General Information

Classroom conferencing is between two or more participants at different sites by using computer networks or phone lines to transmit audio and video data. Participants' voices, images, and text are carried over the network (or phone lines) and delivered to the others' speakers and monitors.

General Strengths & Weaknesses

UMMS users report perceived strengths… "*Better than not being there…close to the real thing*"; "*extends audience while eliminating repetition*"; "*research collaboration*".

UMMS user reported *weaknesses* tend to address the mechanics (as compared to the pedagogy): "*unreliable*" (Polycom); "*technology…is daunting*"; "*frequent technical problems, audio poor quality*"; "*no ADOBE Connect server support…*"; "*no access to WIMBA before or after course term*"[1]. One respondent attributes problems with the tool to "*lecture style issues*", suggesting that the lack of distance learning type audio equipment (e.g., student desk microphones) confounds the practiced lecturer with the added responsibility of having to repeat all audience questions for the benefit of the off-site participants.

Types of Classroom Conferencing Included in this *e*Portfolio

Adobe Connect Meeting
Skype
WIMBA©

LInC Technology Survey

Purpose Statement
Results

Contact UMMS HelpDesk with specific questions about particular video tools.
Contact Colleen Burnham with general questions about the use of video tools.

References

Internet.com. (n.d.). *What is videoconferencing?* Retrieved January 19, 2010, from Webopedia: http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/V/videoconferencing.html

[1] Access to WIMBA© is via the BLS Vista environment, which relies on registration-based access.