

Librarians Are Becoming Virtual Facilitators!

Discussion created by Sheila LeGeros on 11/30/2009 10:36 AM

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I learned from Mary Ann Van Cura, who works for the Minnesota Department of Education as a librarian, that public libraries now offer virtual facilitation and tools! They are using a tool called Opal, for web conferencing and desktop sharing. Below is information on a class offered by a librarian on virtual meetings, open to the public.

Mary Ann thinks this class will be very good, as it is being taught by a librarian who does Deliberative Dialogues for the Kettering Foundation on civic discussions on challenging topics. I can't attend. Hope somebody can, and will tell us what they learned.

Wednesday, December 2, 2009 at noon Eastern Time, 11:00 a.m. Central, 10:00 Mountain, 9:00 Pacific, and 5 p.m. GMT: "Running a Virtual Meeting" Presented by Carolyn Caywood and Nicole McGee from the [Virginia Beach Public Library](#) As the cost of gas rises and travel time eats into our workdays, and as new technology opens new possibilities for meeting at a distance, librarians are learning how to lead and facilitate meetings that are not face-to-face. Have these new meeting technologies gotten ahead of the human factors? What still works? What needs to be reinvented? What's best avoided? Carolyn Caywood and Nicole McGee will present and facilitate the discussion.

<http://www.opal-online.org/progschnono.htm>