Entrepreneurship Goes Global at SUNY Broome

October 29, 2015

An eclectic fusion occurred last week in ESL 114, an English as a Second Language Listening and Speaking class.

Instead of class being taught by the usual professor, Myriam Stanton, a video call was made to Chihuahua, México. Claudia Ortega, a professor of Entrepreneurship at Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey, spoke to the ESL class from the Chihuahua campus.

Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) has brought together a class of Mexican students in an Entrepreneurship class and an ESL class of students representing 11 different countries. Together, students in both Mexico and here at SUNY Broome will be developing entrepreneurial strategies to identify a need or problem. Through collaborative teamwork and research in the SUNY Broome students' own communities, students will determine if the same need exists in varying environments. The goal is to create a solution to the need or problem that will be effective in a number of diverse settings.

The ESL students raved about the deviation from the norm. Being able to listen to and ask questions of a professor in another country made the COIL project all that much more meaningful to the students. Real-time international interaction in the classroom can powerfully emphasize to students how closely connected we all really are, and how much we need each other to improve our own lives and communities, whether we live in the same state or in two different countries.



Myriam Stanton's class teleconferenced with a professor

in Mexico.

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