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Re:Thinking Virtual Faculty learning Communities

Angela Atwell

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, atwell2@erau.edu

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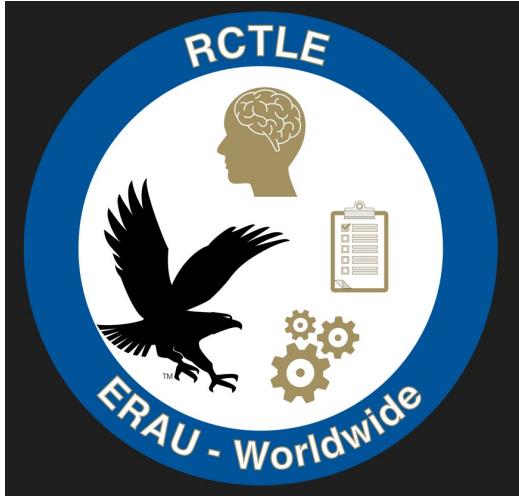


RE:THINKING VIRTUAL FACULTY LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Angela Atwell

Rothwell Center for
Teaching and
Learning
Excellence

Embry-Riddle
Aeronautical
University -
Worldwide



10 Terms

90%



1,100

9 Weeks



What's Your Favorite Hero Group?



FACULTY LEARNING COMMUNITIES



- Collaborative, community-building experience focused on improving teaching and learning practice
- Group engaged in active, collaboration to enhance teaching and learning.
- Frequent and regular activities
- Cohort-Based – needs of the group are paramount and content is shaped by interest
- Topic-Based – addresses a specific need. Ends when need is satisfactorily addressed

(Cox, 2001, 2004)

QUALITIES FOR COMMUNIT

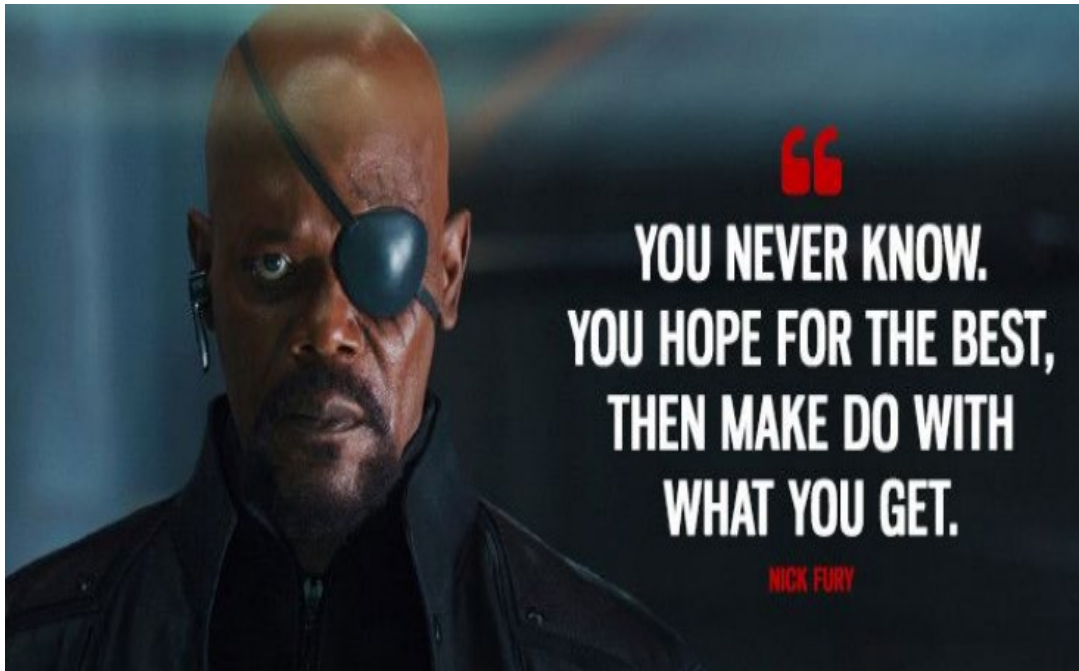


(Cox, 2001)



How do you currently
create space and
opportunity for
community?

