

Waterloo ExL CoP Interdisciplinary-Based Learning

Thursday, October 25, 2018

Overview of Waterloo ExL – five elements

Introduction for Jenn Lynes – developed a capstone with students from environment/business and engineering. Has a vision of a course that appealed to a wide range of students for example on Cannabis: biology, legal, environmental impact, business model/new venture

Introduction for Wayne: EL at Conrad it's not pedagogy – it's about students actually doing things

Room introductions

Janet Boekhorst – teaches the foundations course at Conrad – student teams

Paul Kates – interested in this type of learning across faculties, curriculum, years

Sanjeev Bedi – mandate to bring real world activities into the classroom. Realized that leadership/teamwork/communication was missing. Bridge project for CIV days. The students are all from one program (cohort) but the dream is that the teams would be inter-faculty

Ada Hurst – interested but sees the barriers

Chris Rennick – ideas clinic: designs the DAYS with Sanjeev

Howard Armitage – MBET accounting – at least half of the time is devoted to experiential – looking at the financials of public local companies (Brick Brewery), have even presented to them. Students also do mock investing and preform really well. Students in MBET represent cross-discipline students and there is no opportunity to have interdisc

Roopa Reddy – deep critical learning with real experiences, collaborative teamwork, social entrepreneurship course – having students from many disciplines, even if a few, have made the learning experience more dynamic for the students. Have to create a team in the course youth unemployment

Eva Skuza – Career Advisor - asked from faculty to deliver workshops on EL, learning more about EL and what faculty needs to better assist

Marium Kirmani – one of Wayne's students, created a company to bring students in to tech Starterhacks, looking at students who may have done a hackathon, how can they work with students from other disciplines to create something that has sustainability. Change the culture of tech by introducing more diversity earlier.

Stephanie Bruinsma – manager of industry engagement – interested in supporting faculty and employers, volunteers on campus – is also a mechanic

Kathy Becker – Engineering teaching portfolio - supporting faculty working on these kinds of initiatives

Natalie Mathieson – EL coordinator for the faculty of arts Psych & HRM – these are interdisciplinary students

Jennifer Yuen – social work and psych – such great programs in the tech world how can we bring that into social work? We have such great students on all spectrums, how can we get these students to work together to make the world a better place? Signed up for starterhacks, have to start somewhere!

Daniela o’Neill – psych – had to rename the divisions as areas because there were so many divisions! Studied childrens language development, brought a tool for SLP to use to accelerator centre. Flipped classroom so students work on three projects that could qualify for a prize on the ‘word gap’ none applied because they didn’t have entrepreneurship mindset. Research is on outreach with community organizations. Growing EL for grad students

Umair Shah – management sciences in EL. Studied here and felt the content was dry because the cases were outdated. Was tasked with creating an online organizational behaviour class – interdisciplinary course. Using Riipen to work with companies on course content. Has engaged with 15 companies and is working on perfecting this process. International students – felt like they didn’t have a Canadian experience because they didn’t really engage with organizations. Wants to start working with other instructors on projects – rather than him having to go out and find projects

Mark Hurwitz – what if our capstones were university wide? Coop for everyone on campus! Teaches leadership and runs the practicum – real project with a real company – results have been amazing for some companies, solving problems that would have cost the company millions. Taught the textbook version of leadership and it was so boring, would have bored myself! Runs a few companies. So much cool stuff we could be doing better.

Activities/courses	Barriers/Challenges	Opportunities/Skills	Programs
Management Science Capstone	Siloed by cohort	Teamwork	Accounting
Engineering sprints (arts/math sprints)	Course/program requirements	Leadership	Engineering (mechanical, mechatronics, management science, Conrad)
Simulations in teams	*Classroom setup/ space	Deep critical learning	Arts – psychology EL coordinator
“MBET Bucks” to invest	Course size	Collaborative teamwork	Social work
Case studies w/ local companies	Confidence of students to brand out	Breaking down barriers between programs/disciplines	
Halt Prize		Bridging arts + tech	
Starterhacks		Experience w/ Canadians projects/experience for international students	
Internships/Practicums for Psych/HRM			
ExL for Grad Students			