20 Countries, 30 Teacher Educators: International Teacher Education Course on 21st Century Instruction

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This round table presentation will be shared in three parts. Part one will take a look at the development of an international course for teacher educators. Online instruction comes with a set of challenges and opportunities, working with 30 teacher educators from 20 countries magnifies the challenges and the opportunities. Part one will explore the challenges and solutions that relate to the initial development of the course experience. Part II will explore the implementation phase of the project. Examples of student discussion, live webinars and course management issues will be shared. In Part III, the course outcome, the creation of a 21st century teaching course for preservice teachers will be shared.

The course, Preparing Tomorrow’s Teachers with Web 2.0 Tools and 21st Century Skills, developed over a four week period. Each week of the course a different topic for a general teacher education method’s course was evaluated based on what types of content and activities would prepare students to be 21st century digital age teachers. For example weekly topics included, pedagogy, integrating technology, assessment and course frameworks. Based on the input, the ideas where summarizes in a collaborative syllabus for the preservice course.

In the end, each of the 30 teacher educators had learned a great deal about the cultures, teaching practices and policies from around the world which they could use to impact their own educational settings. They also had collaborated on a teacher education course the elements of which could be used either in part or whole for teaching 21st century teaching to their preservice teachers in their respective countries.