

IDEATE

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L: United Way Poverty to Possibilities Summit | R: Tanya Durand, Children's Museum Executive Director and Holly Bamford Hunt, Bamford Foundation Director share their group's hero story.

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Change the Narrative Workshop inspires at United Way's Poverty to Possibilities Summit

November 15, 2022

Dr. Karen Johnson's powerful keynote on disrupting poverty at the 2022 United Way of Pierce County's November 15 *Poverty to Possibilities* summit, followed by a panel discussion on dismantling racism, had the over 250-member audience energized and ready for the Global Innovation and Design Lab's challenge: *How might we change the narrative of Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) families from poverty to prosperity?*

Led by Dr. Divya McMillin and assisted by 20 table facilitators including UW Tacoma students, the fast-

paced workshop actually began with the first moment of the Summit, when participants were asked to use sticky notes to write down all the ways in which ALICE families were described during the morning sessions. With the mic handed over to McMillin at 11:00 a.m., the GID Lab workshop commenced with rapid rounds of ideation and affinity mapping of themes that emerged around prosperity or poverty.

Working in groups of 4-10, with worksheets and prototyping materials such as clay, Play-Doh, pipe cleaners, markers and paper, participants sketched, enacted, built models, looked over shoulders at other tables, hugged friends and laughed their way through ultimately creating the ALICE family hero story, their final assignment. As described by McMillin, “we might think the hero is a person--but learning from communities across the world, let’s remember that it can be a shared idea, a process, a relationship, a collaboration!” The 45-minute workshop was followed by a 15-minute popcorn share-out of headlines and stories that captured the essence of group work. Headlines included *Newcomer to Overcomer*, *Ubuntu (I am because we are)*, and *The People of Pierce County Produce Prosperity*.

CEO Dona Ponepinto said in her closing remarks of the workshop,



Group 18 works on a *Build Relationships: Call to Action* hero story



L-R: Panelist moderator Carol Mitchell, panelist Melannie Cunningham, United Way CEO Dona Ponepinto, and UWT AVC Dr. Divya McMillin.

“There was so much energy in the room and it really was a safe space to think about the headlines we want and need to see as we look to reframing the narrative of what poverty looks like.”

The GID Lab is honored to continue its multiyear partnership with United Way of Pierce County. It provides a valuable learning and networking experience for UW Tacoma students. --Staff



Center L-R: UWT Chancellor Sheila Edwards Lange, UW President Ana Marie Cauce, and Jim Milgard cut the ribbon with campus and community leaders

Community celebrates Milgard Hall opening

November 10, 2022

The completion of the 55,000-square-foot Milgard Hall which will house an expanded Global Innovation and Design Lab, was celebrated on November 10 with tri campus and community leaders. Constructed of mass timber and also housing the School of Engineering & Technology and the Milgard School of Business, the building is a model for sustainable construction, and is intended for interdisciplinary learning, community engagement and collaboration. The IIGE's Global and Innovation Design Award students share their reflections on the building and ceremony.

Aaliya Jones

Milgard Hall is unique to our campus because of the curated design that promotes

collaboration across multiple academic disciplines. The building offers design thinking labs, open classrooms, white boards, a fabrication shop, and administrative offices that will serve students studying everything from business to robotics, and subjects in between. The outside of the building was designed to fit seamlessly on campus and the inside is functional, yet aesthetically pleasing. Large windows maximize natural light and the use of sustainably harvested timber creates a welcoming learning environment.

Our campus is located on tribal land, and I believe it is not only important, but vital that Indigenous people are honored and appreciated. Progress for the future cannot be made without acknowledging the sacrifices of those from the past. Including the Puyallup Tribe in the opening celebration set the stage for

future collaboration. As a student majoring in Urban Design with a minor focused on Innovation and Design, I look forward to working in a collaborative space, using modern technology and being surrounded by like-minded individuals who are looking to create equitable solutions for societal challenges. I am very excited and honored to be able to study in such a beautiful space this upcoming January!



GID Award students (L-R) Tien Cao and Y Lai assist with Lab tours



The welcoming entry to the Global Innovation and Design Lab. Watch for our Open Houses!

Tien Cao

The construction of Milgard Hall is a major UWT milestone contributing to the public good. The delicately designed, yet durable building will have programs from the Milgard School of Business, the School of Engineering and Technology and the Global Innovation and Design Lab. An innovation space, general classrooms, labs for hands on activities, and meeting spaces and offices are thoughtfully located throughout the building.

