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)

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

Access: Limited
DESIGN: Option 3

On-Line Course Materials & Resources
(*preferred)

- Module description and learning objectives
- Readings and related literature
- Case studies
- Activities and discussion questions
- Possible assignments

- 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
What we need:

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

- Coordination
  - Mike Gismondi (AU)

- Synthesis & Material Development
  - 2 positions (post-doc + Sr. RA)

- Course Development Advisory Committee
  - Interested BALTA members
1. Is course/curriculum development something that we want to allocate resources to in the final year(s) of the project?

2. Design options.


5. Next steps