End of Project Report: I-PEEL - The International Political Economy of Everyday Life

Project Overview

I-PEEL is an online teaching tool that provides everyday entry points into the study of the international political economy. It is designed to encourage self-directed learning, whereby users navigate their own way through the material, and is aimed primarily at university students who want to know more about who gets what in the global economy, why, and how it might be changed.

The I-PEEL editorial team is composed of Dr James Brassett, Dr Juanita Elias, Dr Lena Rethel and Dr Ben Richardson. Phil Tutty has been employed as a software engineer and Luke Bantock as an editorial assistant. The project was initiated by the editorial team in September 2015 using funding from the Institute for Advanced Teaching and Learning at the University of Warwick.

The project team has been supported by a Student Advisory Board drawn from the University of Warwick student body (years 1-3 undergraduate and postgraduate both taught and research). The support of the SAB was instrumental in shaping the project. Among other things, the SAB advised on the length, content and presentation of entries, authorship of articles/accreditation as well as website functionality (esp. with regard to interactive elements such as comments function and 'clickability').

Project Outcomes and Outputs

The main deliverable of this project was a project website in 'tile format' that allows learners to 'click' on images of everyday objects and practices to start their self-directed journey of learning about the international political economy. The website went 'live' in July 2016 and can be accessed at: http://i-peel.org/. At the time of the completion of the initial, IATL-funded phase, the website contained four entries (two practices: care and resistance; and two objects: money and sugar), with another two entries in the process of being uploaded. A further twenty entries had been commissioned from leading experts in the field of international political economy. The project team also produced a short introductory film that provides a visual overview of the project and its pedagogic aims.

Legacy of the Project

The website is registered to the I-PEEL editorial team, who are all presently based at the University of Warwick, and hosted on WordPress. Content is published under a Creative Commons licence (BY-NC-ND) which allows others to download the content and share it as long

as the author is credited, but does not allow others to change the content or use it commercially.

As already mentioned, a number of further entries are in the pipeline. The project team have requested that PAIS fund a student intern during the 2016-17 academic year to help with the maintenance of the website and preparing new content. The project team will successively integrate the website in their own teaching. It has also begun to disseminate information about it to both Warwick-based and external colleagues. The project team will convene a review meeting at the end of the 2016-17 academic year to discuss questions such as student uptake and sourcing of new entries as well as new funding options/possible collaboration with academic publishers.