Abstract: Old School to New School: Can Technology Open New Doors to Enhance Student Learning?

In this “Best Practices” session, participants will be introduced to an online learning management system used by the presenter as an integral component in teaching education courses in a college curriculum. The presenter will demonstrate the many capabilities of the Learning Management System; including how to “build” student assignments, moving away from “traditional” assignments to more “non-traditional” teaching methodologies, and student input and feedback in their attempts to embrace this new format of learning. Of particular interest for discussion purposes will be how the Learning Management System enhances student learning and improves pedagogy while contributing to a “green” environment. Other peripheral activities developed such as threaded discussions, chat rooms and virtual class meetings using Dim Dim software will also be presented. Implementation challenges and successes will be discussed. Attendees will be encouraged to explore how these strategies could possibly improve classroom teaching. Q&A session to follow, time permitting.

Comments:
I am excited to submit this proposal for consideration! As I try to mark which “Topic” is most appropriate for my proposal, please know I do struggle with marking only one under the heading of “New Roles of Learner and Instructor.” I am also somewhat concerned about the time allowed for the “Best Practices” session. As I understand it, these should be 20 minutes long. In order to cover all that I hope to, I’m sure it would take longer than 20 minutes to cover the information thoroughly. Should I plan to narrow down the discussion (if accepted) or is there another avenue which would allow me to present for a longer amount of time? I'll be more than happy to do either! Please advise when convenient. Thank you in advance for your consideration!

Loren Ryan

p.s. I have attached my abstract/proposal instead of copying and pasting above. When I did this as instructed, I get an error message that says my “abstract is too long. It must contain no more than 1000 characters.” Yet, when I do a word count on my abstract, indicators tell me the abstract is only 171 words long. I am not sure what is happening here, but I am deleting above and attaching below.