

Minutes for Community of Practice Group Meeting – May
May 10th, 2016
Chair: Saeed Dyanatakar

Presentation: VR/AR 360 video in Geography

- An increasing trend of reduction in faculty funding
- A shift in how institutions operate
- This leads to less funding for field trips for courses.
- An idea to utilize virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) as an alternative to these field trips.
- Students are able to experience the field through VR.

The three important benefits of VR is that it spans

1. Across Space

- a. Access spaces and locations that would not have been accessible through a field trip.
- b. Comparing phenomenon's etc. across different spaces and locations.
Example: Studying urbanization in Vancouver downtown, then putting on Google cardboard to see urbanization in Singapore, in comparison to Vancouver.
- c. Helps students with disabilities access otherwise hard to reach places

2. Across Time

- a. See how things changed over time. Experience places 5 or 10 years ago and look at how they have changed.
- b. Experience field sites asynchronously

3. Across Scales

- a. Looking at things from a bird's eye view, or close up to a microscopic level of how things work.

The geography VR team is mainly using 360-degree video as a way to augment and enhance their students learning. They implement it using Google cardboard – which is a simple \$12 cardboard headset that works with most mobile devices, to make the videos immersive.

They have also created their own plugin called **Field Press** and are in the process of discussing with UBC on the implementation of the plugin with UBC Word press. Field Press is a tool that allows users to input interactions (explanations, quizzes etc.) within the VR headset for a better sense of learning.

Other tools include:

- Holo-builder
- Google Tour

A presentation on Branding:

New branding is being introduced. The old one is being slowly phased out. If you have any questions, ideas, and concerns or need the new tails, contact Jamil from UBC communications and marketing.

Creation of a new stock video library

UBC marketing and communications are planning to create a stock footage library for the University. If you have any suggestions or comments on what type of video is the most useful, contact Jamil from UBC communications and marketing.

Updates on Working Group

Digital Media in Education Conference – Rosemary

- Branding and logo has been finalized.
- Website is about to be put together and launched.
- If you know of any speakers or presenters that would be good for the conference, please connect them with Rosemary.