

Proposal Title – Students take the wheel! How a private blog enabled undergraduate researchers to guide a large project.

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Abstract – There is growing advocacy for including the student voice in educational research and initiatives. Students involved in such projects are often transformed through the process, finishing their participation with new insights and awareness of the curriculum they experience. One way to document the students' experience and activity is through the use of private blogging software.

In 2015, a large discrete learning outcomes project was completed with the help of three undergraduate co-op students. The logistics of the project required excellent communication, task delegation, and time management of the students. The students used private online blogging software to document their progress on the project. Through a qualitative secondary data analysis, we analyzed the blogs and identified a number of emergent themes that suggest how the blogging software may have contributed to the students' success in the project.

In this presentation, we will share the main findings of our retrospective analysis of the students' use of the blogging platform. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss their thoughts and reflect on student engagement opportunities within their practice.

Elements of Engagement

Participants will engage in short discussions scattered throughout the presentation.