

Year In Review

Thematic Network on Collaborative Online International Learning and Biodiversity Education across the Arctic Circle - COIL@UARctic

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IZZY CRAWFORD
ELINA OKSANEN

Year 2025 saw an expansion of COIL@UARctic Thematic Network, reaching from across the Arctic and the circumpolar North over to Nepal and the wider Global South. The Network has created a wealth of resources to promote and facilitate inclusive approaches to COIL focused on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and emphasising reciprocity and cultural humility in working with the Indigenous partners and each other.



Looking ahead to 2026

The key project for this year, funded by Robert Gordon University's Impact Accelerator Fund, looks at evaluating the usefulness of COIL@UARctic resources for Arctic Indigenous Peoples' Higher Education practices, communities, knowledge holders and students' outcomes, and intercultural engagement with Indigenous Knowledge.

We are also looking forward to engaging with the UArctic and wider community at a variety of international events.

Throughout the year, we are planning to run a series of online events, webinars and workshops to encourage wider participation in COIL as a tool for global learning.

Building Connections in Global Education: The Impact of COIL@UARctic Projects Across the North

Our work through the COIL@UARctic Thematic Network has made an impact on bringing scholars, educators and practitioners from across the North and beyond, with shared interest and conviction that global education is ever more important in the current geopolitical, environmental and increasingly challenging climate.

Online and in-person, we connected with colleagues to raise awareness of and develop COIL projects, where students can meet their peers and work with each other on issues commonly faced by many across the globe. As a result, several COIL projects have been established, and more are in the process of development.

Our future work on challenging some underlying assumptions of COIL and making it more inclusive and empathetic of different perspectives, knowledge systems and needs, will deliver richer and more meaningful resources, aligned with the UArctic values.

Key activities

- **The Yellow Tulip Project** - a US based nonprofit organization with a mission to smash the stigma associated with mental illness, build community and spread hope – has joined COIL@UARctic Thematic Network as a member, and launched its new cohort who will engage in a COIL activity within their project.
- **Minute of Understanding with UNITAR:** As part of the UNITAR Global Diplomacy Fellowship Programme, this agreement will create opportunities for joint learning, research, and global engagement initiatives
- It was a great honour for the thematic network to be invited to run a **master class and workshop on Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL)** at the Kathmandu University School of Education
- Thematic Network Co-Lead, **Dr Izzy Crawford, completed a PhD** titled "Preparing students for the global virtual workplace: examining student, faculty, and employer perceptions of collaborative online international learning (COIL)".

FIND OUT MORE !



<https://www.uarctic.org/activities/thematic-networks/coil-uarctic/>

