Virtual Engagement Idea Bank

Utilizing virtual platforms is a necessity during Ethics Week 2020, but the benefits potentially reach beyond pandemic times by reducing travel costs and making events and activities more broadly accessible to distance learners, individuals with disabilities, and members of the community that may not have transportation means or time to devote to travel.

While virtual platforms open doors to opportunity, they present unique challenges for engagement and networking. It may be beneficial to speak to someone at your institution that manages audio visual equipment and digital platforms to learn what options are already approved and what licenses may already be obtained.

Consider the following virtual engagement options:

- In addition to your approved virtual meeting platforms (e.g. Cisco WebEx, Microsoft Teams, BlueJeans, etc.) consider the event vs. meeting functions within these platforms. They often have different capabilities.
  - Some platforms allow a moderator to assign attendees to “break out rooms” for smaller discussions, networking, or games like trivia. Consider assigning specific tasks, games, or predetermined topics/questions to break out groups.
  - Brand your event with a logo on screen, custom background, or welcome slides
  - Embed a video in the meeting platform (rather than screen sharing for enhanced quality)
  - Leverage polling and Q & A functions
- Virtual office hours
- Use QR codes for handouts instead of physical handouts
- Embed links or QR codes in email signatures to promote events or distribute resources
- Leverage attendee lists to create future ListServs
- Consider how to incentivize participation:
  - Sending “swag” items in the mail to participants
  - Entering participants in a raffle
- Utilize on campus auditoriums with live streaming capabilities. It’s possible to live stream to YouTube with an embedded link on your website. Consider assigning someone to watch/engage with YouTube comments
- Consider other technology vendors like Kahoots and Aha Slides that distance educators are utilizing
- Consider virtual activities like photo hunts, red flag spotting, etc. (e.g. [https://blog.thebroadcat.com/two-games-about-gifts-and-entertainment-training](https://blog.thebroadcat.com/two-games-about-gifts-and-entertainment-training))