

Comparison of Interactive Media Tools at Discovery Commons

Tool	Purpose	Description	Advantages	Considerations
Large classroom videoconferencing	To allow all medical students to attend the same preclerkship lectures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Transmisison of live voice, content (eg, Powerpoint) and camera images between downtown and Mississauga large lecture rooms ○ One to many: lecture style, with cameras and microphones for participants (students). ○ uses large screens for group viewing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Classroom to classroom interaction ○ High definition video ○ Eliminates need for students to travel ○ Potentially highly interactive ○ Technically well-supported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Requires some faculty development ○ Currently for use only by Undergraduate Medical Education
Meeting room videoconferencing	To allow participants at disparate locations to attend meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Transmission of live voice, content (eg, Powerpoint) and camera images ○ uses large screens for group viewing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ May be in high definition video and audio ○ Highly interactive ○ Eliminates need for travel ○ Technically well-supported during business hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Must be booked through dc.med.utoronto.ca ○ Requires all participating parties to be in videoconference equipped meeting room, or connect via Movi/Jabber
Blackboard Collaborate	Internet-based web-based conferencing tool for interaction with individuals in a Blackboard course or organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Potential for live voice, video, powerpoint, breakout rooms, whiteboard, chat, voting tools ○ transmitted computer to computer ○ one to many, with the possibility of input (text, audio, and/or video) by participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Deployed within the secure environment of the portal ○ Multiple users (anywhere computer and internet can be accessed) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Requires computer, internet and webcam (or just microphone) for teacher or session leader ○ Requires computer and internet connection for all participants
Adobe Connect	Internet-based web-conferencing tool for interaction with individuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Potential for live voice, video, powerpoint, breakout rooms, whiteboard, chat, voting tools. ○ transmitted computer to computer ○ one to many, with the possibility of input (text or audio) by participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Multiple users (anywhere computer and internet can be accessed) ○ No specific software required by participants other than internet browser 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Requires computer, internet and webcam (or just microphone) for teacher or session leader ○ Requires account purchase or book through dc.med.utoronto.ca ○ Requires computer and internet connection for all participants

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Skype	Personal desktop videoconferencing for person to person or person to group interaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Live voice and video. ○ Equal participation by participants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Interactivity is similar to telephone conversation ○ Requires minimal IT support, faculty development ○ Easy to install, easy to use ○ Free 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Requires computer, internet, Skype software and webcam for all participants ○ Unreliable ○ Often poor quality ○ Browser-based
Movi/Jabber	Personal desktop videoconferencing for person to person or person to group interaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Live voice and video ○ Equal participation by participants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Interactivity is similar to telephone conversation ○ Requires minimal IT support, faculty development ○ Easy to install, easy to use ○ Free for U of T faculty and staff ○ Supports high definition video ○ Integrates with room videoconferencing systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Requires computer, internet and webcam ○ Requires application download
Webcasting	To allow participants at disparate sites to view a live presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Live voice and video ○ One to many, with the possibility of input (via text) by participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ High definition video and audio ○ Technician supported ○ Can be recorded ○ No specific software required by participants other than internet browser 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Must be booked through dc.med.utoronto.ca ○ Requires PC and internet connection for all participants ○ Requires cabled internet (ethernet) at host site