Backchannels: Online Conversations to Enhance Participation

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Today’s session: bit.ly/WLAbackchannel2017
Agenda (3:45-5pm)

**Collaborative notes** - Need 5 willing notetakers ... Perspective of:
- Primary Student,
- Secondary Student,
- Facilitator,
- Administrator,
- Community Member (Taxpayer that voted for funding Technology in your district)

**Definition** - What is backchanneling?

**Purpose** - SAMR, Librarians as Facilitators, Patrons as efficient searchers

**Backchannel Tools**: Padlet & TodaysMeet
What is backchanneling and Why is it important in our mobile device society?

- Anonymous or not?
- Preview student thoughts before posting or not?
- Embed in our classroom website
Backchanneling - Conversation that takes place alongside an activity or event.

Uses various tools to interact with presentations in “real time”
Constant change

- Web generation - born after 1991
- Mobile generation - born after 2007
- Digital Natives
  - Learning relevant to their lives
  - Engaging
  - Learner centered, rather than the “sage on the stage” teacher centered
Effective searchers ...

Information at their fingertips - but NAVIGATING that information is a skill

Keyword manipulation

Advance search strategies limiters

“Exact phrase”

Wildcard - ex: dance*

Copyright - critical to the subject matter?

Verifying that information is accurate with more than one source
Put the subject “in the center,” and for the facilitator & the students to sit in a circle around the subject and try to learn about it together (Fink, 2013, p. 50)
Ready -- Set -- Go

- Gather in learning communities - pairs or team
- 15 minutes
- You decide how to present the knowledge learned
- Here are the scenarios
**Fishbowl Debrief session**

**Oral speaker**
- Orange card holders to the center
- 1 person from each team comes to the center

**Teacher as facilitator**
- Prepared questions to generate initial discussion
- Moderate questions/discussion on Today’sMeet

**Backchannel Participants**
- Form a circle - join [Today’sMeet](https://todaysmeet.com/WLA2017)
- Speak your mind …
  - I will PRINT this backchannel conversation & it will be turned into WLA at the end of this session
Redefinition
Tech allows for the creation of new tasks, previously inconceivable

Modification
Tech allows for significant task redesign

Augmentation
Tech acts as a direct tool substitute, with functional improvement

Substitution
Tech acts as a direct tool substitute, with no functional change
Critical Reflection

- Individual - 10 minutes
  - How does incorporating backchanneling methods into your instruction or event planning improve patron learning?
  - How will you implement these concepts in your library experience?
  - What are your remaining questions or concerns?
Group Reflection:
• Notetaker perspectives
• Unanswered questions
• Now what ...
Scenarios

Assistant to CEO:
You are an assistant for a CEO of a large company. She has just approached you with the following task. "I have a meeting in 20 minutes with a prospective new client named Mint.com. I know nothing about them! I need you to research the company for me and have an e-mail in my inbox in 15 minutes with the run down of who this company is, what they do, the potential for growth in the market in which they operate, and whether you would recommend investing in them." I need a 2 paragraph summary from 3 respected sources.

Real Estate:
A real-estate developer has approached you to help decide if this piece of land would be a good place to build a new apartment complex. He needs to know what the real-estate apartment market is like in the city before he decides to build in this area. Research the area and give a summary of your finding in an email that includes data on the apartment market in this city. If only he would have remembered to give you the city. :)

![Real Estate Diagram](image-url)
Stock Trader:
You are due in a meeting in 20 minutes and the firm you work for wants you to quickly come up with a recommendation on whether they should invest in the company with the stock symbol Z. He needs a concise two paragraphs with your recommendation on why your company should or should not invest in Z and explanation as to why and links to current data.

Agricultural Expert:
A farmer brings you in a picture of a problem he's having with his corn. He's waiting in the waiting room for you to come up with what the disease is and what your recommendation is so he can get rid of it and get back to farming.

Thank you Jeff Utecht for the use of your scenarios!
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Secondary Student perspective:</strong> (First Name)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>COMMUNITY MEMBER PERSPECTIVE:</strong> (FIRST NAME)</td>
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<td><strong>Facilitator perspective:</strong> (First Name)</td>
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