

Jikko Poole

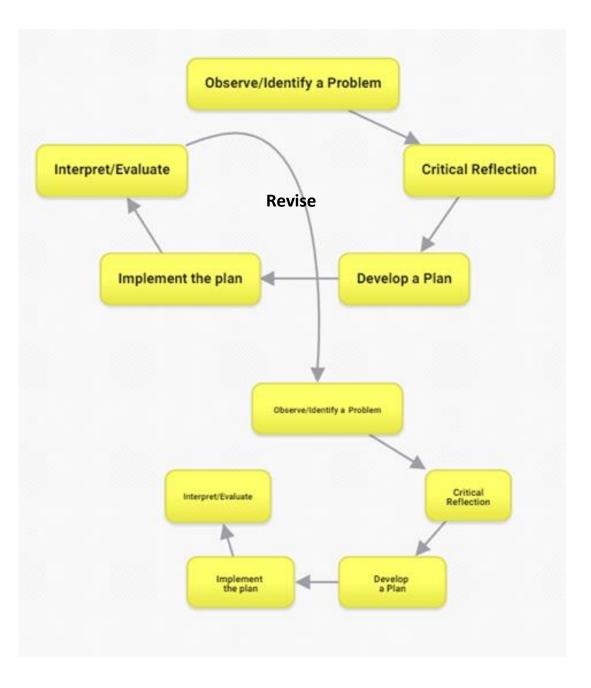
#### PAC-TE welcomes you and encourages you to:

- 1. Cast your vote for the open seats on PAC-TE's Board of Directors before you leave the conference, if possible.
- 1. Register for the Spring Conference, March 22 today and receive a \$10 discount.

#### Creating Mixed-reality Scenarios to Assess Students' Application of Theory to Practice: Work-in-Progress Session

Colleen Duffy, Ed.D., Assistant Professor, Misericordia University Roberta (Bobbi) Yeager, Ed.D., Assistant Professor, Misericordia University





Action Researchseeks transformative change through the simultaneous process of taking action and doing research, which are linked together by critical reflection.



#### Identified Problem: Limited Access to IEP Meetings



Source: https://iepbasics.org/



#### **Critical Reflection**

- Preservice teachers learn best from applying theory to practice- direct experience coupled with guided reflection and analysis (Hornyak et al., 2007).
- ➤ Genuine knowledge derives not from abstract thought, or by acting uncritically, but rather by integrating thinking and doing, and reflecting on the act (Dewey, 1938).
- ► Human learning, mental development, and knowledge are embedded in a particular social and cultural (Vygotsky, 1978).
- Active learning models emphasize the importance of experience rather than merely listening as a means of acquiring knowledge; it is indispensable to learning (Bonwell & Eison, 1991; Coulshed, 1993; Felder & Brent, 2003; Miller & Boud, 1996).

How can we ensure access to authentic, reflective and active learning?

.....Mixed-reality Scenarios?



#### Background: Misericordia University meets Mursion





Source:https://www.facebook.com/pg/mursionauditions/posts /



## Develop a Plan

- ► Establish SLO and objectives
- Work collaboratively with the MDT to develop at least 2 annual goals in conjunction with at least 2 SDIs.
- Establish Assessment Criteria
- $\succ$  Consider format
- ➤ Design the IEP meeting
  - Fictitious Student- "Jimmie"
  - MDT members- Special Education Teacher, Regular Education Teacher, Speech-Language Pathologist, Parent
  - Ascribe characteristics to team members
  - Determine push-back (type and severity)
- > Define parameters for goal setting and SDI



# Objective: Gain buy-in from the general education teacher to support Jimmie.

#### Assessment Criterion: Collaboration

- > Sets collegial tone by welcoming members/introductions
- ➤ Identifies common interest- supporting Jimmie
- ➤ Communication is clear, appropriate, and educationally sound
- ➤ Ensures understanding by all team members
- > Values/considers input from other team members
- ➤ Appropriately addresses concerns expressed by members of MDT
- ≻ Compromises as appropriate



Objective: Collaborate to form a concrete action plan that employs at least 2 clear annual goals and 2 SDIs.

