The ISTE Global Collaboration Network

ISTE (the International Society for Technology in Education) has a diverse international community. There are many Professional Learning Networks (PLNs) within the ISTE community. Members can join a PLN based on their personal interest areas. They can interact with people across the world, of like-minded passions. The Global Collaboration team is one of the newest networks and was started by Australia's Julie Lindsay in 2014. This PLN has 18,500 members across the globe.



Anne Mirtschin
Leader at Large, ISTE Global Collaboration PLN

ne of the new ISTE student standards is that of Global Collaborator - students use digital tools to broaden their perspectives and enrich their learning by collaborating with others and working effectively in teams locally and globally. This falls neatly within the focus of the Global Collaboration PLN. Collaborator is also one of the ISTE Teacher standards.

The ISTE Global Collaboration PLN promotes digital technologies for connecting and collaborating beyond the classroom walls. The network offers best-practice curriculum design to embed global learning experiences into everyday teaching. The community shares tools and methods, curriculum developments, and opportunities for collaborations. The leadership team is global in nature coming from Singapore, USA, Australia, Kuwait and Uruguay. Online monthly meetings are held.

ISTE has a Global Collaboration community site for people to join where conversations, discussions and interactions can take place. One of the latest discussions centres around "Global Collaboration with the Sustainable Development Goals in Mind". Bi-weekly Twitter chats are held at 8am Saturday

morning in the moderator's time zone (either USA or globally based). The twitter hashtag is #ISTEGlobalPLN. Follow @ISTEGLobalPLN on twitter. There are monthly webinars and a website is under development. The leadership team offer presentations, poster sessions and organise a playground at the annual ISTE conference. The poster sessions are always popular. In San Antonio, 2017, there was a Networking Fair, 'The World is Our Classroom' poster session; and an interactive lecture style presentation "Twitter Tools for Global Collaborators."









ISTE Networking Fair poster session with Amy Jambr

Presenters at ISTE Twitter Tools for Global Collaboration



A popular new addition to our ISTE conference activities was the Great Global Scavenger Hunt where interested people met at a designated time and formed small teams to join in the hunt. A social gathering at a Mexican restaurant completed the activity. The PLN team also curates an ISTE conference list to aid in connecting members. Another new focus is the integration of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals with the ISTE Standards.

The map above shows where the some of the Global Collaboration PLN attendees come from.