-----Original Message-----
From: Bonnie Shepard <blshepardconsulting@gmail.com>
To: BFR <BFR@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wed, Nov 7, 2012 9:24 pm
Subject: [BFR] Seeking suggestions for innovations in online education

Dear BFR colleagues,  I have been admiring the wonderful collaboration that exists in this group.   What a great model of generous support to each other!   Now I have a question, and as others do, I will gather together all the responses in an attachment.

I have a client that has developed a 2-week course on sensitive and emotional topics related to sexual health, and because of the nature of the content, has only conducted face-to-face courses using mainly active learning methods.  They work mainly in developing countries, and want to make the course available online.  Some participants might only have access to audio because of low bandwidth in their home citie s or countries.  My client could use guidance on possible fairly low-cost tools and technologies that they could experiment with.  Are any of you aware of overviews of the literature on this topic?  Or could you describe an experience that you have found very successful, with some information on how to implement a similar program and the cost of running the technology?

Many thanks on behalf of my client,   Bonnie

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**RESPONSES**

 Hi, Bonnie

I teach hybrid courses at Columbia -- some lectures are person, and some combine virtual lectures and online discussions, recorded lectures, online reading. It's tricky as you lose a lot when you lose communications channels.

Professor Andy Ng was teaching a course on elearning. <http://venture-lab.stanford.edu/education> i was considering taking it, and I just didn't have the time.

There are also other articles popping up all the time.

<http://go.bloomberg.com/tech-deals/2012-10-01-virtual-class-in-session-startups-apps-bring-users-together/>

Also, there are many good tools for this that are low priced

<http://smallbusiness.foxbusiness.com/technology-web/2012/08/27/best-online-platforms-for-virtual-meetings/>

I'm really looking forward to learning what you learn!

Cheers

Kate

Katrina Pugh

Interim Director, Columbia Information and Knowledge Strategy Masters Program

President, AlignConsulting
Author of [Sharing Hidden Know-How](http://www.amazon.com/Sharing-Hidden-Know-How-non-Franchise-Leadership/dp/0470876816/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1295578223&sr=1-1) (Jossey-Bass/Wiley, 2011)

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Hi Bonnie,

Contact Management Sciences for Health, headquartered in Cambridge. They have been doing health education and leadership development across the developing world for decades.MSH has pioneered many innovative learning approaches and I'm sure someone there will be glad to share ideas with you.

Debora

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Note from Bonnie: Here is the website for MSH e-learning resources – the leadernet people did not answer my email.

<http://msh.org/resource-center/e-learning/index.cfm>