FURTHER STRATEGIES FOR INTERCULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Alexander et al. (2104) highlight a variety of strategies at the individual level and collective level to foster intercultural development, a sampling of which is offered below.
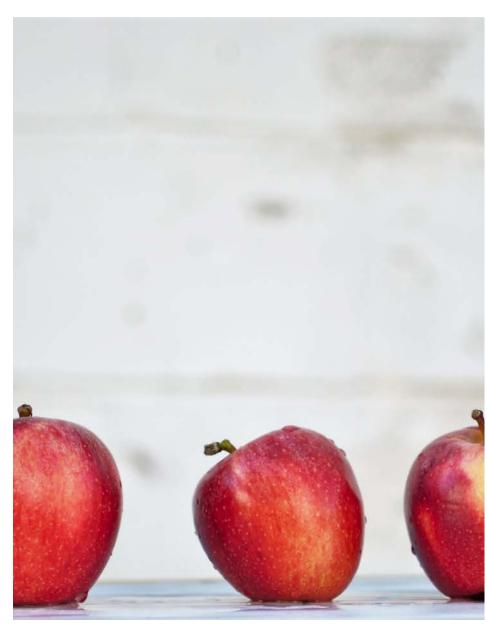
tell the stories, cultural truths, and perspectives of those around you; use the storying of lives to share the urgent issues of society; be mindful of the single story

share what you learn, promote intercultural understandings, and articulate the shortcomings of intercultural communication

accept that situations or challenges will arise and that these intercultural stress points are normal

sit with uncertainty, have openness towards contradictory messages, and be receiving of one another

teach intercultural development through theories and principles that explore and articulate stories of culture, social encounter, cultural expressions and practices, embodiment of gender, and ethnic studies

negotiate differences and struggle to have all voices heard as equals

use *centering approaches* as inclusive of the philosophical / spiritual experiences of marginalized peoples as creative sources of knowledge generation ; invite to the center the complexities of histories

speak up when something is unjust by using cultural humility and responsibility; deal with differences in peaceful and constructive ways

behave in a manner consistent with your beliefs

engage with reflexivity, be self-aware of your impact/ influence on those around you, have compassion, cultural humility, openness, curiosity, peace, generosity

engage actively with interdisciplinary collaborators (share power rather than be an academic lead) and community collaborators to address urgent issues in international development

Use liberatory theorizing to "provide some language for those who often cannot speak, or whose voices we often don't hear, a language that can pierce through the dominant discourse's pretensions to innocence that can truly open up space for critical interruption" (Alexander, 2014, p. 93)

Reference:

Alexander, B., Arasaratnam, L., Flores, L., Leeds-Hurwitz, W., Mendoza, S., Oetzel, J., Osland, J., Tsuda, Y., Yin, J., & Halualani, R. (2014). Our Role as Intercultural Scholars, Practitioners, Activists, and Teachers in Addressing These Key Intercultural Urgencies, Issues, and Challenges. *Journal of International and Intercultural Communication*, 7(1), 68–99.