10-29-2019

Amy Leh TSSA Fall 2018

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Recommended Citation
Leh, Amy, "Amy Leh TSSA Fall 2018" (2019). Teaching Skills Study Awards (TSSA) Reports. 2. https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/trc-tssa/2

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Name and Date of conference attended:
Association for Educational Communications and Technology, October 23-27, 2018, Kansas City, MO

Teaching Skill(s) Studied:
At the conference, I attended several presentations on the use of emerging learning technologies in instruction.

Augmented Reality (AR): This session allowed me to take a virtual tour viewing masterpieces of American Modernism from the Vilcek Collection of American Art featured at the Art Museum of South Texas with AR artifact immersive interactions via the IDET ARTS app. The app may be downloaded via Apple Store. Although I didn’t know much about American Modernism, I could easily see that the use of the app supports learning; student learning becomes individualized.

Virtual Reality (VR): In this session, I participated in a multiuser mobile virtual reality field trip, “Voyage,” that was designed to assist middle-school students in learning about biomes. I was in a team with two other participants, and together we learned about a type of deer. I could see that using such a VR project in instruction may stimulate student interest, motivate students to learn, and foster student collaborative learning. Some descriptions of the VR project may be found at http://www.etc.cmu.edu/projects/voyage/

Little Bits: The presenter in this session demonstrated how she used the commercial product Little Bits in her instruction. I can see that Little Bits foster ‘learning by doing’ of John Dewey’s educational theory. More information about Little Bits may be found at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LittleBits, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FPHj2H1C8JE, and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YUUsJSDa7PE

In addition, I learned how instructors used discovery learning, collaborative learning, and project-based learning in instruction. Students explored the use of 3D printer and of Telepresence Robot. They then collaboratively constructed instructions on the use of the technologies. The instructions they wrote became one of their projects of a course: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BYfkv0LTj6AkxIgSzEW67qLSXeH9q5cnNY9gQkp9M/edit, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1OkrIvxAQqg&feature=youtu.be, https://docs.google.com/document/d/1DK8DxS1uoZcltJlFmb2xjXWhhHw2s2_SpsScrUliA/pub

Impact on Current Teaching (How was this info applied)?
I plan to introduce those technologies in my ETEC543 and 544 inviting my students (in-service teachers) to find if the technologies would be available in their schools. I also intend to use some of the strategies, e.g., discovery and project-based learning, in my courses.

Date Submitted: October 29th, 2018