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Recommended Citation

Leh, Amy, "Amy Leh TSSA Fall 2010" (2011). *Teaching Skills Study Awards (TSSA) Reports*. 121.
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Report Submitted to TRC for TSSA Award in 2010-2011 (Fall 2010)

By

Amy S. C. Leh

I received a TSSA award to attend the international conference of Association for Educational Communications and Technology (AECT) held October 16 - 30, 2010 at Anaheim, California. The conference theme was “Cyber Change: Learning In Our Connected World,” focusing on the use of networked computing and communications technologies to support learning and teaching. The goal of me in attending the conference was to enhance my understanding of different facets of cyberlearning and to enhance my teaching skills using networked computing and communications technologies.

I attended two workshops: “Google Workshop” and “Creating Online Tutorials with Assessment in Flash”. Both workshops were informative and beneficial to me, especially when I teach a completely online course during the winter quarter of 2011. From the workshops, I learned how to use networked computing tools to enhance collaboration among students and to enhance my communication with my students. Examples of the tools included, but were not limited to, Google Docs: online forms and excel spreadsheet. Right after the conference, in Fall 2010 I taught my ETEC546 students how to integrate Google Docs into their instruction. In Winter 2011, I have been using Google forms to collect data from my ETEC648 students for the course formative evaluation.

In addition to the workshops, the presentations I attended also greatly benefited me. For example, I learned the Quality Matter program that contained standards and elements for evaluating online instruction. Although I couldn't access its rubrics because it cost money for the access, the standards and elements the program identified shed good light on what good online instruction should consist of. The information I gained from the presentation has been implemented in my ETEC648 course. Another presentation “e-Learning in China” was also intriguing. I learned that the definition of e-Learning was different in the United States from that in China. In the United States, e-Learning mainly refers to the courses delivered on the Internet. However, in China e-Learning may include courses delivered via compressed video conference system and satellite in addition to on the Internet.