

# Research in Action Podcast Instructor Guide

Use the following episode description, learning objectives, guiding questions and activity suggestions to more easily include “Research in Action” podcast episodes as a supplemental resource for your course.

# Dr. Tanya Joosten on Distance Education Research [30:01]

## Research in Action - Episode 16

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### Podcast and Episode Information

“Research in Action” is a weekly podcast about topics and issues related to research in higher education featuring experts across a range of disciplines.

On this episode of the podcast, the is Dr. Tanya Joosten, the director of eLearning Research and Development at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) where she works to guide strategic eLearning efforts at the campus, state, and national levels, to develop innovative programming for the UWM campus, and to lead a team of researchers to advance the field of eLearning. She is also the co-director of the National Research Center for Distance Education and Technological Advancements supported by the U.S Department of Education. Dr. Joosten’s efforts have been highlighted in many national news and media outlets and have led to her involvement in planning for the future of education, including the State of Wisconsin Superintendent’s Digital Learning Advisory Council, NMC Horizon Project Higher Ed Advisory Board, EDUCAUSE Evolving Technologies Steering Committee, and EDUCAUSE IT Status committee. Tanya is also the author of Social Media for Educators, available from Jossey-Bass.

*Segment One* [00:00-10:46] - In this segment, Tanya talks about her work with The National Research Center for Distance Education and Technological Advancements (DETA), the DETA research toolkit, and some of DETA’s current projects.

*Segment Two* [10:47-22:00] - In this segment, Tanya discusses strategies for juggling producing research with planning the pipeline for future research and funding.

*Segment Three* [22:01-30:01] - In this segment, Tanya discusses the changing nature of data in instructional technology platforms and how this data can (and should) be used for research purposes to improve student success in online learning.

*Bonus Clip #1* [00:00-1:30]: Creating a Virtual Community

Show notes and a transcript for this episode can be found at:

<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e16/>

### Learning Outcomes

By listening to this episode, students will be able to:

- Describe DETA and its purpose
- Discuss examples of distance education research
- Explain ways distance education research collaboration is engaging non-researchers in the distance education field
- Review examples of ways to utilize social media as a means to archive information
- Discuss challenges and approaches in seeking funding for distance education research
- Discuss examples and purposes of data collection within online learning environments

### Guiding Questions for Listening

- What is DETA?
- How is distance education defined as it relates to DETA?
- According to Dr. Tanya Joosten, what were some of the needs within the realm of e-learning that led to her pursuit of funding for distance education research?
- What is the DETA research toolkit and what is its purpose?
- How are collaborations in distance education research also increasing research literacy of professionals within the distance education field?
- What are some of the digital outlets Dr. Joosten utilizes as a way to “archive” her thoughts and information gained through networking?
- What appear to be some of the challenges with seeking funding for distance education research and how does Dr. Joosten approach these challenges?
- What does Dr. Joosten describe will be the purpose of the virtual community that she discusses is currently being built? (see also, Bonus Clip)

## Possible Activities

- Assign students a project where they utilize the DETA research toolkit as a resource.
- Ask students to visit the show notes for this episode (<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e16/>) and look at an additional resource that is linked in connection with this episode. Students can write a short review of that resource to share with their peers
- Ask students to visit the show notes for this episode (<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e16/>) and post an additional resource connected to the content of the episode in the comments section.
- Have students share questions that are raised for them based on the content of this episode. What would they ask Dr. Tanya Joosten if they could?

## Suggested Citation (APA, 6th edition)

Linder, K. (Producer/host). (2016, July 18). *Dr. Tanya Joosten on Distance Education Research* [Audio podcast]. Retrieved from <http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e16/>

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## Notes

## About the Research in Action Podcast

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“Research in Action” (RIA) is a podcast about topics and issues related to research in higher education featuring experts across a range of disciplines. Episodes are posted weekly and include guest interviews and occasional solo episodes. Guests are from a range of higher education institutions and share their expertise on qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods as well as their personal experiences as researchers, research and writing practices, organizational and productivity strategies, and much more. Some weeks, bonus content will also be posted.

“Research in Action” is hosted by [Dr. Katie Linder](#), research director for Oregon State University Ecampus.

Visit the podcast website to view [show notes and transcripts for each episode](#), explore our [episode guide](#), learn more about how to [contact us](#), or [suggest a future guest or topic](#).

You may subscribe to the [“Research in Action” RSS feed](#) or access the podcast via [iTunes](#), [Soundcloud](#) or [Stitcher](#).

“Research in Action” is also listed on [MERLOT](#).

The “Research in Action” podcast is a resource funded by Oregon State University Ecampus – ranked top ten in the nation for online education two years running by U.S. News & World Report. OSU Ecampus has more than 45 degree programs and more than 1,000 classes online.

## Contact

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