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Innovative Course Redesign Grant Reports   Teaching Resource Center

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TSSA Final Report

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Conference:

National Communication Association (NCA) 97th Annual Convention,
November 17-20, 2011, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Teaching Skill(s) Studied:

I attended several workshops during the preconference of the NCA Convention including: "Giving Voice to Online Students: Bridging Traditional Pedagogical Methodologies with 21st Century Technologies" and "Developing Student Voice Through Technology: Teaching the Business & Professional Communication Course Online". I would say that the first one was more productive and useful. The first part was mainly information on teaching an interpersonal communication class online in general and most of the information presented were common knowledge to me. However, the second part was the innovative and new domain in online teaching for me because it explained how Second Life, a digital environment imitating real life, could be used in different educational contexts, interpersonal communication in particular. It also opened up the possibility of applying such innovation in several classes with all the potential that comes with Second Life.

Impact on Current Teaching (How was this info applied)?

I was very inspired by the Second Life presentation that I applied for a course development grant to apply what I learned in that seminar into my Muslim Women in Media and Society class. My application was actually accepted and I was informed last week that I was awarded the grant to transform my class into a hybrid online class that highly utilizes Second Life. The reason I selected that class is because of the ability of Second Life to provide virtual field trips to many regions and countries around the world with the ability of students to interact with people from these countries.

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