Assessment Criteria: Goal Setting and SDIs

- Proposed goals are realistic and aligned to identified need in RR
- Explicit connection between current level and each goal is made
- Goals are stated as a behavioral objective using four criteria:
  - Given (Students name) will at a rate or measure of (criteria).
- Checks for understanding of the method, frequency, and reporting of the progress monitoring plan.
- At least 2 SDI are proposed
- Each SDI is realistic and appropriate to student need/ability and setting; and would likely benefit the learner



#### Assessment Criteria: Overall Performance

- Gains buy-in from members of MDT
- Consistently presents in a professional manner
- Consistently makes recommendations that are educationally sound
- Consistently makes recommendations that are legally sound
- For 1:1 sessions
  - Student objectively reflects on their performance and identifies strengths and weaknesses
  - Student demonstrates growth by improving on an area of identified weakness



# Implement the Plan

- **"Jimmie"-** 4th grade special education student in an inclusive classroom
- Multiple disabilities with secondary disability of speech or language impairment
- Pleasant, hard-working, tries his best
- Independent with classroom routines, easily interrupted during transitions and when on-task
- Adapts well to change
- Responds well to the classroom behavior system, regularly rewarded for good behaviour
- Enjoys playing with friends
- RR summary contains current levels, strengths and weaknesses

#### **MDT Members**

- **Darius-** Gen Ed teacher, he wants supporthe feels he has too many students and lacks the time needed to provide effective interventions, but is not antagonistic, he needs to feel supported and empowered to confidently meet Jimmie's needs
- **Dani-** SLP, collaborative, inclined to offer goals related to his speech/language impairment rather than academic goals, is willing to visit the classroom
- Max- Dad, Strong advocate, wants full inclusion, concerned about the social stigma, not familiar with acronyms, is hesitant to agree to new goals without discussing with his wife UNIVERSITY

#### Implement Plan

- Pilot created Spring through Summer of 2020
- Integrated into curriculum Fall of 2020
  - Course name number -
    - SPE 221 IEP: Process and Procedure
    - SPE 411: Inclusive Practices
    - SPE 362: Methods High
- Fishbowl and 1:1 sessions

