



BALTA Legacy

# Social Economy Course Development

An exploration of needs, capacity and ideas

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# OBJECTIVES

- To identify current educational gaps related to the social economy and identify opportunities for BALTA to promote SE learning in academic institutions.
- To understand the interest and capacity within BALTA membership (and institutions) to house, support, and promote SE curriculum.
- To determine the feasibility of developing and delivering an inter-university course related to the social economy (or similar initiative) in BC and Alberta.
- To outline options and points for further discussion at the Calgary Symposium.
- To develop a detailed plan for moving a project forward in January 2010.



# KEY AREAS

1. Educational Gaps & Needs
2. Interest / Capacity / Support
3. Form & Content



# SUMMARY

- There are significant gaps within academic programs and university education re: social economy.
- There is both a need and a desire for SE-related course materials to integrate into existing university programs and courses.
- Although there is a high level of interest, there is limited time and capacity amongst BALTA academics to develop course materials.
- Preferred form would be on-line teaching resources and course materials that could be put together into a stand-alone course or selected from to adapt and integrate into existing courses.



# DESIGN: Option 1

## Teaching Resources (Online Clearinghouse)

- Literature & reading materials
- Links to SE related journals
- Case studies
- Community-based research methodologies
- Media centre
- Activities and exercises

Access: Open



# DESIGN: Option 2

## On-Line Course (stand alone)

- o Modular based
- o Accessible to all BC & Alberta students through Western Dean's Agreement
- o Housed at Athabasca
- o Negotiated shared copyright agreement

Access: Limited



# DESIGN: Option 3

## On-Line Course Materials & Resources

(\*preferred)

- o Module description and learning objectives
- o Readings and related literature
- o Case studies
- o Activities and discussion questions
- o Possible assignments
  
- o Can be compiled into a whole course or selected from and adapted to fit existing courses

Access: Open / Limited



## OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Academic + community-based learning materials
- Connection to broader communications / knowledge dissemination strategy
- Opportunity to link course development with book publication
- Access and authorship





# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT & IMPLEMENTATION

## What we need:

- o Someone to coordinate and lead
- o Someone to synthesize, compile, design and write materials
- o Commitment from BALTA members to contribute research, existing course materials and/or case studies
- o Commitment to use and provide feedback



# PROPOSAL

## 2 Year Project

- ❑ **Coordination**
  - ❑ Mike Gismondi (AU)
- ❑ **Synthesis & Material Development**
  - ❑ 2 positions (post-doc + Sr. RA)
- ❑ **Course Development Advisory Committee**
  - ❑ Interested BALTA members



# DISCUSSION

1. Is course/curriculum development something that we want to allocate resources to in the final year(s) of the project?
2. Design options.
3. Access & authorship.
4. Proposal.
5. Next steps