



Technology & Learning Conference 2013
 Faculty Engagement Strategies in Online Education
 Presenters: DeVry University Faculty

**Description:**

According to research, online higher education enrollment has outpaced overall higher education enrollment 5:1 over the last decade. Because of this, faculty are forced to transition traditional onsite courses into an online environment with very little training, thus causing lower engagement than traditional courses. In this round table discussion, educators from across the region will discuss the various techniques used to increase the level of engagement and retention in online courses with an emphasis on available technology. Ideas will be introduced from outside institutions, as well as introducing third-party technologies that can be incorporated both in-and-out of the online learning environment.

Step 1: Engage!

Engagement Strategies:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constant Contact – 8 Days a Week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Emails</i> ○ <i>Announcements</i> ○ <i>Phone calls</i> • Spell everything out • Be Redundant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Say the same thing as many times as possible in as many locations as possible</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know your students and get them to know you <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Keep a spreadsheet or journal</i> • Hyperactive Discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Higher frequency postings with meaningful content (every day)</i> ○ <i>Don't reply to everyone, just those that are active in the conversation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Meaningful posts will get piled on by the active students</i> • Supply resources and course wrap up

Step 2: Embrace Technology

<p>Screen Recorders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screencast-o-matic (http://screencast-o-matic.com/) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Free to use</i> ○ <i>Java-based applet to record up to 15 minutes of your desktop actions and audio</i> ○ <i>No installation required</i> ○ <i>Adds a halo and other visuals to help the view follow along</i> ○ <i>Easy to use and record</i> ○ <i>Cannot edit without video editing software</i> • Jing (http://www.techsmith.com/jing.html) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Free to use</i> ○ <i>Requires an installation</i> ○ <i>Similar attributes at Screencast-o-matic</i> ○ <i>Can edit with Camtasia Studio (extra cost)</i> ○ <i>Limited to 5 minute recordings in free version</i> <p>Grading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word's Track Changes • Adobe Acrobat Pro PDF Tools 	<p>Video Hosting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screencast (http://screencast.com/) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>~Free, cleaner than YouTube but limited</i> ○ <i>Bandwidth can run out quickly</i> • YouTube (http://www.youtube.com/) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Free, but has some issues related to advertisements</i> <p>Screen Sharing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adobe Connect (http://adobe.ly/bZJ2mn) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>There are costs involved</i> ○ <i>Requires an installation</i> ○ <i>Has chat and audio</i> ○ <i>Can assign viewers as presenters</i> • Join.Me (https://join.me/) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Free to use</i> ○ <i>Requires an installation</i> ○ <i>Has chat and audio</i> ○ <i>Can assign viewers as presenters</i>
Helpful Hardware, Software, & Websites:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webcam • Microphone • Scanner • URL List (http://urli.st/) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BIG hard drive • Google Drive/Dropbox/Cloud tools • Tablet/Smartphone (to post on the go) • Send Space (http://www.sendspace.com/)

Step 3: Roll with the Punches and Adapt

Digital Version: <http://jonagresta.com/mccc.pdf>

Jonathan A. Agresta, M.Ed.
 William Wagner, PhD
 Maer Dos Santos, M.S.

jagresta@devry.edu
wwagner@devry.edu
mdossantos@devry.edu