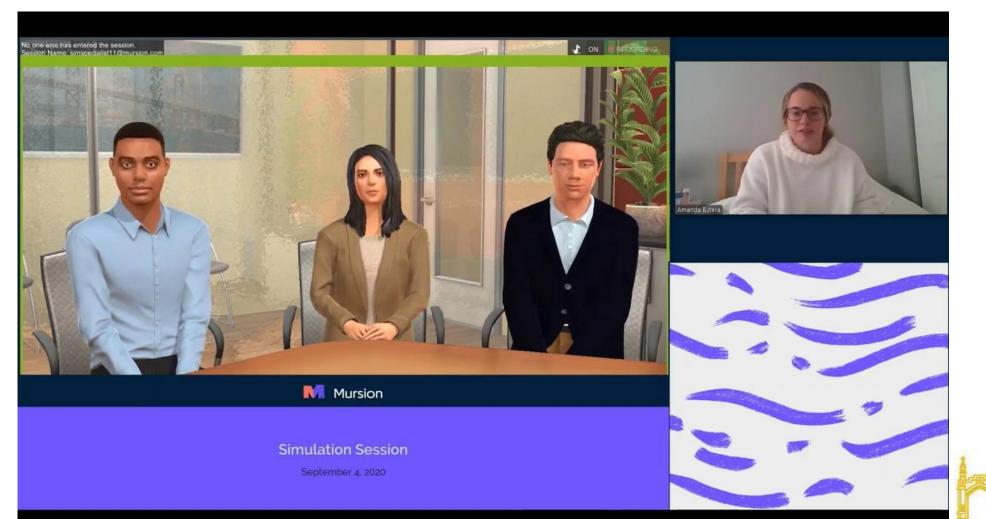


### Scenario in Action- Current Level & Goal 1



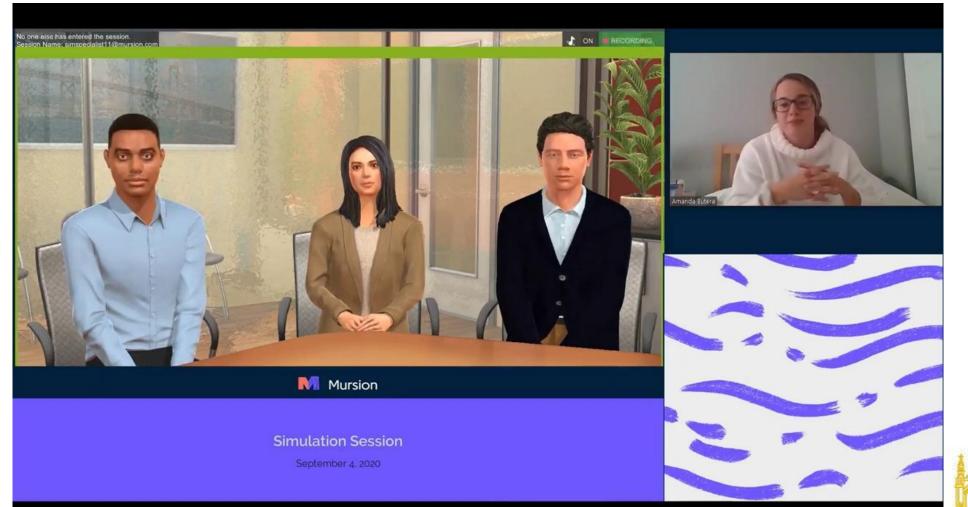


# Scenario in Action- SLP





## Scenario in Action-LRE





#### **Evaluation Plan**

- Track students, compare pass rates
- End-of-course surveys
- Exit/Alumni Surveys



# **Open Discussion**

#### Revise

What could/should be changed to improve the learning experience?

Are there aspects of an IEP meeting that students are not being assessed on through the scenario?

#### Reconceptualize

What other skills/competencies could be practiced and assessed through mixed-reality scenarios?

Is there a better way to apply theory to practice without having access to traditional learning environments?



## References

- Bonwell, C. C., & Eison, J. A. (1991). Active learning: Creating excitement in the classroom. Washington, DC: Eric Clearinghouse on Higher Education
- Coulshed, V. (1993). Active learning: Implications for teaching in social work education. British Journal of Social Work, 23(1), 1-13.
- Dewey, J. (1938) *Experience and Education*. New York: Collier Books.
- Felder, R., & Brent, R. (2003). Learning by doing. Chemical Engineering Education, 37(4), 282-283.
- Hornyak, M., Green, S. G., & Heppard, K. A. (2007). Implementing experiential learning. In M. Reynolds & R. Vince, (Eds.), The handbook of experiential learning and management education (pp. 137-152). New York, NY: Oxford University Press.
- Miller, N., & Boud, D. (1996). Animating learning from experience. In D. Boud & N. Miller (Eds.), Working with experience (pp. 3-13). New York, NY: Routledge.
- Vygotsky, L. S. (1978). Mind in society: The development of higher psychological processes Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.



# Thank you....

- Special thanks to Amanda Butera, Special Education/ECE major from Misericordia University for sharing her performance in the pilot video.
- Special thanks to the folks at Mursion for their creative collaboration and image and video sharing.
- Questions? Contact Colleen Duffy <u>cduffy@misericordia.edu</u> or Bobbi Yeager <u>ryeager@misericordia.edu</u>





# MISERICORDIA UNIVERSITY Teacher Education Department



PAC-TE and the presenter(s) of this session desire your feedback.

On the Whova event main menu, go to the agenda. Tap on a session to view the session detail page, and then tap on the "Rate" button.