Best Practices session
Topic: Higher Education
Title: Strategies for Using Video Podcasting to Support Student Reflections

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Objectives or Purposes: To provide a unique approach to improving foundational pedagogical delivery to information processing and learning, an elementary education instructor will discuss how video podcasting was used within an introduction to teaching as a career course to deepen student reflections.

Overview: Thirty-three pre-service teachers were enrolled in an early field experience course. These pre-service teachers were to complete forty-five hours of supervised field experiences that engaged them in Professional Development Schools (PDS). Six required reflections were assigned throughout the fall semester. To give examples of educational topics and to analyze observed teaching practices, and to reflect on observed teaching practices, instructor generated video podcasting was used. Baird and Fisher (2006) have found that podcasts can be effective in enhancing student engagement and reflection. These reflections focused on the following: 1) learning environment, 2) teaching and learning, 3) curriculum, materials and resources, 4) children and adolescents, 5) classroom management, and 6) becoming a teacher. Because these reflections were grounded in learning theories, emphasis were placed on student to critical think and problem solve while applying their observed teaching practices.

Online Learning Strategies: The course instructor will explain the important learning strategies that must be considered when creating a video podcast to develop reflective thinking students. Ways to incorporate examples, subjects’ interests, various types of visuals, resources and the use of thinking pauses questions will be discussed. Also, lessons learned along the way to avoid the pitfalls will be shared.

Reference