On-line SITE Forums: Joining and Participating

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Abstract

Educators increasingly live more frenzied professional and personal lives. Yet, the demands to stay connected, collaborate, and learn continue to exert pressure on us. Participation on professional forums can provide educators with possibilities to rearrange their time while remaining intellectually and professionally active. Attendees of the initial sessions will be given a working knowledge and skill set for joining and participating on AACE forums. More electronic forums for educators are available and it is increasingly important to join and participate in on-line forums.

A follow-up session will be offered for initial workshop participants and on-line forum leaders. Once the skills and on-line protocols are mastered one may wish to moderate or lead an on-line conference. This presentation will provide attendees with handouts and follow-up support for participating on AACE forums.

Objectives

This presentation has two main objectives. First, this session will provide skill and knowledge for novices who desire to participate in on-line communities. Second, leaders and moderators will be provided with an understanding of techniques and responsibilities of their role as a leader of on-line communities. Follow-up on-line opportunities will be offered to all attendees of these sessions.

Intended Audience

There is no experience requirement for attendees for either of the initial sessions. This presentation is designed to provide individuals with the requisite skills and knowledge to participate in AACE on-line forums. There are also no prerequisites for participation in the either initial sessions.

Attendees to the second follow-up session should have attended the first session or been designated as moderators or vice presidents of AACE affiliated forums. Other forum moderators or leaders may attend the follow-up session.

Proposed length

Two 1-hour beginning sessions beginning and mid conference.

Topical outline of the content

Note Well: This panel will primarily focus on AACE sponsored forum participation. Discussion of other on-line applications will be presented only if time allows and in response to audience questions.

Initial sessions for participants
Different kinds of educational forums
Why join an on-line educational forum
Unique aspects of AACE forums
Discussion of hand out materials
How to join AACE forums
Special considerations related to forums
Potential embarrassing situations to be avoided
Where to find support

Follow-up session for leaders
The forum leader's mission –

> making the community work
>> Making the experience one that is enjoyable and useful
> Anticipating and resolution of forum member needs
> Selection of key participants
> Humanizing on-line experiences
> Getting support fast and when you need it

Instructor's qualifications

Roger Carlsen supervises or has developed approximately 100 on-line fora and conferences using various on-line products. Among his current duties are graduate educational technology advisor at Wright State University in Dayton, OH. He currently serves as moderator for Association for the Advancement of Computers in Education (AACE) announcements, moderator for Educational Technology Review, and supports on-line forums for the Society for Information Technology in Education (SITE).

His current has teaching responsibilities that include graduate courses in telecommunications, on-line education, and distance education. This academic year he is scheduled to provide in-service to 54 school districts. During the past 3 years he has prepared or supervised approximately 400 educational or corporate web sites. Since 1984 Roger Carlsen has served as an officer of 3 technology corporations.