Welcome to

Online Teaching:
Exploring Fears,
Uncovering
Possibilities

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OND Conference 2013

Walk the Walls Activity

- Please add your thoughts to each of the 6 flipcharts on the walls.
- Use the marker provided.
- Don't hold back. Tell us what you think.

Debrief

Walk the Walls Activity

- What do you see?
- What are the trends?
- What are the similarities and differences?

Introductions

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Purpose

The intent of this workshop is to acknowledge potential barriers and, more importantly, to explore possibilities, breakthroughs, and strategies that create a more enjoyable, enriching, and deeper online experience for both instructor and student.

Think. Pair. Share.

- What do you love about teaching?
- How will you transfer this online?
- What does it mean to be an online educator?
- How will you take advantage of the benefits of online learning?

| Think: 5 mins | Pair: 5 mins | Share: 5 mins |

Faculty Feedback

- change public presentation of selves, often becoming more reserved online
- feel professional rejuvenation from teaching online
- increase structure in online courses
- assume additional responsibilities when teaching online
- feel increased demands on time when teaching online
- reconstruct relationships with students

Major, C.H. (2010). Do virtual professors dream of electric students? University faculty experiences with online learning. *Teachers College Record, 112* (8), 2154-2208.

Handout

Exploring Possibilities

Examples from
Centre for Extended Learning

LEARN

Online Teaching and Learning Terminology:

LMS is an acronym for Learning Management System. Desire2Learn, Blackboard, and Moodle, to name a few, are examples of learning management systems on the market. The University of Waterloo uses Desire2Learn and has branded it as LEARN.

Wikis are collaborative online spaces. They allow for conversation, planning, organizing of documents, project management and the like. Users of a wiki can update the site in real time and all other users can view these updates.

Blogs are websites that allow the blog owner to post information regularly and receive comments on posts from either a select group of individuals or anyone else on the web.

Web 2.0 is a catch-all term describing online applications that allow web users to collaborate and design with others. Blogs and wikis are example of web 2.0 applications as are google docs, sliderocket, glogster, etc.

Online learning courses are course environments that are fully digital and accessible on the web. Online learning is not synonymous with distance education. Distance education implies that the learner is far removed from the physical classroom, instructor and other students. Online learning, on the other hand, refers to synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities in the online environment, regardless of the student or instructor's physical location. Many on-campus students at the University of Waterloo are enrolled in fully online courses.

Cloud computing…. when someone refers to the fact that "it's in the cloud", they mean that their digital work is stored on an external server and they can access that work from any computer at anytime. For example, if you create a Google Document at work on your desktop computer, you can access this at home on your laptop as long as you have an internet connection. The file is stored by Google on their servers "in the cloud".

Blended learning and **hybrid learning** are often used interchangeably. A blended or hybrid course is one that is being offered both in a traditional face to face classroom environment as well as in an online environment.

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Online Teaching and Learning Tools:

LEARN**:** uWaterloo's learning management system

AdobeConnect: web conferencing software that allows instructors to create a virtual classroom session and connect with students synchronously.

Youtube: The University of Waterloo's youtube channel can be used as a repository for course videos created by the instructor or by the university. A link to the videos can be created from a LEARN course site.

Piazza: An asynchronous, online tool that functions much like Discussions in LEARN.

iTunes U: Audio and video recordings of course content can be posted to iTunes U. A widget is created on the online course homepage in LEARN and students can access the content through this portal.

ePortfolios: the ePortfolio tool is available through LEARN. This is an online space where students can store and share their reflections, assignments, projects, presentations with instructors and other students that are using LEARN. They can also share presentations with a third party.

Concept Mapping tools: allow students to visually represent what they know or what they are learning and how it all fits together. Visual Understanding Environment (VUE) and Text2MindMap are examples of free online concept mapping tools.

Prezi: presentation creation tool

Glogster: poster-creating tool

Mediawiki: wiki site that can be used for collaborative writing activities.

Teaching Perspectives Inventory: This site will help you reflect on your personal perspective or orientation to teaching through a series of 45 questions.