Change in the Higher Education Landscape:  
*The Power of Intercultural Networks in Innovative Learning*

Working Group

ISA Annual Convention, San Francisco 2018

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Objectives:

1. Bring together ISA faculty engaged in, or interested in, cross national and multinational teaching collaborations, utilizing online space.  
   *Collectively we will:*
   - Report and share efforts toward and results of online teaching, including (but not limited to) simulations.
   - Consider the advantages of technology enhanced tools for cross-national collaborations.
   - Examine the role of culture in cross national teaching, and in particular how cross national collaborations can expose students to power and rules embedded in cultures in new and novel ways.
   - Discuss the challenges that emerge from such ventures and ways to cope with them.
   - Develop plans for technology-assisted cross-national teaching collaborations within the group.

2. Promote a professional network oriented around pedagogy and establish ways to sustain that network and keep it active.

3. Encourage partnerships for cross-cultural teaching projects.

4. Work towards technological tools that can support assessment of learning outcomes and cultural dynamics in online collaborative activities.

5. Plan and construct a collective database of innovative learning projects to facilitate multicultural comparative analysis and enable rigorous assessment of educational outputs.

6. Prepare a joint manuscript for publication with articles on the topics of the working group.

The tangible outputs planned for the working group are a joint publication on the working group’s topics and the construction of a joint database, hosted by ISA, to be discussed and planned during our meeting.

Overview:

This Working Group brings together a growing network of ISA members from around the world, who have collaborated online with teaching simulations and other cross national activities, to share best practices, ideas, challenges, and to build and expand on the online collaborations that have been conducted through ISA over the past several years. Information and communications
technologies (ICTs) have provided international studies educators and scholars an unprecedented realm for global collaboration and internationalizing the experience of students at universities around the globe. Yet, this potential continues to be underutilized. The challenges of keeping up with the latest technological developments, and learning how to use the ever-changing mediums, are daunting. Even with sophisticated ICTs to connect universities across borders, collaborations for educational purposes still require the management of people, cultures, time zones and other national differences. As we examine global rules and power dynamics at the 2018 ISA Convention, the imperative of international studies educators to enable students to experience the role of culture, relationships and contexts coincides with powerful tools in which to connect a diverse group of faculty across the globe in this endeavor.