

**Transcript for HyFlex Final Session: HyFlex in Action Principles & Closing Remarks (BCcampus)
BCcampus event held on February 15, 2022**

Moderator: Clint Lalonde

Facilitators: Helena Prins, Olaolu Adeleye

Closing Comments: Tracy Roberts

CLINT LALONDE:

Alright. Welcome back, everyone, for our final activity of the day. We're going to try to summarize everything that we have learned today and come up with some principles for HyFlex learning. And for that, I'm going to turn it over to my BCcampus colleagues, and people who have put all the effort and work into planning this day for months and months now, and then, who also planned our own pivot when things kind of went south with omicron. So our HyFlex events turned into an online event about HyFlex. But Helena and Olaolu, I'll bring you on the screen and we will get on with our last activity. HyFlex in action principles.

OLAOLU ADELEYE:

Thank you, Clint. Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Olaolu Adeleye and I have the pleasure with Helena of facilitating this final session of the day. I am joining you from the traditional territories of Lekwungen and Xwsepsum people, the Esquimalt and songhees nations, and I operate at BCcampus as learning and teaching advisor.

And so, we have the pleasure of trying to distill all that you have shared today or all that you've reflected on today within this final session. And so, you know, we thought it would be remiss of us with the valuable experience and perspectives which are present for us not to really take from that a wealth of experience and to garner your perspectives and you've already begun in your previous session as well. So really, our objectives for this final segment is to collect data, collect your information, not your personal information, your perspectives, to find the key themes for what you believe to be important in this sphere. and really to offer some form of reflection, as we synthesize those key ideas and make them into some principles. More on that shortly. But first, we want to begin with an activity called this or that, and I'll ask Helena to introduce that.

HELENA PRINS:

Yes, we're very excited. Hello, everyone, and I'm so glad you all stayed with us for this afternoon. We're really happy that so many of you are still here.

So this makes activity called this or that is something that our executive director Mary has played with our team a few times. So we are going to go into deeper questions, as Olaolu said, some reflection but we just thought we'll start off with some lighter ones just to pull you in and engage you. So we're going to go back to the first question there just to give you an idea of how this or that works.

So I know tea time's coming up in about an hour. Are you a cake or a pie person? You can only pick one there's no in the middle. There's no, it depends. So you should be seeing a poll question pop up on your screen. If you don't, please feel free to answer in the chat. But are you cake or pie? I will give it each time about a minute to see if about 80% of the audience answered, then we'll share the result here. I see a few in the chat there Brenda likes pie.

OK, let's share the results, so we take a pie people. Whoa, that's close enough. I hope we have a few more, that's different today, but it seems it's cake or pie almost in the middle. But yeah, I agree with Tracy, too close to call. So now the next ones, we're really going to see a little bit, what's your preferred pedagogical or technical approach? So it's going to be a little bit more complicated by all relevant to this context of HyFlex learning. So let's go into our next one, Olaolu.

OLAOLU ADELEYE:

So for this, this or that, we want to select between the Zoom or Teams, and I see some people are annotating as well. That is also welcome. So please feel free to do that. But take a second. Is your preference specifically for your pedagogical approach, Zoom or Teams? We'll do about 10 more seconds.

HELENA PRINS:

I do see in the chat, someone says it depends.

OLAOLU ADELEYE:

70% said Zoom and 30% said Teams, OK. Helena.

HELENA PRINS:

OK, the next one, we we did do a Padlet today, so the next one is between jamboard or padlet and jam board is when you can access from Google. So let's see if you had to choose, which one you're going to use for a session, which you choose, Jamboard or Padlet? Well, we see a few here...miro.

OLAOLU ADELEYE:

miro is a great tool for sure. Yeah, but you if you had to pick,

HELENA PRINS:

Yeah, if you had to pick, this is your institution at telling you you can only use Jamboard or Padlet, which one would you choose? OK, let's see the results. OK, Padlet wins here, and I have to say I really enjoy using Padlet as my course to seeing that students can choose whether they want to upload a video, whether they want to upload an image or text or just audio. I really like that functionality in Padlet. Olaolu, next one is yours.

OLAOLU ADELEYE:

OK. Formal assessment, I feel like I have to do this or that, so formal assessments or alternative assessment. And obviously the definition of alternative is evolving, and there's even a lot of conversation about, should it be called alternative assessment? But if you think about the conventional ways in which we've assessed and many of us actually talked about this in our breakout session, do you favor more of a formal style or do you favor more of an alternative style assessment? Do another 10 seconds. OK. 89% says alternative assessment. Well, we're amongst friends don't we Helena?

