

September 18th, 2008

Working with Technology: A Funny Thing Happened on My Way to My Master's

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Overview: In the process of working on my practicum for the University of Phoenix on-line Master's of Nursing program I had an opportunity to use many avenues of technology to include PowerPoint, audio narration, photography and video.

Objective: This presentation will share the difficulties encountered with technology, costs and budgeting and ways the difficulties were solved.

Background: Initial project was to be a cardiopulmonary resuscitation video (CPR) for person's with tracheostomies. Project changed to streaming PowerPoint tracheostomy manual due to cost of production and lack of funding.

❖ Costs and Funding

- Videographer/Photographer producers- \$4,000-\$52,000.
- Attempted to find people to do it for lower cost or as tax deduction failed.
- Applied for several grants with little response.

❖ Professional Project with Little to No Funds

- Change to PowerPoint- lower production costs
- Video clips and photography- well skilled amateur, may also use students
- Actors- non-professional, volunteers (proper consents needed)

❖ Streaming PowerPoint

- Intent- self-study review for learner's or adjunct to clinical teaching
- Web based learning- accessible via the web for all to use

❖ Video

- Short clips with little acting or direction overdubbed with narration.
- More visibly interactive than pictures or drawings
- May use personal video equipment but need to use video editing software
- Difficulties noted include compiling project onto CD (must include video files otherwise videos will not play). (Also include videos when transferring files to other computers).
- Consider computer compatibility- most facilities will have older versions of Windows than that used at home- make program accessible to older computer systems (Window's Vista example has built in ability).
- Also consider compatibility when converting video into the PowerPoint file. (Window's Vista automatically converts video to Window's Viewer while older versions of windows to not).

❖ Audio Narration

- Built in to newer versions of Microsoft PowerPoint, only need microphone.
- May be found with some microphone software.
- Use
 - Be sure to have a good script
 - May narrate slide to slide
 - Practice timing and narration before recording
 - Can edit narration (be sure to save file before editing each time)

❖ Photography

- More visually dynamic than drawings
- With added effects and transitions that mirror narration

❖ Conclusion

- Do not over complicate the process of producing your project
- Plan well before moving forward
- Do not be afraid of the technology
- Find the right people to help if stuck
- Have FUN with the project

Reference

Mequi, J (2008). Tracheostomy Care, Emergency Equipment and Scenarios, and CPR for Persons with Tracheostomies. Phoenix Children's Hospital Trach and Airway Program.

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