# Survey Outcomes
# Virtual Classroom Training

Virtual classrooms are designed for interactivity. Unfortunately, from an instructor's point of view, this wealth of interactive resources often seems more a curse than a blessing. Teaching in a synchronous virtual classroom poses a host of unique challenges for instructors.

There are substantial technical and pedagogical hurdles that confront any instructor considering the transition to a virtual classroom.

**So where do we go from here?**
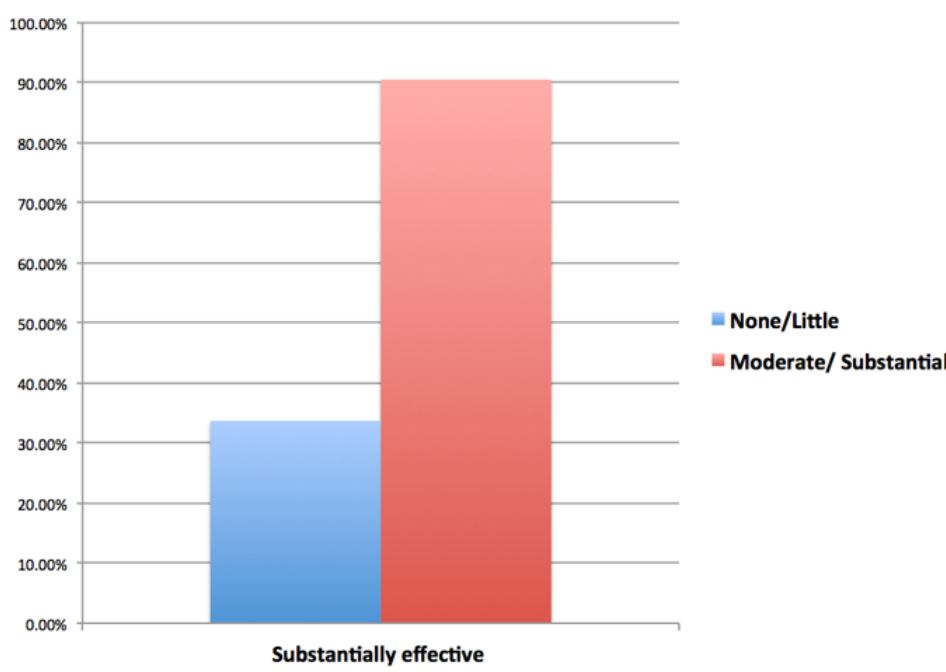
## SURVEY FOCUS

**TRAINING**

- How much?
- What kind?
- How successful is it?

There are hundreds of articles about preparing instructors for the transition to online learning in general, but few focus on the specific challenges posed by synchronous learning environments

