Synchronous Social Presence Experiences: Student and Faculty Perceptions of Courses Delivered via TelePresence

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Synchronous Social Presence Experiences: Student and Faculty Perceptions of Courses Delivered via TelePresence

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SURVEY SAMPLE

- Spring 2014
- 18 faculty, 46 students
**Survey Design**

- Perceived connection
- Stability
- Ease of use (*for faculty*)
- Support for teaching (*for faculty*)
- Support for learning (*for students*)
## Results

- **Perceived connection**

  “I feel I’m connected to the instructor/students in the remote classroom.”  
  (1 = Strongly disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Agree, 4 = Strongly agree)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean Score</td>
<td>2.89</td>
<td>3.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Score (Out of 4)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD</td>
<td>0.96</td>
<td>0.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>72.2%</td>
<td>87.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Response Rate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Faculty Students**
## RESULTS

- **Stability**

  The connection of the TelePresence room is stable.

  \((1 = \text{Strongly disagree}, 2 = \text{Disagree}, 3 = \text{Agree}, 4 = \text{Strongly agree})\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Students</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean Score</td>
<td>2.94</td>
<td>SD 0.56</td>
<td>Positive Response Rate 83.3%</td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td>SD 0.50</td>
<td>Positive Response Rate 97.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RESULTS

• Ease of Use

*The TelePresence room is easy to manage from a technical perspective.*

(1 = Strongly disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Agree, 4 = Strongly agree)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Mean Score (Out of 4)</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>Positive Response Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.12</td>
<td>0.63</td>
<td>77.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RESULTS

- Support for Teaching and Learning

*The TelePresence room enhances my teaching/learning experiences.*

(1 = Strongly disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Agree, 4 = Strongly agree)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean Score (Out of 4)</td>
<td>3.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD</td>
<td>0.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Response Rate</td>
<td>77.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OPEN-ENDED QUESTION

What feedback do you have about the experience of teaching / learning with TelePresence in general?

- 14 responses from faculty
- 22 responses from students
THEME 1:
We like it that TelePresence connects people from different locations!
THEME 1: SAMPLE RESPONSES

“convenient”

“flexible”

“access to a broad range of instructors”

“nice … to have the option to take the class in one location and others in another location”

“nice to see the students in the other classroom”

“being able to stay in the metro and not drive down to Mankato for class”

“more course options”
THEME 2:
We still slightly prefer the traditional class setting, but like the TelePresence classes over online courses.
THEME 2: SAMPLE RESPONSES

“would much prefer a live instructor”

“better than all online courses”

“not … different than if the instructor was there in person”

“Obviously not as effective as in-person, but pretty … close”

“not much different than a traditional class setting”

“enjoy the TelePresence class over online classes”
THEME 3:

We prefer that the screens in the TelePresence room can show all students at the remote site.
THEME 3: SAMPLE RESPONSES

“Having three screens so images aren't switching to different students would ... make a very positive difference”

“We could only see a small section of the class ... This made it difficult to interact with the whole class”

“Unless both classes are very small (2 or 3 at each site), only 3-screen to 3-screen rooms work.”

“Our view is limited...”
Theme 4:

Teachers are aware of the limitations and are adjusting the teaching strategies to benefit the students.
Theme 4: Sample Responses

“difficulty to bring people into the discussion”

“The professors I had tried to go back and forth from Mankato to the Metro”

“not set up to allow for student presentations”

“The instructor cannot move about the room”

“sitting on the side was ok, but not the best”

“The professors I had tried to go back and forth from Mankato to the Metro”
THEME 5:
Sometimes, there are technical difficulties.
THEME 5: SAMPLE RESPONSES

“disconnect”

“problems with displaying my slides via powerpoint”

“Muffling in the speakers”

“could not hear them”

“picture would be fuzzy”
Theme 6:
We have some specific ideas on how to make the TelePresence more effective.
THEME 6: SAMPLE RESPONSES

“use some kind of ‘white board’”

“would be nice to have interactive whiteboards”

“there should be more classes offered via the telepresence”

“Docucam projectors”

“illustrate points on a whiteboard”

“Make the Telepresence more worthwhile by using it more.”
THANK YOU!

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