Synchronous Classrooms at FLCC

FingerLakes
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Success. It’s In Our Nature.
STC 2019 Presenters

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FLCC Serves Four Rural Counties with Four Campus Centers

Counties: Ontario, Wayne, Seneca, Yates

Campus Centers

1. Canandaigua
2. Newark
3. Geneva
4. Victor
Degree Completion in Rural Areas Made Challenging by:

- Limited transportation issues
- Distances between campus
- Limited course offerings at campus centers
To address retention issues, in March 2017 Dr. Nye set a goal for FLCC to offer a minimum of 3 classes synchronously between the Canandaigua and Campus Centers by Fall 2017.
FLCC Synchronous Classes

Initiative began in March ’17

Goal:
Offer 3 classes synchronously Fall ’17

Six Month Deadline!
FLCC Synchronous Classes
Ten Steps to Success

1. Assemble Planning Team

Faculty
Instructional Technology
IT & Networking
Facilities
Anyone with knowledge and/or interest!
2. Develop Specifications

- Must be intuitive/easy as dialing the phone
- Must integrate with existing classroom technology
- Instructor & students at both ends must be able to hear & see each other clearly
- Hands off operation at remote sites
- All rooms need to be identical
3. Identify Potential Solutions
   Cisco Spark
   Infocus Mondopad
   Polycom

4. “Bring me a Buick!” Dr. Nye
   (Cisco’s Speaker Tracking beat out all others)
5. Design and Quotes
   Identify Rooms

6. Equipment lead times/backorders!
   (Hurry up and wait!)

7. Logistics
   Identify Pilot Courses
   Identify Instructors
8. Installation & Testing
   Canandaigua
   Victor
   Newark

9. Training
   Instructional Tech Staff
   IT Support Staff
   Faculty
   (3 days before classes started!! )
10. Continuous Improvement

Since Fall ‘17 we have significantly improved:

• Stability
• Faculty Prep/Training
• Response/Reaction Time
• Communication Paths
• Increased support during semester startup
FLCC Synchronous Classes
As of Spring ‘19

• FLCC has five Synchronous Classrooms (added Geneva Campus & 2\textsuperscript{nd} Room at Main Campus)
• 17 Synch Courses ran Spring ’19 (36 instances per week)
• Four Evening Classes
• Multisite Class Capability (one to two, three, or four)
• WebEx Capability for Offsite Access
• 22 Synch Courses Fall ’19 including Saturdays (53 instances per week)
FLCC Synchronous Classes

Hello, Robin!

And now let’s flip the classroom....
FLCC Synchronous Classes
Standard Room Setup

• Instructors PC/Document Camera/Laptop Connection
• Projector/Smart Board
• “Room View” Cameras/Speaker Track
• “Presenter View” Camera
• Remote Room Monitor(s) (front & rear)
• Ceiling Mic(s)
• White Board
• Touch Ten Control Pad
FLCC Synchronous Classes
Lessons Learned

- Start Early
- Importance of LMS
- Prepare Faculty to be flexible, not necessarily technical
- Not all courses lend themselves to this format
- No configuration changes during the semester!
- Have spare parts
- Cisco Option Key – Remote Monitoring
- Have a great partner!
FLCC Synchronous Classes
Program Evolution – Room Kit
Questions?