## Key Takeaways: What Our Colleagues Say

### Using Synchronous Components



■ None/Little
■ Moderate/ Substantial

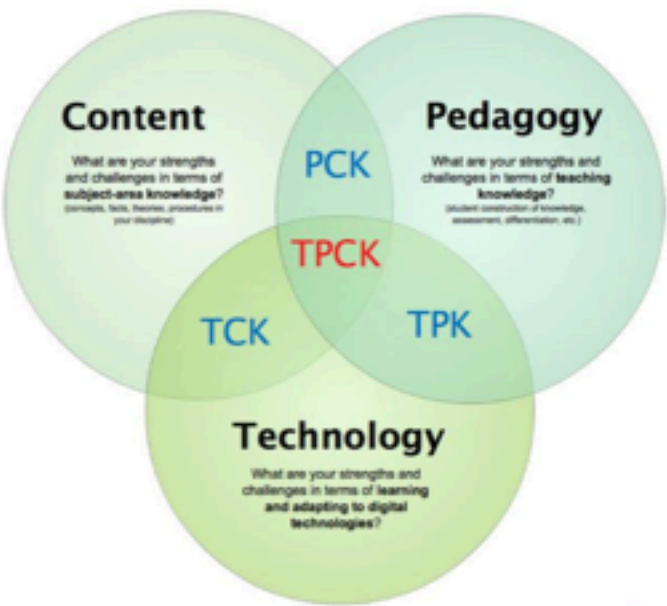**Substantially effective**

**Perceived Effectiveness**

**91%** of respondents for whom synchronous activities played a moderate or substantial role in their training perceived their training to be substantially effective
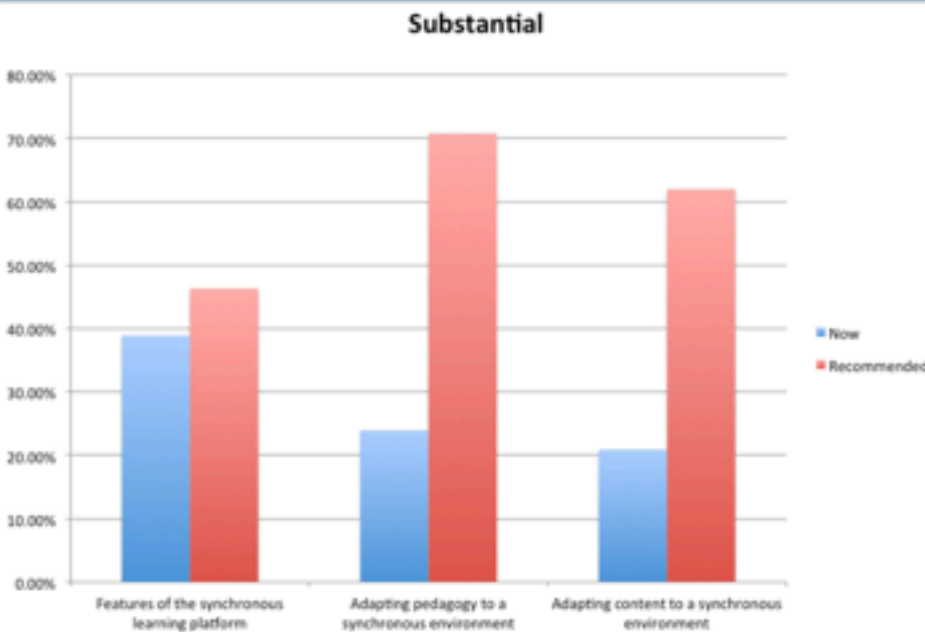
**34%** of respondents whose training included little or no synchronous components perceived their training to be substantially effective.

Current training places significantly more emphasis on learning the technology than adapting pedagogy or content to this new environment.
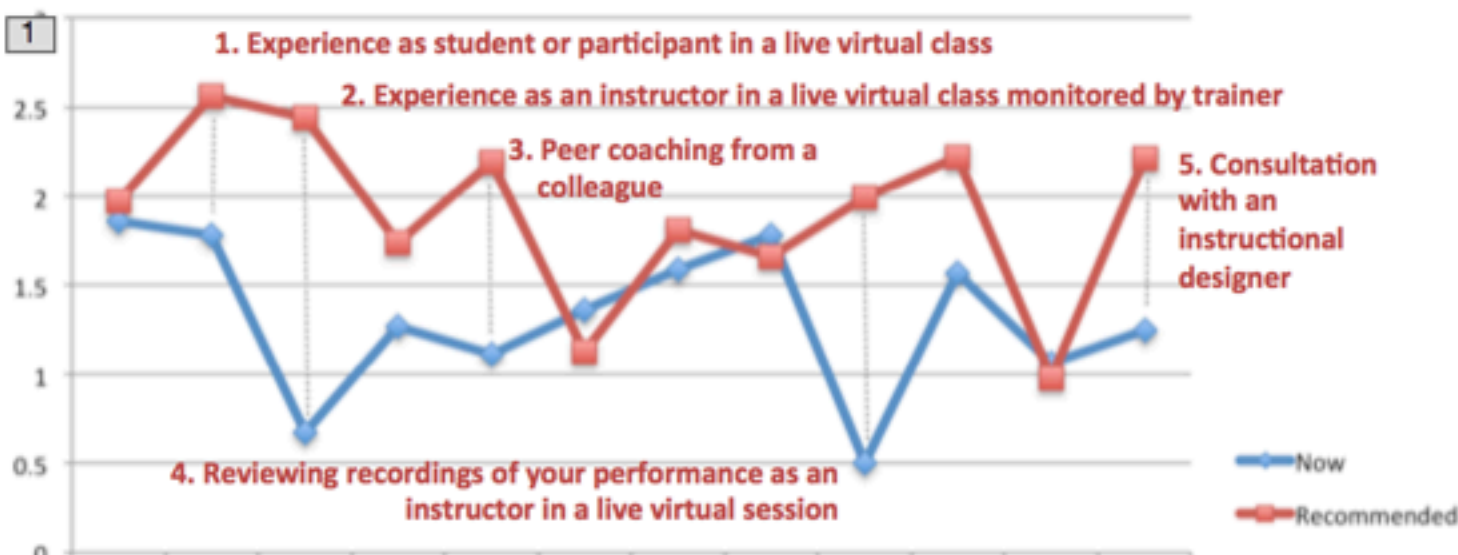
Our colleagues tell us our training orientation needs to shift from a focus on the technology to a more the balanced approach suggested in the TPACK model.



Content — What are your strengths and challenges in terms of subject-area knowledge?

Pedagogy — What are your strengths and challenges in terms of teaching knowledge?

PCK
TPCK
TCK
TPK

Technology — What are your strengths and challenges in terms of learning and adapting to digital technologies?

### Takeaway #2
### Change the training *orientation*!

**Substantial**



■ Now
■ Recommended

Features of the synchronous learning platform · Adapting pedagogy to a synchronous environment · Adapting content to a synchronous environment

### Takeaway #3
### Change the training elements!

Our colleagues tell us to focus on five key elements to increase the effectiveness of virtual classroom training



1. Experience as student or participant in a live virtual class
2. Experience as an instructor in a live virtual class monitored by trainer
3. Peer coaching from a colleague
4. Reviewing recordings of your performance as an instructor in a live virtual session
5. Consultation with an instructional designer

■ Now
■ Recommended

Online learning continues to be embraced by academic leaders and faculty who are focusing on pedagogical innovation, active learning approaches, as well as using adaptive learning tools and technologies. But the ultimate drivers are today's students, representing a patchwork of ages, backgrounds, challenges, motivations, and income levels. It is an exciting time to be part of OLC, as collectively we forge an affordable, accessible, and innovative future for higher education.

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