Developing an International Blended Learning Program: Cultural Lessons Learned

This paper will focus on the cultural attitudes encountered during the establishment of a joint Masters program in Instructional Technology between a North American University (NAU) and a Central American University (CAU). Various cultural differences emerged during the formation of the collaboration and execution of the program. These cultural differences involved all aspects of program development from program design to student access to technology. Resolving these issues required both cultural sensitivity as well as an understanding of the impact of globalization for the population of the CAU. Stakeholders involved from both countries exhibited different perspectives and expectations that appeared to be culturally influenced. Some of these cultural differences were not anticipated and therefore became cultural lessons learned.