Proposal Title: Audio Feedback Protocols in Online Learning Environments
Proposal Category: Best Practices
Author: Patrick O'Shea

This session will describe the experience providing audio feedback to online learners using .MP3 technology. Using a sample of online learners at Walden University, the instructor provided spoken feedback to written work. Each student was responsible for submitting a series of written assignments over the course of 8-weeks of instruction. In some cases, the teacher provided embedded comments and tracked-changes within the body of these documents, while in other cases providing audio recordings of feedback. This was the only instance, in most cases, where the students actually heard the voice of the instructor.

This session will discuss the benefits and drawbacks of such an approach to feedback provision based on perceptions gathered from participants. Included in this discussion will be exploration of the technological issues confronted during the process, and the possible solutions to these concerns.