It was a pleasure to join the ribbon-cutting ceremony. With the inspiring speech and performance by the Puyallup Tribe, I have a deeper understanding of the history and background of this land and Tacoma's history.

Impressively, over 40% of the contract value was awarded to University of Washington Business Equity Enterprises (BEE), defined as small business, minority-owned, women-owned, veteran-owned, and other historically marginalized businesses. I am honored to know that UW Tacoma has made such a commitment to the community through the BEE, as the university aims to have the highest impact academically in the Pacific Northwest and beyond. With equity and inclusion at the heart of its mission, Milgard Hall is sure to have a positive impact on UWT students and the local community.

Y Lai

Aware of Milgard Hall since the early days of construction, I was thrilled to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony. I had attended the IIGE's Winter 2022 Shared Futures workshop where different stakeholders discussed the programming potential of the building. That the building is complete and nearly open gives me an indescribable feeling of pride.

During the ribbon cutting ceremony, UWT Chancellor Dr. Sheila Edwards Lange described the importance of community and collaboration. University of Washington's President, Dr. Ana Mari Cauce, noted that the building would not be here today without the participation of all of us and that we should keep moving forward with this collaborative spirit.

The speaker who left a notable impression on me was Connie McCloud, the Cultural Director of the Puyallup Tribe. Her words and wisdom about the meaning of the land to her people was powerful. When the Puyallup Tribe dance and musical performance began, I suddenly started to tear up. The music was powerful enough to make my emotions escape. I feel lucky to have witnessed this ceremony and am confident that the building will bring great success to all the stakeholders, as detailed in the design and purpose.

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For their vision and foundational
support of the
Global Innovation and Design Lab



L-R: Drew Bamford, Dr. Divya McMillin, Cal Bamford, Joanne Bamford, Herb Simon and Holly Bamford Hunt



Generous hallways open up spaces to showcase student research and spark collaborations

Global Honors seminar exemplifies UW 2022-26 Diversity Blueprint Goal

Amy Newcomb, MA | Affiliate Instructor

The University of Washington's 2022-2026 Diversity Blueprint's fifth goal, to *Develop Place-Based Education and Engagement to Advance Access, Equity, and Inclusion* is embodied in the gateway Global Honors Seminar: *Global City as Text*.

It is not often that you can physically walk back through time in gritty detail like the junior cohort of students did on October 20, during their tour of the Tacoma Chinese Reconciliation Park. As part of their

“learning-by-doing,” format, the students spent the afternoon experiencing every corner of the park from the perspective of its former inhabitants, Chinese immigrants in the late 1800’s.

Tour guide and Vice-President of the Chinese Reconciliation Park Foundation, Mr. Larry Hosley, gave an emotional presentation on the era of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, which discriminated against Chinese workers and their businesses in Tacoma. Using the interpretive pathways through the sculptured landscape, Mr. Hosley pointed to evidence in Tacoma’s history of racial strife that lawfully prevented immigrant workers from owning land and conducting business that



contributed to the region's prosperity.

Since that time and because of diligent community leaders, many social and economic developments in Tacoma have made it possible for healing and restoration. The Reconciliation Park's annual Moon Festival taking place every September is one example of bringing residents together and connecting them globally to Tacoma's Sister Cities.

The Park is designed around a large Chinese Garden and Fuzhou Ting (ornate pavilion, see below) and built as a place of healing and harmony. The Ting is a gift from Fuzhou, China, a sister city since 1994. The space and design provide an opportunity for visitors to reflect upon the past, question the present, and dream of a better future. Most importantly, the Park and its annual events serve as a place to celebrate cultural diversity and common humanity.



STUDENT REFLECTIONS:

"Our time at the Chinese Reconciliation Park was really valuable for me. I found myself strongly affected emotionally, both by the space itself and by our guide, Larry Hosley."

"The road to reconciliation links directly to Tacoma's moral character by telling the real story and giving our generation the power to change how our future generations confront and act in opposition to still existing discrimination against the Chinese community."

"I enjoyed the different symbolism the park used, like having the "dark times" in the shade of a tree."

"We happened to visit on a day with particularly bad air quality due to this year's extremely dry fall and late wildfire season, caused by the climate crisis. This backdrop added much to a sense of relevancy and urgency to the story the Chinese Reconciliation Park is telling."