AND SO, IT BEGAN



- 2016 POD Early Researcher Grant
 - 2017 Researcher Grant
 - 2020 Research on Size
 - 2022 Additional Passive Engagement Offerings
 - Future
 - Research on Engagement Alternatives
 - ??????
-

WHY VIRTUAL?

- Inclusive
- Flexible
- Free?

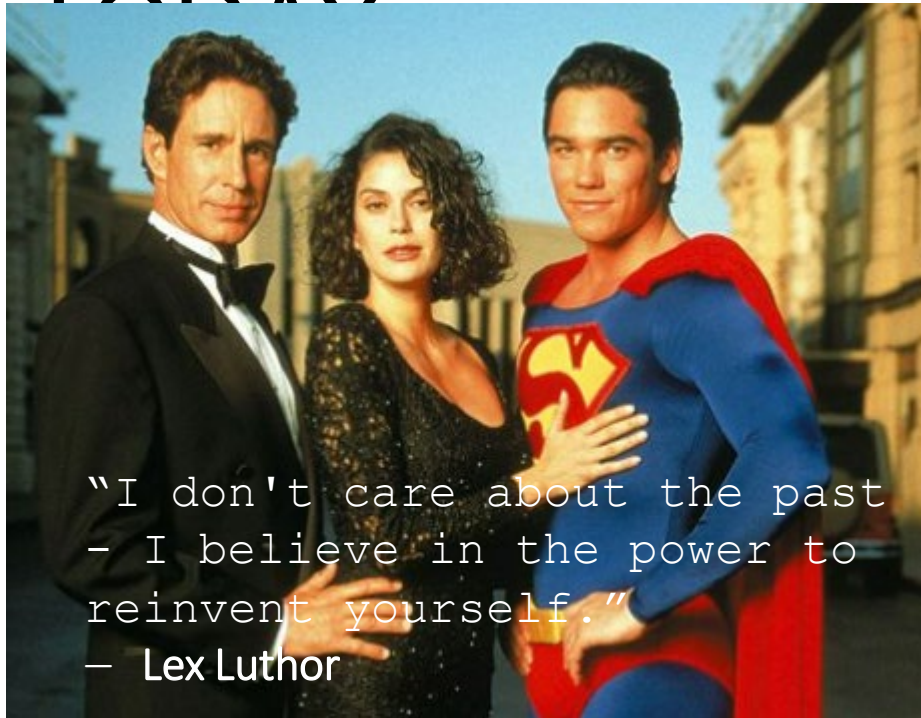
How could you bring people together virtually?

What are some groups of people that could benefit from some time together to discuss issues, solve problems and create community?





V-FLCS @ ERAU-W TODAY





DOES SIZE MATTER?



- Small Group = 8-11
 - Large Group = 18-39
 - Measured:
 - Posts
 - Clicks
 - Completion of final project
 - No Statistically Significant difference in engagement
-



DEFINING ENGAGEMENT

- Cognitive
- Emotional
- Behavioral

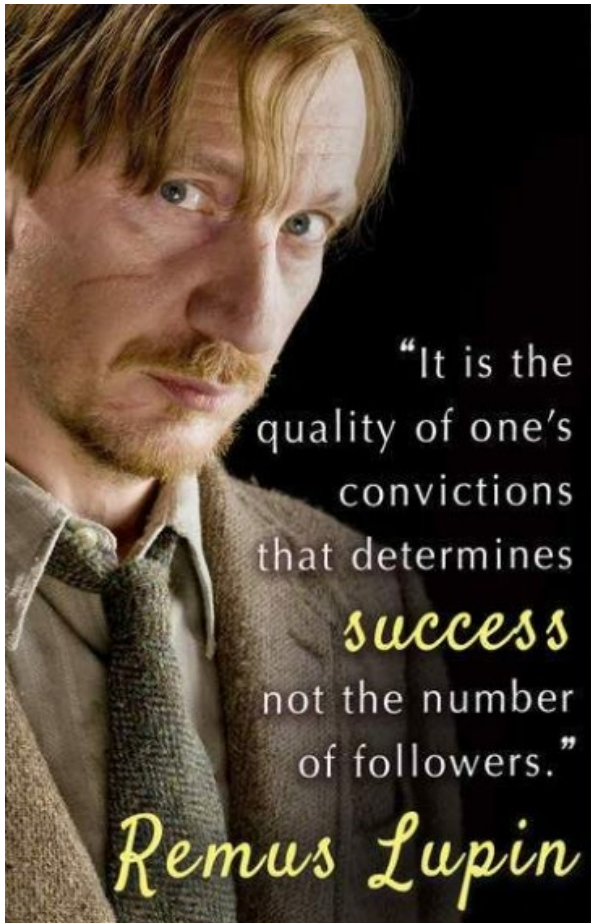
How do you define engagement?

