



E-Research: Going online to conduct research



Elizabeth Murphy

Purpose of presentation

To describe examples of ways I & students under my supervision have incorporated technology in research.

To discuss related challenges & benefits.

Presentation plan

- **Ethics procedures**
benefits & challenges

- **Questionnaires, focus groups,**
observation:
benefits & challenges

Contexts for examples



[Study Information](#)



[Study Communication Tools](#)



[Study Survey](#)



Ethics procedures

Consent form: MusicGrid

Prior to completion of the Musicgrid questionnaire and participation in the evaluation process, you must consent to participation. Prior to providing consent, you must first read the information related to the evaluation process. Following the information is a list of items to which you will be providing your consent.

If you have read the information and the list of items to which you will be providing your consent, you can click on the I consent button below and then proceed to the questionnaire.

By consenting I am verifying that (1) I have read the **information about the evaluation** and (2) that I provide my consent to participate in the evaluation as described.

[I consent](#)

Consent form: Telesat

TeleSat study - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Address <http://www.telelearning-pds.org/u/telesat/research.html> Go Links

I understand that:

1. By agreeing to participate in this study, I am providing consent to publication of my comments in anonymous format in part or in whole in subsequent research reports and papers which may be published in relation to the study.
2. All information reported in subsequent research reports will be anonymous with regard to my identity and that, under no circumstances, will comments from or names of individual participants be identified.
3. All responses will be grouped together and published in aggregate form only.
4. Confidentiality of responses cannot be guaranteed due to the small number of participants in this project. Thus readers of the report or of subsequent publications may be able to identify the origin of some comments. I can therefore choose not to reveal certain information or not to answer certain questions.
5. My participation in this evaluation may involve completing a questionnaire or participating in an interview. The purpose of the interview will be to talk about how I am using broadband and the satellite connection in my school in support of teaching and learning. Completion of the questionnaire as well as participation in an interview may take about 2 hours of my time in total.
6. Should I decide to participate, my participation is voluntary (*necessary in the case of the school principal and the technician; consent on their part was a condition for receiving the equipment in their school*). Refusal to take part in the study involves no penalty or loss of benefits to which I am otherwise entitled. This means that participation (except for the principal and technician) remains voluntary even after a decision to participate has been made, i.e. that I as a participant can decide to withdraw from the evaluation at any time.
7. I understand that my decision to participate or refusal to participate will not in any way affect my employment in this school or in any other school in the future.
8. I understand that all data will be destroyed a year from the end of the project, that is, September 30th, 2004.
9. I understand that any resulting publication(s) will be made available to me upon my request.
10. I understand that the researcher (Elizabeth Murphy, Herb Wideman or Therese Laferriere) will be available during the study to answer any questions I might have.

If you agree to participate, click on "I consent" below in order to access the questionnaire related to your designation (teacher, principal, technician, etc.). Once you have entered the questionnaire area, if you decide not to complete it, you can exit by closing your browser.

Browser specifications:

Use Explorer 5.0 or Netscape 4.7 and up.

- As the **school principal**, [I consent](#) to participation.
- As a **teacher in the school**, [I consent](#) to participation.
- As the **ICT technician/support person** for the school, [I consent](#) to participation.
- I have completed a **videoconference** and want to do a technical report [here](#).

Internet

Benefits & challenges

- Easy distribution – avoids mail-out & costs of postage
- Consent forms available online for future viewing by participants
 - ⊗ Researcher has no record of consent being provided
 - ⊗ Without signature, is there proof of who provides consent?

Questionnaires

Logout

Discussion

Chat

Member List

Contacts

Calendar/Diary

Documents

News

Add News Item

Read Feedback

Questionnaire

PrivateVideo Server

Date: 2003-03-11 submitted by: Elizabeth Murphy

Role:

What are your short and long term goals in relation to your involvement in this project?

What challenges or problems might you face in meeting these goals?

What supports or solutions might be needed in order for you to overcome the challenges or problems and meet your goals?

Question 7:

Part 2:

This section of the questionnaire deals with the results of your discussion. I have summarized the results into nine categories. For each of the categories, I have listed some of the issues you raised. Please comment further on any or all of the issues listed on the basis of what is most relevant to you.

Discussion Forum Issues

1. domination by a small number of students
2. exclusion from discussion
3. lack of responses to postings or negative responses
4. long postings
5. postings of a "social nature frowned upon"
6. postings misunderstood and no opportunity to clarify
7. posting for the sake of posting to get marks
8. keeping up with large number of posts
9. vague comments or simply statements of opinion
10. lack of organization, purpose or direction
11. need for instructor feedback and guidance
12. varying ability of instructors with using discussion forums
13. "out of control" discussions
14. value of "forced responses"
15. lack of experience in posting to forum
16. need for students to take responsibility for their actions in discussion forums

Your comments:

Benefits & challenges

- Reduced distribution costs
 - Responses are typed
 - Forms can be altered easily
 - No photocopying required
-
- ⌘ Response rates may be lower
 - ⌘ Requires expertise to create
 - ⌘ Ineffective without some typing skills
 - ⌘ Participants can lose responses if not careful.