HELENA PRINS:

Yes, that makes me really happy if Stephania was one of the previous presenters. She was part of a series we did earlier this year with UFV too and ditched the final exam. So if you've missed that, you can find it on the website. I think lots of flexibility and yeah, lots of reasons to go with alternative assessment.

The next one, I feel quite strongly about. So I'm curious, but most of you will choose this or that. Do you say cameras on or cameras off? The people in the chat, it depends, this is a this or that. That really

depends. Yeah, well, let's let's see what the audience has chosen. OK. This is a little bit closer again, but camera's on is in the lead. So I just want to say I know it's really hard to to to teach into a black void. And I've had to do that last time too when when none of my students turn on the camera and it's three hours feel really long when you have to talk in a classroom without seeing someone. But we should just. I just want to encourage you to wonder about your reasons for turning on that camera.

Sometimes you make an assumption that students are not engaged just because the cameras are off, but they can be so many reasons why student chooses to turn off their camera, specifically bandwidth. It could even be that they're embarrassed about their messy background or just for privacy reasons. So I just really want to encourage you to think about this one a little bit before we make that ask of our students to turn on their cameras. OK. Olaolu, last one is here, oh no, two more. Over to you.

OLAOLU ADELEYE:

Some great points, Helena OK, this one we want to know, do you prefer a breakout room or to be with the full group? And you know, at the start of this pandemic or this pivot, the breakout room had a great amount of novelty. Now, perhaps not as much, but as you think about your pedagogical approach, which is your preference? And also think about this not even just in the virtual sense, but perhaps face-to-face as well. Group activity or collective conversation? Go for 10 more seconds. OK. 54 for breakout room and 46 for a full group. Very interesting. Quite close as well. OK, Helena, I'll let you close this one out.

HELENA PRINS:

Yeah, we can maybe let those who don't like breakout rooms now. There will be no breakout room for this session and exactly that. We're aware some people really do not like breakout rooms, but you know, there's some something to be said for those smaller groups to engage. So the last one is perhaps a funny, tricky, big one. So let's see how you respond. Hybrid or HyFlex? OK, let's see, let's see what the people say. OK. We have 57 for hybrid and 43 for HyFlex. Thank you. Thank you for sharing your initial thoughts and all those and stretch a little bit further and deeper with the Mentimeter. We just wanted to get warmed up. But I appreciate all your participation in the quick polls here, in this or that. Over you Olaolu.

OLAOLU ADELEYE:

Thank you, Helena. And perhaps part of the reflection on that last and so that is that this definition is continually evolving, growing and we perhaps aren't even sure what should be included or encompassed in it.

So at the start of the session, at the start of the day, rather, our ED, Mary, spoke about the importance of inclusion and the fact that some of these different elements of HyFlex are really aspirational. And so what we want to do now as we consider this within the idea of principles is give you an opportunity to really think about, what are the key areas that you personally value, the ones that are part of your thoughts or your pedagogical approach that you would want to be incorporated in any sort of HyFlex environment or HyFlex rollout? And so we're going to do this while offering you a chance to really think about what we've done over the course of the day with the three sessions, with the human element, with logistics, with considerations and really think specifically for yourself. This is really introspective and we're going to use Mentimeter as a tool to facilitate this exercise. So please grab your additional device if you have at hand, if it's your phone and you can actually look on page number 16 of your journal. The top left corner, rather the top right corner, there is a QR code for you to scan, otherwise our team is going to include a link to this menti in the chat.

So in our former session, you had a chance to really reflect specifically on considerations, so considerations for the sake of this discussion really are the things that you would suggest to your superior or somebody who you're working alongside. As we think more about principles, I want us to think in light of as we point back to this event, whether it's a year from now, several years from now, if we were to create some key ideas that we wanted people to think about or people who participated in HyFlex reaction can now say those are the some ideas that came from that experience. So feel free to draw down some ideas, even as I'm sure you have throughout the day. And some of this information will be things that have been stated, or perhaps stuff that you've had close to your chest through your own reflection. We're going to go to the next screen.

