

E-Learning as a Vehicle for U.S.- Russian Collaborative Projects in Social Entrepreneurship, Education, and Science

Abstract: U.S.- Russian cooperation in higher education and research can contribute to university transformation and educational innovation on both sides to confront common global challenges. In fact, such cooperation has provided a number of successful results when U.S. and Russian educational and business leaders invested in a sustainable program model and a strategy that could move them forward. In today's strained political and economic climate between the two countries, how do we continue to develop educational and industry collaborations in the areas of social entrepreneurship, science and technology between Russia and the United States? Are university collaborations becoming old-fashioned? Is there a role e-learning can play in developing intercultural competence, digital literacy, and other 21st-century knowledge, skills, and perspectives among our on-the- ground or virtual teams and students?

The panel presenters will share hands-on experiences in educational exchange, online learning, social entrepreneurship, and educational innovation via a variety in U.S. and Russian contexts.

Presenters: 1. [Kendrick White](#) on technology commercialization/his experience with building a

hub for innovation at UNN and his new projects

2. [Thomas Nechodomu](#) and [Melissa Falldin](#), Instructional Designers, and [Treden Wagoner](#), Academic Technologist at the College of Education and Human Development, University of Minnesota- Twin Cities represent the COIL Initiative at the College of Education and Human Development. The COIL Initiative connects CEHD faculty and their students with classrooms in China and Cyprus, among others. The COIL team creates and supports a virtual global classroom that allow student collaboration on projects that include music education, speech communication, education policy and sports management with their international counterparts. COIL offers students to engage, in real time, international experiential learning from their classrooms on both sides of the world.

3. [Dan Nolan](#), an Assistant Professor of Russian Area Studies and German Studies at the University of Minnesota Duluth. Some of his current research and teaching interests include: Mobile Learning, the Digital Humanities, Russian Digital Culture and Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL). He is also serving as the Chair of the Petrozavodsk Committee of Duluth Sister Cities International, where he is attempting to expand opportunities for learning about the benefits of international exchange. For more see: www.newstepsinternational.org.

4. [Tatiana Tatarchevskiy](#), on a new initiative tentatively

called a Social Change University (a project spinning out of the University Without Borders) - an initiative with a mission to bring in students/leaders from former Soviet region into a multi-disciplinary project-based online learning on issues of universal concern (climate; energy; health; city living)

Moderator: Diana Yefanova, University of Minnesota
