CITE 2015 ONLINE LEARNING CONFERENCE APRIL 28-30 | ORLANDO, FL & ONLINE
VIRTUAL PRESENCE

Inspire and Engage in the Virtual Classroom and Beyond
Agenda

• The case for virtual presence
• What is virtual presence?
• Strategies for enhancing your virtual presence
Have you ever:

• Felt uneasy because you don’t know how your content is landing?
• Video conferenced with someone who was not camera ready?
• Facilitated a meeting and wanted more organized participation?
• Left a webinar or presentation early because of the presenter’s *unique* vocal quality?
• Forgotten about a virtual colleague in a mixed in person/virtual meeting?

RAISE YOUR HAND…
VIRTUAL PRESENCE

The ability to authentically connect with virtual audiences so that they feel included, engaged and inspired.
vPRES Model

Virtually…

PRESENT
REACHING OUT
EXPRESSIVE
SELF-KNOWING
VIRTUALLY

Choose technology that best supports your communication goals
VIRTUALLY TIPS

- Try different platforms and devices
- Make requests of others to put in some extra effort to join you on the preferred platform, and make it easy for them!
PRESENT

Focused on the now. Flexible/Adaptable. Aware of what’s happening in the virtual “room.”
PRESENT TIPS

• Take a deep belly breath before picking up the phone and when you find your nerves taking over!

• Strategically eliminate distraction: Close all applications and hide devices…or just name it and claim it!
REACHING OUT

Builds trusting relationships. Asks questions & solicits opinions. Strong listening skills. Shows empathy.
REACHING OUT TIPS

• Start every conversation with curiosity and generosity.
• Pause to check-in throughout conversation/presentation
• “Voluntell” others to contribute throughout the call or presentation so people can’t hide out.
EXPRESSIVE

Voice, body, face & message are aligned. Communicates with energy & passion.
EXPRESSIVE TIPS

• Make notes in your agenda about the way you want to come across during each section “charm” “warn” “inspire” etc.

• Create the illusion of eye contact by looking directly into the webcam
SELF-KNOWING

SELF-KNOWING TIPS

• Ask a colleague for feedback to build self-awareness.

• Set yourself up for success by preparing. Send agenda in advance with clear sections (forces clear thinking & communication).
Cultivating a workplace that supports VIRTUAL PRESENCE

- Invest in & train people in technology
- Find early adopters to model behavior
- Make sure that your office set up supports initiatives (skype room, etc.)
- Consider tying virtual presence related skills into your competencies and performance reviews
GO PRACTICE!
THANK YOU!