

The BiNational Higher Education Consortium

Planning Meeting scheduled for 1 February 2011

Theses (Which of these Theses make Sense as Big Organizers for Our Conversation?)

Thesis One

A consortium only makes sense if there is meaningful work to do. The degree to which the master agenda is long and compelling is the measure of whether we want to form a Consortium.

Thesis Two

Higher Education in the Niagara Region could accomplish Big Things precisely because of its aggregated economic impact and its non-economic impacts on its communities. We should multiply our impacts and influence and work together.

Thesis Three

Higher Education in the Niagara Region encompasses a wide range of institutions: public and independent; community colleges and baccalaureate/masters/doctoral; large and small. Across the range of differentness in this terrain is it possible for us to identify common cause and develop common agendas? Or should we split into subsets of Higher ED in the Niagara Region and collaborate in these subsets?

.....

No matter which thesis/es would drive our work these are specific questions to address in this, our second meeting?

1. In terms of list making what sort of collaborations already exist: joint research; expertise-sharing in terms of small-business incubation; cross-border internships; cross-border seminars/classes etc?
2. What interests and agendas exist that speak to all of our missions and purposes and ambitions?
3. The minutes from the Fall meeting at Brock (p. 5) list interests and agendas – are there others such as creating binational course content across-the-curriculum?
4. What interests and agendas exist that speak to subsets of the Niagara Region (i.e. the large publics, the two-year institutions, the independents)?
5. What sort of funding is already flowing toward existing efforts?
6. What sources of funding might be available in the future?
7. The Canadian Consulate is active in these matters – no U.S. counterpart?

8. Are there state, provincial, federal policies that we would like to influence/change?
9. What can the BiNational Tourism and Economic Alliance do with/for us?
10. Does this initially remain a Presidents' Collaborative? For how long?

....

Other considerations for our first full conversation on 1 February 2011?

Rick Jurasek

25 Jan 2011