Session notes @4 March 19, 2020: Maintaining and building classroom community online and leading discussion

Overall takeaways:

- Developing protocols for discussion is helpful, as it is easy for students (and faculty!) to be distracted by some of the many features of online platforms. Suggestions are:
  - Having a student help monitor chat functions and raise questions as they arise
  - Checking for questions every 5 minutes or so, rather than addressing them continually as they come up
  - Using "x" or some symbol in Chat as the equivalent of raising a hand in class
  - Establishing some norms for sidebar chatting during class—when it's appropriate, when it's not
  - Establishing some norms for turning on cameras periodically (knowing that video feed may overload bandwidth)
- Having empathy for each other is important.

0:53   Julie Christoph (English and Associate Deans' Office) Announcements:

- Canvas Conferences are having some technical issues
- Adding liaison librarians to Canvas

3:12   Anna Valiavska (Communication Studies)

- Be gentle with self and with students, check in with them and learn how they're feeling about the class and what their personal situation is like
- Has offered to help students communicate with external parties (landlords, etc.), knowing they may need help with unfamiliar and high-stakes genres
- Try to provide space of normalcy and support and communication
- Trying to help students build on the groups and support they have developed face to face

7:45   Heather White (Gender and Queer Studies, Religious Studies)

- Does demo of Google Jamboard online, both live for interactive group work and as a presentation tool: https://jamboard.google.com/d/13ADB9ahWryimdfg0h6kVFO8eVW4RpDvgK8Gk0JFuiaE/viewer?f=4

19:30   Gwynne Brown (Music)
- Has been appreciating how fortunate we are to be able to do what we do at a liberal arts college; is consciously focusing on thinking of classroom as space to share joy and wonder in the classroom, even in the present circumstances.
- Synchronous meetings are important for community, but what we can do as a full synchronous class online is very different than what we can do online as a full class.
- Asynchronous work and group work may be the best ways for actual learning to happen now.
- Checking in with students individually will be especially important, as well.

25:50   Conversation about facilitating group work online

40:25   Conversation about Canvas Conference