"That (experience) struck me hard as I could also see my own family's path to this country during the same time from across a different ocean."

UW Tacoma's new Mechanical Engineering Program adds GID Lab Experience to Senior Capstone Sequence

Dr. Mark Pagano | Professor

What . . .you want engineers to think outside the box? Well the answer to that question is a resounding “YES”. We want our engineering students and specifically our mechanical engineering students from UW Tacoma to be distinguishable from all others. We not only want them to be able to perform modern engineering design with the best tools available but we also want them to be highly sought after for their uncanny ability to perform engineering design by using the cutting edge tools of their discipline and also by doing it in a manner that recognizes the core values of our campus.

One such tool is to participate in a sequence of workshops conducted by experts in the Global Innovation and Design Lab, more affectionately known as the GID Lab. We believe values such as diversity, community, and innovation are just as important to future success as their technical skills.

Our first cohort of 17 new mechanical engineering students are now in their senior year and as



Students are challenged to prototype not the product of their capstone, but the *process* of their teamwork



Models depicted unifying values of collaboration, empathy, and accountability

required by our professional accreditation body, ABET, they must each have a senior capstone design experience as part of their curriculum.

I have the privilege of leading this course, but fortunately for me, I have the support of five other outstanding ME faculty and several outside industry advisors, all who are steeped in the modern tools of their trade. We also rely on several other resources available to ensure the campus core values are firmly woven into students' learning experiences. As part of the capstone course, groups of four or five students are formed into teams to take on a design challenge where they will research, analyze, design, and construct a product or device during the three-quarter sequence

of their senior year.

During the first quarter, students study from a basic engineering design textbook where they learn the vocabulary and well-established techniques of the craft. Then we supplement the textbook study with other activities to enhance their perspectives on inclusive engineering design processes as they embark on their projects. The GID Lab plays an integral role in this process, moving students through two design thinking workshops that help them understand need and begin their process with empathy.

Students learn how to transform difficult design questions into design solutions through an innovative and empathetic approach.



Mechanical Engineering students learn the process of design thinking to apply to their capstone process. [Center L-R: Dr. Mark Pagano and Dr. Divya McMillin].

This process serves as a catalyst to teach them to place the human experience at the heart of their design. They are inspired to ask better questions, redefine problems, increase agility in finding solutions, deepen their collaborations and expand opportunities available to them. Learning from failure and embracing ambiguity are also part of the experience.

Currently, the GID Lab is housed on the ground floor of TPS but is moving to a new home on the second floor of the new Milgard Hall building which is scheduled to open to the campus and greater Tacoma Community by the start of winter quarter 2023.

In addition to the GID Lab experience, students are also exposed to real-world environments of several local manufacturing firms such as Globe Machine Manufacturing and Boeing Corporation where hard work, ingenuity, and the well-known grit and hardiness of our surrounding community are clearly visible in the operations. Practicing engineers and technicians show firsthand how putting users first and asking the right questions are key to eventual success. So far, the combination seems to be working. The proof lies in the future success of this awesome first cohort of UW Tacoma trained mechanical engineers. As they say – it takes a village!



THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD!

The IIGE's Fall Quarter Community Advisory Board meeting is extra special as we come together to plan the Board-sponsored ideathon, the Winter **SHARED FUTURES**. The event draws a large group of participants across community and campus, to solve through an issue facing us all. Our "**worst idea**" brainstorm with students at the November 8 Board meeting resulted in an exciting new format--watch for a SHARED FUTURES announcement coming soon!

NEXTGEN PROGRAM TAKING SHAPE AT UW TACOMA

November 10, 2022

The IIGE continues to coordinate the development of the Tacoma campus' contribution to what will eventually be a tri-campus community of programs to support and develop the next generation of civic leaders, NextGen Civic Leader Corps. This program is UW's chapter of the NextGen Service Corp, sponsored by the non-profit Volcker Alliance, a nationwide network of programs that provides civic-minded students, especially those from underrepresented groups, curricular, experiential, and networking opportunities that put them in a better position to serve their communities.

UW Tacoma's commitment to community engagement has attracted civic-minded students and employees, who have in turn created programs and resources that can be readily put to use for future NextGen students. Indeed, as mentioned in our [October 2022 IDEATE](#), a productive ideation session with faculty and staff from across multiple campus units held in the GID lab on October 19 produced a large and exciting

inventory of existing courses, experiences, and events that could be immediately integrated into this program.

