Good Afternoon, Colleagues –

Below please find the next installment of MTSU Online’s weekly resources, tools, and tips for distance education. Remember that MTSU Online continues to support the great work unfolding in your programs and departments, so be sure to let us know if you have specific needs, questions, etc.

This week’s e-mail focuses on building community in a Zoom classroom.

When you have a few moments, take a look at this faculty member’s reflection on building community in the undergraduate classroom by fostering support, trust, empathy, and connectedness through low-stakes, high-frequency, personal essays each week. Other insights might also be of interest regarding helping students adjust to one another (and to their professors) in a virtual classroom, including methods to:

- Facilitate small-group interactions
- Encouraging Zoom-session chats
- Utilize student peer review to create feedback, rapport, accountability and connectedness
- Identify struggling students
- Streamline office hours and due dates

Also – hopefully you were able to register for Susan Myers-Shirk’s upcoming Zoom Workshop on Thursday, July 2, from 1-2 PM – Take a Deep Dive: Polling & Breakout Sessions in Zoom! What an exciting topic with a great speaker and colleague! Be sure to eventually catch the recorded workshop on the LT&ITC website or YouTube channel if you weren’t able to register!

Finally, since it’s never too early to start thinking about Fall, I found this pair of “perspective” articles particularly interesting, so I’ll attach them here:

A Day in the Life of a Remote Instructor: Fall 2020

A Day in the Life of a Remote Undergraduate Student: Fall 2020

Please feel free to contact me or Cindy Adams (Cindy.Adams@mtsu.edu) anytime, and be on the lookout for future messages including other useful information. Have a great week!

BH

Upcoming MTSU Online Instructional Designer Zoom Drop-ins:

Instructional Design Faculty Drop-Ins with Kim Godwin
Wednesday, July 1, 9:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting: https://mtsu.zoom.us/j/8680531679

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