

Virtual Exchange Now

The 4th International Virtual Exchange Conference (IVEC4) has ended. Actually, it is not so simple. The three days devoted to synchronous online events: keynote talks, workshops, Q&A sessions, have come to an end, but the video presentations, the asynchronous Q&A option and the Community site are still active. Which is great because most of the live events were scheduled in the wee hours in order to accommodate the participants from the Americas who represented the majority this year.

What is the main takeaway from this conference? The validation of my belief that virtual exchange, or telecollaboration, is a dizzyingly fast growing field. This conclusion is not supported only by the ever larger numbers of presentations at Virtual Exchange conferences but also by the scale of the projects. Since the 3rd UNicollaboration Conference, held in 2018 at the Pedagogical University of Krakow, Poland, there has been a shift from individual projects to institution-scale endeavors. The composition of the participants at IVEC4 was different from that of past conferences- almost half of those present were administrators with a clear agenda: to find new international partners and launch massive collaborations across borders and across disciplines. Since OUC was a pioneer in Japan by supporting virtual exchange when the field was largely unknown, I was rather saddened to think that the practice has not spread much beyond the initial stage at our university.



IVEC



Newcastle
University



CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

The IVEC 2020 Organising Committee hereby certifies that

Prof. Daniela Caluianu

has attended the International Virtual Exchange Conference
"Towards Digital Equity in Internationalisation" (IVEC 2020),
hosted online by Newcastle University, 14 - 16 September 2020.

Dr. Müge Satar
IVEC 2020 Conference Chair