You're going to make a difference. A lot of times it won't be huge, it won't be visible even. But it will matter just the same.



—
JAMES GORDON

DETERMINING SUCCESS



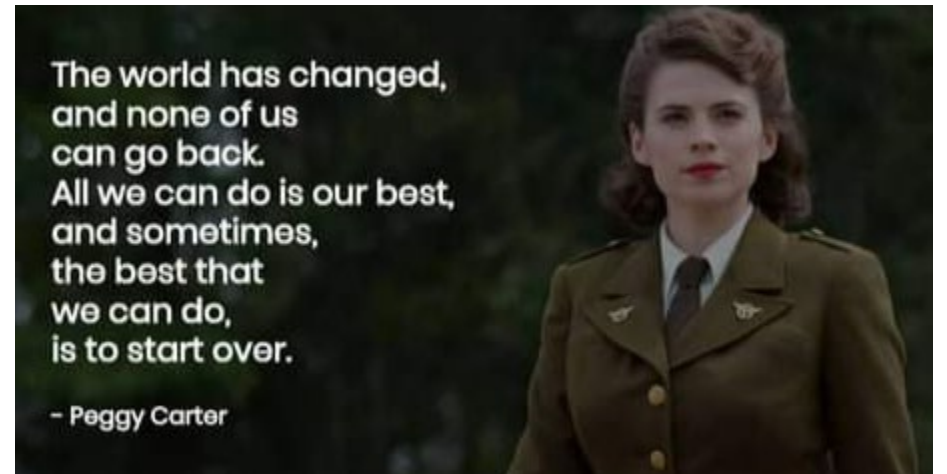
- Diminishing returns?

How do you keep faculty interested and engaged?

How do you measure success in building community?

FUTURE?

- Continue online
- Cohort Based
- Synchronous



TAKE-AWAYS

How do you think Virtual Learning Communities could be integrated into your system?

What questions for you have?



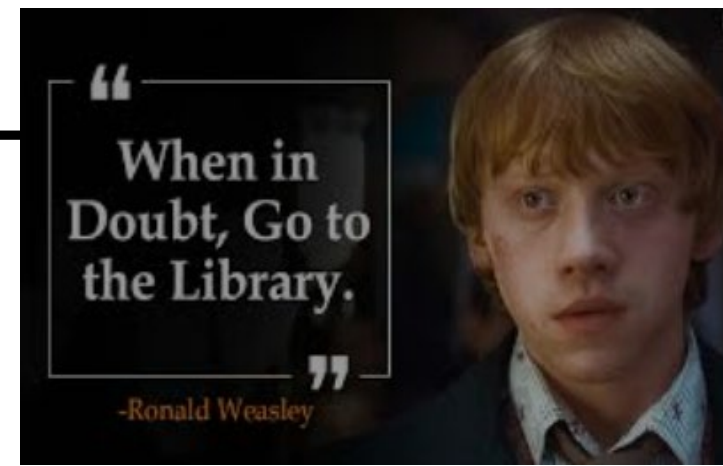
The past can talk to the future... if the present has ears to hear and eyes to see with.

- Alfred Pennyworth





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