Students’ Perceptions of their Presentation Performance Related to Video Viewing

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Introduction
A common issue is that some students do not feel confident giving presentations to peers. It is especially important for Health Science students to become more confident with speaking in front of others, as they will be medical professionals whose care for others will depend upon effective communication. How instructors can facilitate students’ confidence and development of skills with the use of technological tools is a relevant area to explore. The purpose of this current study is to examine Health Science Writing students’ perceptions about their performance before and after viewing their own presentations with Mediasite Lecture Capture video recording software as a learning tool; to identify factors that shape their perceptions; and, to consider how to help them build confidence and skills.

Background
From Spring 2013 to Spring 2019, 37 classes and 691 students were surveyed once at the end of each semester regarding their attitudes about viewing their recorded class presentations. Data was gathered from three 200-level courses (Business Writing, Technical Writing, and Health Science Writing) and two 400-level courses (Global Business Communication and Professional and Technical Communications). The data only partially revealed students’ attitudes toward viewing their recorded presentations.

Methods
During the semester, students completed three web surveys related to giving class presentations and viewing videos of their performances. The surveys asked students to address their experiences prior to enrolling in the Health Science Writing course; after having given a presentation in our class prior to viewing the video recording of their presentation; and, after having watched the videos of their presentation for our class. Each survey included both quantitative and qualitative questions.

A significant variable is that all students received written comments from their classmates immediately after class. Whether peers’ perceptions were equally or more important than the students’ own perceptions of their performance will need to be investigated.

Conclusions
The conclusions, based on the preliminary findings, are that some participating students did build confidence and increase their awareness of their strengths after viewing videos of their performance, and that Mediasite Lecture Capture is a useful learning tool. However, the peer evaluations were also relevant for some of the participants to feel more confident about their performance and to recognize their strengths.

Which skills do you feel have improved after watching the video of your performance?

- Organizing the content
- Delivering the information
- Preparing visual aids

Confidence before and after giving the presentation

Acknowledgments
- Dr. Johannes Britz, Provost and Vice-Chancellor, UW-Milwaukee
- Dr. Devaniar Vorpiepelio, Associate Vice-Chancellor, Academic Affairs, UW-Milwaukee
- Prof. Dana Reddy, Director, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, UW-Milwaukee
- Dr. Faye Aklides, Director of Systemswide Professional and Instructional Development, UW System
- Prof. Alison Maundage, Co-Director, UW System-Wisconsin Teaching Fellows & Scholars Program
- Prof. Heather Petelkof, Co-Director, UW System-Wisconsin Teaching Fellows & Scholars Program
- Prof. Gregory Joy, Chair, English Department, UW-Milwaukee
- Dr. Venugopalan, Senior Consultant for Instructional and Organizational Development, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, UW-Milwaukee
- Brooke Barker, Department Program Assistant, English Department, UW-Milwaukee
- John Patea III, Classroom Services Technology Specialist, UW-Milwaukee
- Internal Review Board, UW-Milwaukee
- Michael Crespo, Business Manager, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, UW-Milwaukee
- Christopher Holland, Business Manager, English Department, UW-Milwaukee
- Amber Michaels, Global Studies Student, UW-Milwaukee
- Amanda Viges, B.S. Global Studies, UW-Milwaukee
- Peter S. Stoddard, Senior Lecturer, College of Media, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign