# Free vs. fee: Virtual meetings and online training

Kate Peterson, Information Literacy Librarian, University of Minnesota Libraries - Twin Cities Kirsten Clark, Government Information and Regional Depository Librarian, University of Minnesota -Twin Cities



"My virtual meeting is your online training"

#### Criteria

- What do you want to accomplish?
- Who is the audience?
- · Is there a cost associated with the product?
- · Does the software live on the computer?
- Do you need to connect virtually/synchronously?
- Do you need to record?
- Where will the file live?
- Do you need a specific output (e.g. iPad, web, mobile)?
- · Do you want to edit?
- · What is the learning curve?

# Virtual Meetings

Adobe Connect Skype Google Video Chat

### Adobe Connect

- Provides video conferencing, development of training sessions, cooperative working space
- Cost for all versions (\$\$)
- Hosted by institution or Adobe no software needed on individual computers
- Connectivity available virtually/synchronously
- · Recording and editing available
- Larger learning curve (although depends on what features you plan to use)

## Skype

- Uses IM, voice and video to communicate. Also has group video options
- No cost for basic services (cost if want additional features – call phones, WiFi, etc.)
- Software must be downloaded and all users must have an account
- Connect virtually / synchronously
- · No recording available within Skype
- · Learning curve is small

## Google Video Chat

- Video, Audio and Chat available for one-on-one sessions
- · No cost
- Plug-in needs to be downloaded and installed
- Users must have a Google account and be listed in contacts.
- Connect virtually/synchronously
- · Chat is recordable but not video and audio.
- · Learning curve is small.

# **Online Training**

Adobe Connect Camtasia (Relay, Studio) Jing Captivate

#### Adobe Connect

- · Synchronous training
- Cost for all versions (\$\$)
- Hosted by institution or Adobe no software needed on individual computers
- Can record (includes chat, etc.)
- · Send recordings as a link (no embed)
- Minimal editing
- Larger learning curve (although depends on what features you plan to use)

## Camtasia Relay (TechSmith)

- "Lecture Capture"
- Cost for all versions (\$\$)
- Hosted by institution or Relay server– no software needed on individual computers
- · No synchronous ability
- · Records screen, audio
- Can connect to media management system (Media Mill, Kaltura, etc.) to file type changes
- · Very minimal editing
- Learning curve is small

#### Jing

- Screencasts
- Free and premium versions
- · Software lives on computer
- · No synchronous ability
- · Records screen, audio
- · Files live on Jing server as URL
- Minimal editing
- · Learning curve is small

## Camtasia Studio/Captivate

- Screencast
- \$100-\$200 for software
- · Software lives on computer
- · No synchronous ability
- · Records screen, audio
- File output options
- · Maximum editing
- · Learning curve is high

## Demonstration Free vs. Fee

Virtual Meetings Online Training





## **Case Studies**

- 1. Read through scenarios
- 2. With partner, select 2 you are most likely to encounter
- 3. Using the evaluation criteria above, select the best tool(s) for the situation, discuss how you would use it and any resources (e.g. budget, staff, web storage, etc.) you would need.

## Scenario 1

You are in charge of the implementation of an *awesome* new feature in the administrative side of the your library catalog. Each staff member (including students) must do a 4-step update to their profiles (it can't be done automatically). There is a variety of technology skill level within your staff and this needs to be completed in one month.

## Scenario 2

You are helping with Psychology 401, a junior-level course. The major assignments includes a large literature review with at least 20 sources. The instructor wants you to talk about efficient database searching, subject headings/controlled vocabulary, cited reference searching, and anything else which will help students complete this assignment. Due to a huge blizzard, the 3 hours of class time you were suppose to have is now 30 minutes of in-class time.

#### Scenario 3

You are the chair of a national library association committee that needs to make some decisions regarding an upcoming conference presentation your committee is giving. Your committee needs to develop the presentation as well as practice. Your committee members all live in different states and several different time zones.

#### Scenario 4

You're a director of a county public library where the population is spread out over a large geographic area. Because of budget cuts you must decide what hours of operation to cut and you must make a decision in two weeks. How can you get the information out to the public and provide feedback mechanisms?

## Final Thoughts

## "Its easy, right?"

- Trial and Error
- · Software/Hardware on both ends
- Supporting synchronous
  - Online facilitator
- · Dealing with technical issues in middle
- · Follow up

