

Program Materials

Coronavirus Response Training 3: Technology, Logistics, and Overcoming Common Challenges

May 7, 2020

Topics

1. Welcome, Introductions, and Session Overview
2. Technology and Logistics
3. Overcoming Common Challenges
4. Questions and Discussions
5. Wrap Up and Review of Training and Mentoring Opportunities

Presenters

Ramzi Naja, Head of Innovation, NuVu-Karam

Andie Shafer, Senior Program Associate, The Stevens Initiative, The Aspen Institute

Henry Shepherd, Assistant Director of Research and Design, The Stevens Initiative, The Aspen Institute

Taylor Woodman, Internationalization Specialist, University of Maryland Office of International Affairs

Discussants

Ed Gragert, Director, Global Woods Consultancy

Jon Rubin, Director, COIL Consulting



Bios

Dr. Ed Gragert has four decades of experience in global education. He has most recently served as Interim Directors of iEARN-USA in New York and the Global Campaign for Education in Johannesburg, South Africa. From 2012-2015 he served as the Director of the Global Campaign for Education-US, an advocacy coalition in Washington, DC of 80 organizations committed to securing a quality education for all young people worldwide. Earlier, for 23 years he served as the Executive Director of iEARN-USA, pioneering and expanding online collaborative learning among schools worldwide. He also served as Executive Director of ICYE-US, an international youth exchange program, and worked for the International Relations Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives. Ed received a BA in Japanese political science from the University of Washington and an MA in Korean History and PhD in Japanese History from Columbia University. He published *Landownership Under Colonial Rule: Korea's Japanese Experience* in 1994. He has authored numerous articles and book chapters on educational technology and teacher professional development and has a column on Huffington Post.

Ramzi Naja is the Head of Innovation for the NuVuKaram program. He played an integral role in launching the innovative education programs in Reyhanli and Istanbul, Turkey starting in the Fall of 2017. Part of Ramzi's responsibilities has been organizing and coordinating the virtual exchange program that connects students at Karam Houses in Turkey with American youth across NuVu partner schools in the United States. Prior to joining NuVu in 2017, Ramzi taught architecture studios and seminars and organized a series of symposia while studying at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. He began his career practicing architecture in Beirut, Lebanon after earning a professional degree from the Lebanese American University.

Jon Rubin was Founder and served as Director of the SUNY COIL Center from 2006-2017. He directed the National Endowment for the Humanities funded: COIL Institute for Globally Networked Learning in the Humanities (2010-13), which engaged 47 U.S. and international universities in COIL course development. He also directed the COIL Center's Stevens Initiative project in the MENA region (2016-17) and launched the State Department funded US-Mexico Multistate COIL project which linked 18 Mexican higher education institutions with 14 US campuses. Between 2002-11 he implemented his Cross-Cultural Video course at SUNY Purchase where his students collaboratively co-produced videos with students in Turkey, Russia, Mexico, Belarus, Lithuania, and Germany. In 2017, he created COIL Consulting (coilconsult.com) to support universities around the world develop COIL virtual exchange initiatives. He has written many articles on COIL and is presently co-writing the *Guide to COIL Virtual Exchange*, to be published by Stylus Publishers in 2021.

Andie Shafer is Senior Program Associate at the Stevens Initiative, where she oversees the Initiative's grant portfolio and awardee programs. In addition to program oversight, Andie provides technical support to awardees and virtual exchange practitioners, helping them build capacity and scale their programming. Andie previously worked with the Aspen Institute's Middle East Program, where she supported its three subsidiary programs, focusing on education, vocational training, and entrepreneurship in North Africa. Andie wrote for and served as the editor in chief of a university foreign affairs magazine, has advanced events for the White House, and has spent internships in the office of the White House Office of Scheduling and Advance, the Democratic Governors Association, and Michigan's Governor Jennifer Granholm. Andie, a proud Michigander, holds a B.A. in public policy from the University of Michigan, and continues to study Spanish and Arabic.

Henry Shepherd is Assistant Director of the Stevens Initiative. Prior to joining the Aspen Institute, he was a student in the Master of Science in Foreign Service program at Georgetown University, where he was research assistant to former Assistant Secretary of State Chester Crocker. Earlier, he coordinated the volunteer training program at Soliya, a New York-based organization that facilitates virtual exchange between young people in Western and predominantly Muslim societies. As an undergraduate at Brown University, he helped launch Strait Talk, an international initiative that conducts youth dialogue across the Taiwan Strait. He is from Boston.

Taylor Woodman has a decade of experience facilitating academic exchange and supporting the internationalization of U.S. university campuses. He serves in the Office of International Affairs (OIA) at University of Maryland, supporting faculty development and ongoing assessment projects for international virtual exchange programming. Prior to joining OIA, Taylor served as the Manager of Advising Services in the Office for Study Abroad at the George Washington University. In addition to his professional roles, Taylor researches and teaches on international higher education, academic exchange, qualitative methods and Cuban education. Taylor's research has been published in *Frontiers: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Study Abroad*, *Education Policy and Analysis Archives*, *Journal of Comparative and International Higher Education*, *The Journal of Higher Education* and *International Educator*. Taylor holds a B.A. in Public and Urban Affairs from Virginia Tech and a M.A. in Education Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Maryland. Taylor recently completed his Ph.D. studies from the University of Maryland's International Education Policy Program. To connect with Taylor, visit www.taylorwoodman.com.

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The Stevens Initiative is an international effort to build global competence for young people in the United States and the Middle East and North Africa by growing and enhancing the field of virtual exchange: online, international, and collaborative learning.