



ONLINE LEARNING CONFERENCE  
APRIL 28-30 | ORLANDO, FL & ONLINE





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# VIRTUAL PRESENCE

Inspire and Engage in the Virtual Classroom and Beyond



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# Agenda

- The case for virtual presence
- What is virtual presence?
- Strategies for enhancing your virtual presence



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## *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...



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## ► VIRTUAL PRESENCE

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



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# vPRES Model

*Virtually...*

**P**RESENT  
**R**EACHING OUT  
**E**XPRESSIVE  
**S**ELF-KNOWING



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## ► VIRTUALLY

Choose technology that  
best supports your  
communication goals



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## ► 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!





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## ► PRESENT

Focused on the now. Flexible/  
Adaptable. Aware of what's  
happening in the virtual "room."



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## ► 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!



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## ► REACHING OUT

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



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## ► 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.



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## ► EXPRESSIVE

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



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## ► 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



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## ► SELF-KNOWING

Self-confident.

Prepared & ready for virtual interactions.

Uses concise, clear, *specific* communication.

Aware of virtual communication strengths & challenges



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## ► 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).





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# 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



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# GO PRACTICE!

# CITE

# 2015



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# THANK YOU!