



LOEX QUARTERLY

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When you describe a second straight year as “unusual” or “different from the norm,” you come to appreciate that maybe “usual” is more difficult to grasp or return to than everyone had hoped. Still, with the advances of readily-available vaccines and other safety measures, we do plan on LOEX 2022 being held as “normal”, in-person, in Ypsilanti, MI. But before we turn our focus to our next conference, I would like to take a last look and briefly review our most recent conference, LOEX 2021, which had been planned for Concord, CA in Northern California before it was moved online (just as LOEX 2020 was) due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As part of this review, I thought it made sense to again eschew a conference report from two attendees (though I hope we’ll go back to that for LOEX 2022) and write a summary from my perspective of how LOEX 2021 conference was planned (e.g., what we learned from the previous year), conducted, and what that might mean for the future. Regardless of modality, what was key regarding the success of the conference (e.g., in terms of number attendees, this was our biggest one ever) was the work of our “local” committee, led by Samantha McClellan (Sacramento State) and William Cuthbertson (California State University, Chico). Among other challenges, they became the first conference committee to have to come up with two themes and two logos (as the original one created was focused on Northern California, and that was no longer where the conference would be held; we also wanted it to better reflect the transformative times we found ourselves in) while overall making sure our more ambitious planning for 2021, in comparison to 2020, came to fruition. Through the thoughtfulness and hard work of the entire committee, along with some “day of” conference volunteers, we pulled it off.

For this issue of the Quarterly, along with the Director’s summary report of the conference, we also include four full conference proceedings papers for an additional in-depth sample of what was presented.

Enjoy this Quarterly on some of the highlights of LOEX 2021, while we retool library instruction for today’s learning environments for LOEX 2022.

Happy instructing,
Brad Sietz
Director

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