On November 10, UW Tacoma faculty members, Ruben Casas (SIAS: CAC), Ben Meiches (SIAS: PPPA), and Michael Forman (SIAS: PPPA) met with Executive Director of Programs for IIGE Jeremy Davis and collaborated to start streamlining the inventory.

We now have a solid list of courses ready to support NextGen students and have made substantial strides in defining the types of experiential opportunities our NextGen students will engage in.

As we prepare for our next session, we would love to hear from more interested students, staff, and faculty! Use the QR code here to visit our form to share your thoughts!



--Staff

2022 Summer Study Abroad: United Kingdom and The Netherlands

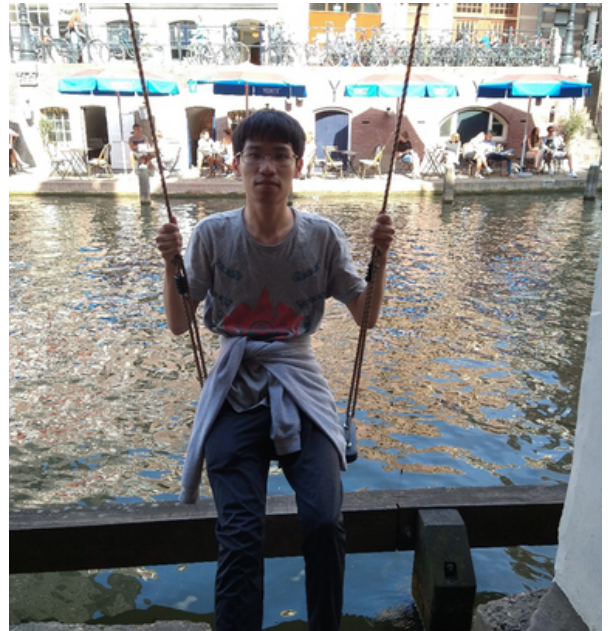
Yinchong Zhen, Global Honors '23

“Castles, palaces, cathedrals, things you might never see in the US before, are everywhere in Europe. The study abroad program is about exploring fun things you may not have seen previously.”

My study abroad program this past summer was to the UK and the Netherlands. Led by UW Seattle faculty, the program focused on urban mobility planning.

Before studying abroad, I gained a lot of theoretical knowledge regarding the US highway network reform and learned that the system is inefficient and has many shortcomings. However, like most people in the US, I am used to our car-oriented transportation system and didn't see anything wrong with it. But once I headed over to Europe, I was impressed by the public transportation network.

For my daily routine in London, I commuted to most parts in under 30 minutes by Tube. In Amsterdam, riding a bike is extremely common, and most urban roads are designed for bikes only. My craziest experience during this study abroad experience was being able to do a day trip to Paris from London, completely using public transportation.



Yinchong Zhen, Utrecht, Netherlands, Summer 2022

I found taking public transportation for travel made the travel experience more unique as it allowed me to see in more detail the cities I was staying in (plus it is way cheaper!)

Besides taking class, I am also using this study abroad experience to completing my Bamford fellowship. The research topic I chose relates to how the Netherlands does better in terms of waste management and recycling. The Netherlands claims the country has the second-highest recycling rate in the world. According to my research, the Netherlands has a much better waste management system than we currently have in the Puget Sound area. Evidence is everywhere. For example, single-use plastic utensils and straws were completely banned by the

Dutch government (or the EU), and plastic bags are rarely used by residents. Also, the Dutch use public waste collection bins throughout many communities instead of single-family-owned bins, which allows a waste sorting system that facilitates better recycling.

Overall, my study abroad journey focused on learning by experiencing other lifestyles. It gave me a lot of real-life examples to many written theories I learned in lecture classes. Also, the experiences inspired me with a lot of potential research ideas that I could use for my future projects. I recommend other students to study abroad and gain better insights!



London, United Kingdom, Summer 2022



Thank You for Reading!

Stay tuned, the next IDEATE will release in March 2023!

To read past newsletters, click [here!](#) ✨



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Submit stories to:

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Tell us how we can support your teaching and innovation! We welcome your ideas and invite you to **get involved** in our community projects and campus workshops.

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