

GLOBAL CLASSROOMS AT MC: Transforming Equity Through Technology



Dr. Sharon Fechter, Professor Shelley Jones, and Professor Carla Naranjo
Montgomery College, Montgomery County, MD

[CONTACT US](#)

WHO WE ARE...

- The largest community college in Maryland with over 43,000 students in credit and non-credit offerings
- Three campuses and two workforce development sites
- Rated most diverse college in the continental U.S.: **Black 26.5%, Hispanic 26.4%, White 20.7%, Asian 12.5%, Multi-race 3.6%; Pacific Islander .4%; Foreign/Unknown 10.2%**
- **Resources dedicated to OERs:** 10,000+ students have benefitted, saving our students over \$9 million to date.
- **Accessible and inclusive**--dedicated to the principles of social justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion, and **global learning opportunities**

The Solution: The Global Classrooms Faculty Fellowship provides innovative teaching tools for faculty to promote equity in global learning opportunities for students

*Selected faculty members develop knowledge and expertise in **Collaborative On-line International Learning (COIL)**, which connects students and faculty from geographically distant locations and diverse lingua-cultural backgrounds in order to enhance cultural awareness and knowledge (SUNY COIL, n.d).*

- **Open to full time and adjunct faculty:** 40% of accepted fellows have been adjunct faculty members (2018-2022)
- **Disciplines represented:** Anthropology, Art, Art History, Biology, Business, Chemistry, Communications, Economics, ELAP, English, Geography, Nutrition, Sociology, World Languages (French, Korean, Spanish).
- **Two semester commitment:** Monthly meetings include pedagogical and technological professional development as well as intercultural communication skills building.
- **Partner institutions:** Universidad de El Salvador (UES), Universidad Centroamericana José Simeón Cañas (UCA)-El Salvador, University of Gondar-Ethiopia, University of Science and Technology (ULACIT)-Costa Rica, Seo Kyeong University-South Korea, and others.
- Guided by the **AAC&U Global Learning Value Rubric**

The Challenge: Global Learning Opportunities for Community College Students

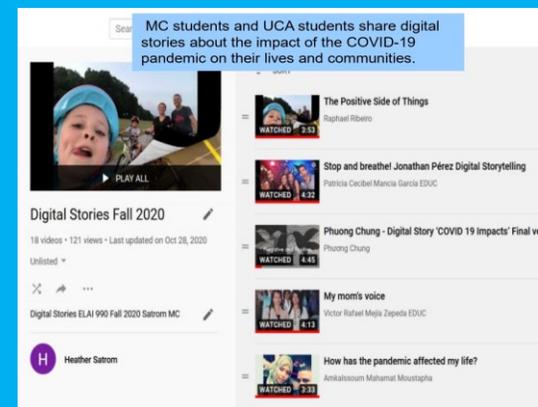
- *Traditionally, the development of global learning competencies has taken place via study abroad programs.*
- *Community college students currently make up 41% of the total undergraduate population (American Association of Community Colleges [AACCC], 2021), and yet a study found that only 1.7% of this population has studied abroad (Custer & Tuominen, 2017). At MC, an average of 8 students per year from 2015-2019 participated in Study Abroad.*
- *Obstacles include cost, family & work obligations (Amani & Kim, 2017) and recently, travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic (Hoff, 2021).*

The Outcome: Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) Models that promote authentic Global Learning opportunities for students without a travel requirement

Synchronous exchanges



Asynchronous exchanges



585 students
have
participated in
COIL
(2017-2021)

[References](#)