ABSTRACT:

STREAM: **PREPARING NURSES ACROSS THE CONTINUUM**

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Social Networking Explored: Twitter and Wikis and Blogs, Oh My!

Twittering™, Plurking™, SlideSharing™, Linking In and Facebooking! Today's Nursing students have access to multiple types of social media that critics claim endanger their ability to study and, pollute their interpersonal communications. Other critics point to the use of these technologies and the decreased attention span of current students. But, can social networking technologies be leveraged to increase the breadth, depth and effectiveness of nursing student education at all levels?

This presentation will explore the effects of social networking technologies on today's pre-licensure Nursing students. Characteristics of today's students will be defined and their technology habits explored.

An overview of Web 2.0 and its predominant themes of interactive information sharing, user-centered design, collaboration, use of social networking sites and interoperability will give way to defining concepts such as social book marking, folksonomy, tagging and smash-ups.

The presentation explored the various technologies included in the social networking category and demonstrate their uses within the educational milieu. Operationalization within two existing pre licensure Nursing curriculum will be discussed as well as future plans for operationalization within a graduate nursing informatics curriculum. Particular emphasis will be on blogs, wikis, Twitter™, Facebook™ and LinkdIn™ but other social networking sites will be explored and their potential usefulness to nursing education, in the classroom and in distance settings discussed.

BIO:

Dr. Christine A. Hudak is an Associate Professor and Director of the MSN in Informatics Program at Case Western Reserve University. Her research areas include organizational and attitudinal factors in computer system implementation, aging and technology, and educational technology. She received her BSN from Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing and M.Ed. and Ph.D. from Cleveland State University in Cleveland, Ohio. She is active in Nursing and Medical Informatics organizations as well as honorary societies in Nursing and Education. She is the recipient of numerous teaching awards and is dual certified in Informatics by the ANCC and HIMSS.