And so we're going to start with the first idea as we think about considerations. And right, there's your prompt. You'll have 250 characters to respond to this. Remember, this is a personal reflection, something that is specific to what you believe, what you value when we think about considerations in HyFlex. In reflecting on the considerations for HyFlex, what is one element that you believe is essential for success? We'll give you a minute to respond.

(SILENCE)

These are really good. One idea that I'm seeing kind of articulated in multiple ways the objective, why are we doing this this? Really using that as a driver? I'm also seeing support and that support comes through. through buy in from whoever has the say or the who gets to determine what that looks like within each environment. Pedagogical design. Yeah, commitment from the entire team, so buy in again.

This is great.

HELENA PRINS:

I love that one that says ensuring people come before technology. I think it's powerful.

OLAOLU ADELEYE:

And that's the Segue, perhaps. And well, it's not our next one but our final idea when we talk about the human element and the importance of actual making that really drive how and what it is that we focus on. Willingness to undertake a ton of work and preparation. Absolutely. This is one of those pieces that perhaps isn't given enough attention. We're not speaking about how much time it takes to do this even before the session before the term and the importance of allocating that and really compensating the adequate time for that. Yes, we will share the results. What we'll do is we'll call it the information. We'll speak to that at the end of these three exercises. But while I still have the juices flowing and you guys are. Contributing your responses, let's move to the next one, and I'll let Helena speak to that as we wrap up.

Logistics, so same prompt this time. Focus on logistics, again, this is your introspective exercise, this is you thinking about the specific value or your ethos, if you will, that you consider if you were to roll out HyFlex program, what is one principle that would be reflective of your approach, what you believe?

Yeah, here we go again. Adequate tech and support the buy in, pan institutional institutional support, I really like that one. And really talking about the collaboration, I mean, that's why we have so many different PSI's represented, not only in BC, but across the country. And actually, I think across the continent today. Team based design and delivery. Absolutely, the adequate budget, Scalability. Yeah, equipping instructors with the appropriate skills. Of course, designing technology. Absolutely. Support

while facilitating. Typically to deflect HyFlex...while as we've been on the first session with RRU, you need at least two or three other, perhaps if you can have more hands that can contribute and support you in that process. Ongoing evaluation of technologies and training support, iterative and remembering that we don't ever arrive, but that perhaps an ultimate thing or an additional consideration that we can include as we think about the logistics. Support for faculty.

Yeah, I understand that it takes a lot of time and energy and investment to teach in this mode and to support those who are facilitating this. Absolutely flexible solutions. Great. Change management, great, thank you. OK, let's move on to the final one. Thank you all for your responses there.

And now we're going to go to talk about the human elements. So the human element speaks to really ensuring that people are at the center of this and are impacted through these experiences in many different ways. So as you reflect on your personal belief, your personal perspective, what is a key human element that you think ought to be a principle that we take forward as we think about rolling out HyFlex programs? What is one element that is essential for success? Clear communication and understanding of student needs, very important. We need to resource people and not just technology. Yup. This is very, very true. Face to face interaction, OK, care. Absolutely. And we start there, start with some empathy.

Typically, you know whether or not we're talking about people's socioeconomic status or that we've just had floods where you've gone through a global pandemic, we're all experiencing this in many different ways, and we want to ensure that we're sensitive to student needs. Absolutely. Taking on the perspectives of learners across three modalities. OK, so learners centered design for a key, and being mindful of how specific each unique situation may be. Is this mode of delivery appropriate for the context? Creating community. What barriers are student facing? Absolutely. Absolutely. And not just in the pandemic, but yes, specifically, as we think about in the pandemic. But just in general, what is the general experience? UDL, summed it up in one word. Well. One acronym. Three words. Willingness to change and evolve. Keeping students at the center, OK, thank you all for sharing with that, I'm going to pass on the baton and Helena will speak to what our process will be with this going forward.

Really appreciate all your input.

HELENA PRINS:

Yes, thank you, everyone. There is some great comments, and I really just love that the focus is. student experience, check in with students is that what they require. We we are planning on wrapping up earlier today because we thought no one is upset when you give them extra time, right? But we do also have some time left. So if anyone feels like they want to raise their hand and share one or two final thoughts before we wrap up, then I would invite you to do so. Outline for next steps will be to synthesize this information in the Mentimeter. We will share it back out to all of you and we really have to come up with some artifact of principles that we can share that was created by the audience today. That should probably land in your inbox in the next two weeks. I think that's a safe timeline. We'll work, we'll try our best to work during this week and next week to put that together. But yeah, I would welcome before we hand over to Tracy for final comments. I really look forward to hearing a few comments of those who were participants today. If you maybe feel you haven't had a moment to share your thoughts. The floor is yours. John, I see your hands up.

