID Lab, please read our monthly newsletter, IDEATE.

Meet the GID Lab Assistants

**Mailyn Abon, Information Technology Senior**

“My favorite part of the GID Award this quarter was the virtual collaboration. Working from home with this team has really opened my eyes to the endless things that technology can do for us, like connect a whole team together from the comfort of their homes. Super proud of what we have all accomplished this quarter!"

**Abdul Abubakar, Technical Communications Junior**

“My favorite part about working at the GID Lab this past quarter is how smoothly we transitioned to an online environment and how we are able to work completely remotely amidst the Covid-19 outbreak. I liked how we were able to adjust the way we work and our scope of work to better suit this situation. I believe it is a small step in a new direction that will benefit us in the long run as we continue to grow.”
Anh Lam, Healthcare Leadership Senior

“My favorite part of the GID Award this quarter is learning new tools and strategies to collaborate remotely. This had been a new experience, but a good learning opportunity. I am glad I get to contribute to the GID Lab.”

Lan Allison, Technical Communication Senior

“During my time as a GID Lab assistant, I have learned so much about the design thinking process and how to implement it in the real-world. More importantly, I’ve developed great connections between community members and the members here in the Lab that have helped foster my growth and development for the future.”

Christopher Sim, Communication and Applied Computing Senior

“My favorite part of the GID Award this quarter is having the opportunity to experience working within a professional setting remotely and doing it successfully by leveraging collaborative tools. I also appreciate the opportunity to work with and learn from such incredible and professional talents, really among the best in the business.”