# Table of Contents

Foreword ............................................................................................................................................ xv

Preface ............................................................................................................................................... xvii

## Section 1

### Teaching

**Chapter 1**  
Does Online Discussion Produce Increased Interaction and Critical Thinking? ........................... 1  
*Leonard Shedletsky, University of Southern Maine, USA*

**Chapter 2**  
Collaborative Student Groups and Critical Thinking in an Online Basic Communication Course .......................................................... 39  
*Roy Schwartzman, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, USA*  
*Megan Morrissey, The University of Colorado at Boulder, USA*

**Chapter 3**  
Promoting Reflective Discourse through Connectivity: Conversations around Service-Learning Experiences .......................................................... 66  
*Kathy L. Guthrie, Florida State University, USA*  
*Holly McCracken, University of Illinois at Springfield, USA*

**Chapter 4**  
Classrooms Without Walls: Teaching Together in Second Life ...................................................... 88  
*Lesley A. Withers, Central Michigan University, USA*  
*Lynnette G. Leonard, University of Nebraska at Omaha, USA*  
*John C. Sherblom, University of Maine, USA*

**Chapter 5**  
Online Discussion in Engineering Education: Student Responses and Learning Outcomes .......... 105  
*Stuart Palmer, Deakin University, Australia*  
*Dale Holt, Deakin University, Australia*
Chapter 6
B-Log on Social Change and Educational Reform: The Case of a University Class in Greece........ 123
Eleni Sideri, University of Thessaly, Greece

Chapter 7
‘De-Coupling Groups in Space and Time’: Evaluating New Forms of Social Dialogue for Learning.......................................................... 141
Kevin Burden, The University of Hull, UK
Simon Atkinson, Massey University, New Zealand

Section 2
Language and Communication Processes

Chapter 8
Towards More Productive Online Discussions: Social Presence and the Development of Interpersonal Relations ............................................................... 159
Benjamin Kehrwald, Massey University, New Zealand

Chapter 9
Using Discourse Analysis to Assess Social Co-Presence in the Video Conference Environment ................................................................. 175
Kristy Beers Fagersten, Dalarna University, Sweden

Chapter 10
Investigating the Online Interactions of a Team of Test Developers Working in a Wiki Environment ................................................................. 194
Anna Filipi, Australian Council for Educational Research, Australia
Sophie Lissonnet, Australian Council for Educational Research, Australia

Chapter 11
A Close Look at Online Collaboration: Conversational Structure in Chat and Its Implications for Group Work ......................................................... 212
Kris M. Markman, University of Memphis, USA

Chapter 12
Online Discussions and Interaction: The Case of Live Text Commentary .................................................. 234
Jan Chovanec, Masaryk University, Czech Republic

Chapter 13
Online Interpersonal Interactions Utilizing an Extremely Limited Communication Interface ........ 252
Terri Toles Patkin, Eastern Connecticut State University, USA
Chapter 14
Democratic Deliberation in Online Consultation Forums: A Case Study of the Casino Debate in Singapore ............................................................... 263

Kevin Y. Wang, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities, USA

Chapter 15
What We Do Online Everyday: Constructing Electronic Biographies, Constructing Ourselves ...... 282

Judith C. Lapadat, University of Northern British Columbia, Canada
Maureen L. Atkinson, University of Northern British Columbia, Canada
Willow I. Brown, University of Northern British Columbia, Canada

Section 3
Support

Chapter 16
“There’s Always Hope:” Content, Participants, and Dynamics of Discussions in a Lung Cancer Internet Support Group ........................................... 302

Tamar Ginossar, University of New Mexico, USA

Chapter 17
Change Talk at iVillage.com ........................................................................ 319

Jolane Flanigan, University of Massachusetts, USA

Chapter 18
Getting on the “E” List: Email List Use in a Community of Service Provider Organizations for People Experiencing Homelessness .................. 334

Craig R. Scott, Rutgers University, USA
Laurie K. Lewis, Rutgers University, USA
Scott C. D’Urso, Marquette University, USA

Chapter 19
“The Secret is Out!” Supporting Weight Loss through Online Discussion ........................................ 351

Laura W. Black, Ohio University, USA
Jennifer J. Bute, Ohio University, USA
Laura D. Russell, Ohio University, USA

Compilation of References ........................................................................ 369

About the Contributors ............................................................................ 401

Index ........................................................................................................ 409