Designing A Virtual Conference: Engaging Students In Research

Track: Tools and Technologies
Date: Friday, November 22 (9:45-10:30)
Location: Northern Hemisphere D

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Session Overview

1. Why Hold a Virtual Conference?
2. Survey of Student Interest & Results
3. Addressing Student Questions and Organizing the Conference
4. Applications and Review/Selection Process
5. Preparing for the Conference: Mock Presentations
6. Future Recommendations
Why Hold A Virtual Conference?

- Professional scholarship opportunities set students apart
- Help students develop a professional identity in their field
- High-impact practice
Survey of Student Interest & Results

- Gathered Student Interest Data
- Use of Qualtrics Survey
- Four data points
- 753 currently enrolled graduate students, 62 responses recorded; response rate of 8.23%.
Survey Results

What Graduate Program Are Respondents Enrolled In?

- Masters of Education: 8
- Masters of Business: 12
- Masters of Humanities: 7
- Masters of Criminal Justice: 10
Survey Results

What Are Respondents Interested In?

- Interested in Submitting a Proposal For A Virtual Poster:
  - Masters of Education: 1
  - Masters of Business: 1
  - Masters of Humanities: 1
  - Masters of Criminal Justice: 3
  - Not Specified: 1

- Interested in Submitting a Proposal For Virtual Presentation:
  - Masters of Education: 2
  - Masters of Business: 2
  - Masters of Humanities: 2
  - Masters of Criminal Justice: 1
  - Not Specified: 0

- Interested in Attending Virtually, But Not Presenting:
  - Masters of Education: 6
  - Masters of Business: 1
  - Masters of Humanities: 5
  - Masters of Criminal Justice: 5
  - Not Specified: 0

- Not Interested in Attending or Presenting in an Online Conference:
  - Masters of Education: 2
  - Masters of Business: 4
  - Masters of Humanities: 1
  - Masters of Criminal Justice: 2
  - Not Specified: 0
Survey Results

When Respondents Would Prefer the Conference be Held

- Weekday Evening (5-9pm): 4 Masters of Education, 3 Masters of Humanities, 3 Masters of Business, 7 Masters of Criminal Justice, 1 Not Specified
- Weekday Morning (9am-1pm): 4 Masters of Education, 5 Masters of Humanities, 1 Masters of Business, 3 Masters of Criminal Justice, 0 Not Specified
- Weekend Evenings (2pm-6pm): 1 Masters of Education, 2 Masters of Humanities, 2 Masters of Business, 1 Masters of Criminal Justice, 1 Not Specified
- Other: 1 Masters of Education, 1 Masters of Humanities, 1 Masters of Business, 1 Masters of Criminal Justice, 1 Not Specified
Concerns Students Had About The Conference

- Time differences and conflicts
- Technologies required
- Availability of Resources
- Topics for presenting
- Who can present and attend
Addressing Student Questions

Faculty, technology staff, program chairs, and Dean decisions:

- Free to attend
- Flyer with link to google form to collect applications
- Deadlines and requirements for presentations
- Present live with Adobe Connect and record
- Website to access conference sessions and materials
Conference Flyer

- Shared with alum and current graduate students through email once a month (Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec)

- Google Form data collected during this time

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The 1st Virtual Graduate Conference at Tiffin University

Mark the Date: 04/24/2019
Time: 4:00-9:00 pm (EDT)

Welcome and Overview
The Department of Graduate Studies at Tiffin University invites all graduate students to submit a proposal and be considered for presentation at the 1st virtual Graduate conference on April 24th, 2019 from 4:00pm - 9:00pm (EDT). We welcome proposals from all disciplines (Business, Criminal Justice & Social Sciences, Education, and Humanities).

Attendance and Registration Information
- **Attendees:** If you would like to attend this conference, it is free and a link will be sent out via email for you to access the conference sessions and materials in April.
- **Presenters:** If you would like to present virtually or share a digital poster, click here to learn more about requirements and to submit an application no later than midnight, January 15, 2019.

If you have any questions or problems regarding your Virtual Conference registration, please contact Dr. Michelle Meadows (email: meadowsmk@tiffin.edu) or Dr. Sami Mejri (email: mejri@tiffin.edu). For specific questions about your proposal or areas of interest, please feel free to reach out to your faculty advisor, program chair and/or Assistant Dean in your department.

Why Present?
- Professional scholarship opportunities will set you apart from other graduates
- Applying content in your courses will help develop a professional identity in the field
Registration Application Process: Google Forms

The 1st Virtual Graduate Conference at TU

Event Timing: April 24th, 2019
Event Address: Online
Contact us at meadowwvgtuinc.edu Ph. (567) 268-0042

Name(s) of Presenters *
Short answer text

Email *
Short answer text

Program of Study *
- M.Ed.
- M.Hum.
- MS. Psychology
- M. Business Administration
- MS. Criminal Justice

Type of Presentation *
- Digital Poster
- Virtual Presentation

Preferred time of Presentation on April 24th, 2019 *
- 4:00 pm to 4:45 pm (EDT)
- 5:00 pm to 5:45 pm (EDT)
- 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm (EDT)
- 7:00 pm to 7:45 pm (EDT)
- 8:00 pm to 8:45 pm (EDT)

Presentation Topic *
Long answer text

Do you have the required Technology to present virtually? (Select all that applies)
- Computer
- Internet connection
- Microphone and Webcam

Abstract (150 words max) *
Long answer text

Please upload your proposal for a presentation or a poster (Refer below for submission requirements).
Conference Website

Graduate Student Virtual Conference

Event Details
April 24, 2019 @ 3:30-8:30 p.m. (EDT)
Free and open to the public
Hosted by Tiffin University

Overview
The Department of Graduate Studies at Tiffin University invites all students, alumni, faculty, staff and community to attend our first Graduate Student Virtual Conference.

Join us as current and alumni graduate students present live while sharing knowledge and expertise of their field in distance education. The presenters will provide insight about a day in the life of an online graduate student and demonstrate how they applied content from their coursework to develop their professional identity in their career field.

Why Should I Attend?
1. To learn new tools and strategies that can apply to your current career
2. To network with other professionals within your field
Preparing For The Conference

- Adobe Connect Trials: ensure presenters downloaded Adobe connect and practice screen sharing
After Conference

- Thanked presenters
- Shared recording of presentation with all presenters, faculty, and students
- Reviewed survey data from those who attended the conference
Future Recommendations

- Make the conference a requirement or extra credit for course work
- Gather more data
- Advertise earlier
- Multiple days/times
Questions?