

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. Patsy Moskal on Research on Distributed Learning and Teaching Effectiveness [33:33]

Research in Action - Episode 25

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 guest Dr. Patsy Moskal, the Associate Director for the Research Initiative for Teaching Effectiveness at the University of Central Florida (UCF). Since 1996, she has served as the liaison for faculty research of distributed learning and teaching effectiveness at UCF. Patsy specializes in statistics, graphics, program evaluation, and applied data analysis. She has extensive experience in research methods including survey development, interviewing, and conducting focus groups and frequently serves as an evaluation consultant to school districts, and industry and government organizations. She has also served as a co-principal investigator on grants including the National Science Foundation, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and Gates-Foundation-funded Next Generation Learning Challenges (NGLC). Patsy has co-authored numerous articles and chapters on blended and online learning and frequently presents on these topics. In 2011 she was named a Sloan-C Fellow in recognition of her groundbreaking work in the assessment of the impact and efficacy of online and blended learning.

Segment One [00:00-12:25] - In this segment, Patsy shares about her experiences with research on distance education.

Segment Two [12:26-23:26] - In this segment, Patsy talks about staying productive with research and learning how to say no to new projects.

Segment Three [23:27-33:33] - In this segment, Patsy shares some of her ideas for future research areas in distance education.

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

<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e25/>

Learning Outcomes

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

- Define and adaptive learning and provide an example of it
- Discuss how the analysis of adaptive learning platforms can impact faculty at an educational institution
- Provide an example of internal and external measures as they relate to adaptive learning research
- Explain the connection between distance education research and teaching effectiveness
- Review considerations for new areas of exploration in distance education research

Guiding Questions for Listening

- What is adaptive learning?
- How do adaptive learning platforms assist students on an individual basis?
- What are some examples of the type of data being captured from students that analyze the effectiveness of adaptive learning platforms?
- How can the analysis of online learning platforms impact faculty?
- What are some examples of internal and external measures as they relate to adaptive learning research?
- According to Dr. Moskal, what are some challenges within distance education research?
- How does distance education research impact teaching effectiveness?
- What appear to be some factors that can potentially affect the prioritization of research projects?
- In Dr. Moskal’s experience at the University of Central Florida, how are faculty members involved in new distance education research projects?
- According to Dr. Moskal, what are some important considerations for exploring new areas of research in distance education?

- What appear to be some benefits and challenges in working with vendors on research projects?

Possible Activities

- Have each student find an article about distance education and summarize the research findings. What did they find interesting about the article? What questions did it raise for them?
- Ask students to visit the show notes for this episode (<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e25/>) 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/e25/>) 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. Patsy Moskal if they could?

Suggested Citation (APA, 6th edition)

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Notes

About the Research in Action Podcast

“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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