SPEAKER:

Just something that was coming from my brain is I noticed a lot of people mentioning things about like

the technology to use in HyFlex and and the budget for it. And I just wanted to say that, you know, to accomplish a good HyFlex or even hybrid environment, you don't need an entire classroom. With all this integrated technology, you can accomplish the same thing with, you know, a decent video camera and equipment for a lot less than, you know, \$80,000 down for the entire room. We had great success at you know its college, with our instructors using things like an Owl. I don't know if anybody's seen the Owl meeting pros. You know, we've had a couple of instructors use that and just video cameras and just using their own ingenuity and stuff. I just wanted to point that out there because I think there's lots of people who are like, Oh, you know, you have to set up this massive room in this auditorium where you do all that stuff, but it can be accomplished in your home office, you know, with the right kind of equipment. So I just wanted to point that out there because technology's sort of been my world for the last little while.

HELENA PRINS:

Thank you, thank you, John. And yes, I certainly have thought about the considerations of cost because \$25,000 for a room or for that "fly pack", it's about 20,000. That's a big consideration for sure. Thank you for your thoughts. Anyone else that want to either take up where John stopped or complete different thought on HyFlex? The floor is yours. I can see some comment, someone's looking for community to connect, the community of practice, and I I did hear Keith earlier today on ETUG, and they were there were some other shares in the chat as well. So again, I recommend that you save the chat by clicking on the ellipse next to the to everyone line so you can go through the rich notes of today again. There's some resources being shared right now.

Well, if there's no one else, then I really am excited to hand it over to Tracy. If you were lucky enough to tune in at 9:30, she kicked us off with a fabulous radio show. And now she's going to wrap it up for us. Tracy Roberts, she's a director at this campus, learning and teaching, Olaolu and I get to work every day and I'm deeply thankful for that privilege. So, Tracy, wrap it up for us.

TRACY ROBERTS:

Thank you. Hello, compassionate disruptors. Nice to be with you again here at the end of the day. I hope you had a great day. It sounds like you had a great day. You know, for the organizers, this day started from a place of care and concern about the increasing demands for HyFlex, but also the high demands of high flex learning for everybody involved, educators, support staff and students. And today I really heard those concerns from you, from BC, all over BC and beyond concerns about learning design and workload and other barriers arising from the scarcity of human and other resources and supports, and even about a definition of HyFlex in one of the breakout groups I was in. We had different ideas about what it actually means still, so I don't, I think we have more work to do even on that. So the Padlet from the UFV team, the Menti from Helena and Olaolu, brought together some great summaries and we'll be following up with more. I also heard so much care and commitment to ensuring access to inclusive learning environments for post-secondary students, so that's wonderful. And I definitely heard we have an energetic community of compassionate instructors here who want t shirts. If you want to stay on that developing story, please subscribe to the BCcampus newsletter.

And I'd like to say a couple of very special thank you to the BCcampus teams who organized and supported this event's, event leaders, Christy, Helena, Olaolu, as always, your work has incredible, impeccable and important. Harper and Jason, thanks again for joining me on the radio show this morning. Paula, Kelsey, Pat and Abigail, thank you for your technical support and providing the essential

safety net and buffer for everyone in the online space. Clint, you're such a masterful MC, and I just never tire of hearing you talk. So thank you for lending your voice and expertise to this day. And of course, a giant heartfelt thanks to our partners in this event who brought the program to life with their deep expertise and experience in this work every day on the ground and who are actually willing to do this in what I think of as a HyFlex way on multi campuses at the same time, but went along with yet another pivot online for everybody's comfort and safety today.

So thank you, CNC team, awesome, Grace, Dave, Mike and Paula. Royal Roads, Lisa and Keith, and of course, UFV, Maureen, Chloe, Chris, Stefania, Michelle and Ken. It is always a pleasure and a privilege to work and learn with you. And with that, I'm going to hand it back to you, Clint.

CLINT LALONDE:

And to you, Tracy for DS 106 radio this morning. HyFlex Radio To kick off our day. It was so much fun. Alright, everyone. That is it for our day. I hope you have enjoyed it and and go away with with a handful of ideas. So thank you and enjoy the rest of the day.