

LiDA Colloquium Series



Fostering systemic change around digitally-rich education: A focus on getting started

Thursday, February 21 @ 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm in LeChase 215

Conversation Instigators:

- Raffaella Borasi (Frederica Warner Professor, Director Center for Learning in the Digital Age, UR Warner School of Education)
- Joe Sutorius (Chief Information Officer, East Irondequoit Central School District)

Digital technologies offer great promise for promoting and supporting transformational changes in educational institutions – but along with this potential for systemic change come unique challenges. Given the difficulties inherent with any systemic change initiative, mistakes and missteps can be very costly, especially at the very beginning of the process – so it will be helpful to learn from the experience of institutions that have successfully engaged in system-wide digitally-rich initiatives.

Our sharing and conversation in this session will focus specifically on the beginning stage of these initiatives, and will be guided by the following questions – although as usual we are open to other related questions generated by the participants:

1. *What are key conditions that should be in place before embarking in system-wide digitally-rich initiatives?*
2. *What key decisions need to be made at the start of a system-wide digitally-rich initiative?*
3. *What are key challenges we should be prepared for at the beginning stages of a system-wide digitally-rich initiative?*

After an initial framing of the session, we will have two complementary presentations reporting on experiences in higher education and K-12 schools, respectively. First, Raffaella Borasi, will report on how the Warner School started its Online Initiative in 2013 – as prior to that time Warner had never offered online courses! Next, Joe Sutorius, one of the leaders of the East Irondequoit Central School District Digital Conversion, which got started in 2012, will share on the beginning stage of this initiative at the K-12 level.

Time will also be set aside after these “conversation starters” for other participants to share examples of how THEY have engaged in the start of other system-wide digitally-rich initiatives, and to discuss common challenges inherent in these tasks as well as strategies they have found helpful in the process.

As it has been our practice, we will set up a Padlet to provide opportunities for “online side conversation” on the topic – both during and after this session. To join this session Padlet, go to: <https://padlet.com/lida18/0221>

We look forward to seeing you there.

Image from

<https://campustechnology.com/articles/2017/07/31/nc-community-college-system-modernizes-it-infrastructure-at-40-campus.aspx>