Focus groups

All: View Designer Options

Web-based Learning Study

[Home](#) › [...](#) › [Study Communication Tools](#) › [Mail](#) › [All](#) › [Discussions](#) › [All](#)



Select a topic to see its messages

[Compose Discussion Message](#) [Search](#) [Topic Settings](#) [Manage Messages](#) [Manage Topics](#)

Topic	Unread	Total	Status
All	1	75	
Main	1	75	public, unlocked
Notes	0	0	public, unlocked

Subject Discussion Summary

Close

Reply

Reply Privately

Quote

Download

Message no. 70

Posted by **Elizabeth Coleman (barriers)** on Mon Nov 11, 2002 13:38

Hello everyone,

The first week of the discussion phase of the study has been very active. I want to thank you all for sharing your experiences and for contributing to the discussions. It has been very interesting reading all your postings. In order to allow you to review the discussions I have put together a summary of the challenges identified to date. At this point I would like you to read through the summary provided below and to provide your feedback. Feedback can be provided by adding to the list, removing items from the list or by clarifying challenges included in the summary. Please post these to the discussion forum. The discussion phase of the study will continue until next week. Following that the questionnaire phase of the study will begin. Please contact me if you have any questions. I have also attached a Word version of the summary for your convenience.

Thank you,

Web-based Learning Study

[Home](#) › [Study Communication Tools](#) › [Discussions](#) › [Main](#)

- 81. [Re: Discussion Summary](#) Thu Nov 14, 2002 12:23
- 82. [Student Responsibility](#) Thu Nov 14, 2002 20:34
- 83. [Re: Student Responsibilit...](#) Fri Nov 15, 2002 15:39
- 84. [Re: Discussion Summary](#) Sun Nov 17, 2002 00:12
- 85. [Re: Student Responsibilit...](#) Sun Nov 17, 2002 14:59
- 86. [Distance learning](#) Sun Nov 17, 2002 15:12
- 87. [Discussion feedback](#) Sun Nov 17, 2002 19:55
- 88. [Re: Discussion feedback](#) Mon Nov 18, 2002 10:37
- 89. [Re: Discussion Summary](#) Mon Nov 18, 2002 21:39
- 90. [An Idea](#) Mon Nov 18, 2002 21:48
- 91. [Re: An Idea](#) Mon Nov 18, 2002 22:40
- 92. [Re: An Idea](#) Mon Nov 18, 2002 23:25

Benefits & challenges

- Responses are typed
 - Data can be managed
 - Participation can be managed
 - Researcher can play unobtrusive role
 - Pseudonyms can be used for confidentiality
-
- ⌘ Requires participant's ease with technology
 - ⌘ Creates a large amount of data
 - ⌘ Digressions may occur

Observation



Participant Info

Hand	Mic	Chat	✓	✗	Name
					Kayla!
					Lindsay
					Sarah...
					Sheena
					Trent...
					Troy &...

No hands raised.

Audio

gcake

Mic

Speaker

Direct Messaging

Show: All

word again sir?

Moderator[gcake] to *Samantha*:
Samantha what are you waiting for

To: gcake

Whiteboard

Screen 3 Participant Preview Follow Moderator Roam

Vocabulaire	Vus	Entendus	Connus
conscient ✓	✓		
sous-estimé ✓	✓	✓	✓
un geste ✓			✓
se croiser les bras ✓			✓
le ton de la voix ✓			✓
hocher la tête ✓		✓	
saluer ✓		✓	
le désaccord ✓			✓
la tristesse ✓	✓		
le dégoût ✓	✓		
l'apparence ✓	✓		✓

None Public Screens Tool Settings

Class in session for 1 hour, 3 minutes

Microsoft Outlook
N PPP
vPoint
a Web Start
Core
OHA data...
user guide
OHA
data_p...
b 28



vPoint [min] [max] [close]

Control Dialer View Data Help

Invite Transfer

Remote Video

Directory Speed Dial Personal Data Forward

ws184174 47:03

VCON 2600 Hang Up

Scale	Allegro
La Di Do Re Mi Fa Sol La	La Di Mi La
Single Bass	La Mi Do La
Do Do Do	Do Do Do
Do Do Do	Do Do Do

aloha



Recycle Bin



Microsoft Outlook



MUN PPP



VCON vPoint



Java Web Start



Can Core Guidelines...



ALOHA Metadata...



Careo user guide



ALOHA



aloha



Metadata_p...
Feb 28



Recycle Bin



vPoint [min] [max] [close]

Control Dialer View Data Help

Invite Transfer

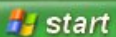
Remote Video

Directory Speed Dial Personal Data Forward

ws184174 31:54

VCON 2600

Hang Up



vPoint

musicgrid11 - Paint

EN



2:41 PM

Benefits & challenges

- Unobtrusive
- Leaves the site clean
- No need for travel to sites
- Recording of sessions under some conditions
 - ⌘ Technical problems
 - ⌘ Requires specialized software
 - ⌘ Individuals may be present from whom you do not have consent

Questions for consideration

- How can we rely on such techniques with non-technology users?
- How can we make online ethics procedures more robust?
- What are some effective tools & software for interviewing & observation?
- What are some effective tools & software for recording data?



E-Research: Going online to conduct research



Elizabeth Murphy