

## Discussion Guide

### Episode 9: Dennis Wiedman on Raising and Connecting Global Indigenous Voices

---

#### About Global Learning

Global learning is the process of diverse people collaboratively analyzing and addressing complex problems that transcend borders (Landorf & Doscher, 2015). Among many student learning outcomes, global learning develops:

- **Global Awareness:** Knowledge of the interrelatedness of local, global, international, and intercultural issues, trends, and systems
- **Global Perspective:** Ability to conduct a multi-perspective analysis of local, global, international, and intercultural problems
- **Global Engagement:** Willingness to engage in local, global, international, and intercultural problem solving

#### About this Episode

On this episode, Dr. Dennis Wiedman explores the origin, mission, and secrets for success of Florida International University's Global Indigenous Faculty Forum and the Global Indigenous Student Group. Dennis is an Associate Professor in FIU's Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies. He is also founding Director of the Forum, established in 2013 to bring the Indigenous voice to FIU, South Florida, and the world. His interests include Native North Americans and global Indigenous health and wellbeing, and his research ranges from the Miccosukee of South Florida to the Inuit of the Alaskan Arctic, with much of his work in Oklahoma with the Delaware, Plains Apache, and Cherokee. As a medical anthropologist Dennis specializes in social and cultural factors for the global pandemic of Type II diabetes. Global perspectives are incorporated in all his courses in medical anthropology, anthropological theory, ethnohistorical research methods, and introduction to anthropology.

Dennis served on the Executive Board of the American Anthropological Association in the practicing/professional seat and was President of the National Association for the Practice of Anthropology. Throughout his leadership experiences, he has consistently published on organizational culture theory and analysis in leading journals and book chapters.

#### Suggested Learning Outcomes

Upon reflection, listeners to this episode will be able to:

- Explain how global learning on campus can lead to global learning in the local community and in communities around the world
- Describe the role that culturally-oriented student organizations and faculty research networks can play in facilitating global learning and student success
- Discuss ways in which global learning can create social value and lead to social innovation and entrepreneurship

#### Discussion Questions

- What led to the founding of the Global Indigenous Forum and the Global Indigenous Student Group?
- How do FIU's Global Indigenous Forum and Student Group connect indigenous voices to each other on campus, in South Florida, and beyond? How do they connect native and non-native perspectives?
- What role does student and faculty diversity play in global learning?
- How did Wiedman build a critical mass of activity around indigeneity at FIU such that he can fulfill his other teaching, research, and advocacy responsibilities?

## Suggested Activities

- Wiedman says that indigenous peoples received much-needed guidance and support for reemergence from the United Nations Declaration on Indigenous Rights. Challenge listeners to find other examples of international or global organizations enabling local empowerment
- Have listeners research clubs and organizations, academic and student affairs departments, and other entities on campus devoting to raising and listening to diverse voices. Are there any unmet needs? How might these be addressed?
- Have listeners research campus resources to support diverse faculty. Are there any unmet needs? How might these be addressed?

## APA (6<sup>th</sup> edition) Citation

Doscher, S. (Producer/host). (2019, May). *Dennis Wiedman on raising and connecting global indigenous voices*. [Audio podcast]. Retrieved from <https://globallelearningpodcast.fiu.edu/episode-9-dennis-wiedman/>

## About the Podcast

---

“Making Global Learning Universal” is a collection of conversations about engaging diverse perspectives, collaboration, and complex problem solving in higher education—on campus, online, in local communities, and abroad. Episodes are posted seasonally. Guests are from a wide variety of institutions, geographies, and areas of teaching, research, and practice. All episodes are accompanied by show notes, transcripts, and discussion guides to enhance global learning professional development, leadership, and teacher preparation.

The podcast is hosted by [Stephanie Doscher](#), Director of Global Learning Initiatives at Florida International University and co-author of *Making Global Learning Universal: Promoting Inclusion and Success for All*.

The “Making Global Learning Universal” podcast is produced through a partnership between Florida International University’s Office of Global Learning Initiatives, Media Technology Services, and Disability Resource Center.

Episodes, show notes, transcripts, and discussion guides are available at <http://globallelearningpodcast.fiu.edu>.

You may subscribe to the “Making Global Learning Universal” [RSS feed](#) or access the

podcast via iTunes, Spotify, or [Stitcher](#). “Making Global Learning Universal” is also listed on [MERLOT](#).

### Listener recommendations

“Making Global Learning Universal” is always looking for new guests to join the show and interesting topics to cover. [Email us](#) to make a suggestion!

### Contact

Office of Global Learning Initiatives  
Florida International University  
11200 SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
305-348-4145  
[goglobal@fiu.edu](mailto:goglobal@fiu.edu)

### Notes