



## “Brief Hybrid” or “Brief Hybrid Workshop”

A Brief Hybrid (BH) session rapidly introduces useful information, tools, ideas or resources. In a BH, participants typically watch a brief video (eClip), interact with each other, exchange insights, give feedback, and are shown options for going deeper into the subject - all in about 15 minutes. A "home base" Web page provides links to the essential resources for the BH: Video/eClip, activities, reference documents, plans, guidelines, etc. (*The TLT Group offers templates, guidelines, and related training, development and production services for Brief Hybrids. For more information, contact Sally Gilbert 301 270 8312 sallygilbert@tltgroup.org, and see [www.tltgroup.org/bhw.htm](http://www.tltgroup.org/bhw.htm).*)

Preparing a BH requires only a few easily mastered technical skills. A BH can provide a low-risk first step for exploring the growing variety of options for improving teaching and learning with technology.

Once developed, a BH can be reused, expanded or form the foundation for a series of other BHs. They can be adapted and led by peers with limited preparation. They can be inserted as brief agenda items in classes or meetings already scheduled (e.g., departmental meetings; lunch; faculty meetings; course review sessions; ...)

In a BH, participants interact with each other and with leaders/presenters/facilitators - face-to-face, online, or both; synchronously, asynchronously or both.

The short videos (eClips) used within most Brief Hybrids can be found, adapted, or produced in many different ways. Some eClips are found and used via YouTube, while others are produced and published as slideshows (built around PowerPoint files or other ways of assembling images and voice recordings). Still other eClips are produced and published quite rapidly by using camcorders that make this process easy, reliable, and inexpensive (e.g., Flip Video).

Ray Purdom originally suggested BHs as an extension of Todd Zakrajsek's "Five-Minute Workshops."

### Why Brief Hybrids Include More Than eClips

#### eClips help stretch - but not break - the limits of self-education.

For some purposes, for some kinds of learners, eClips may support self-instruction quite well; for most learners, more is required. BHWs and BHTLMs are ways of organizing and using complementary and supplementary resources along with eClips to support teaching and learning that involves at least one facilitator/leader and multiple learners.

### The Brief Hybrids (Workshops, Teaching/Learning Modules, ...) of greatest interest to the TLT Group have these characteristics:

- **Purpose: Faculty/Professional Development (& Teaching/Learning)**  
Their purpose is to support faculty development, professional development, (and the improvement of teaching/learning in specific courses).
- **Internet-Accessible Components**  
They include at least some components available via the Internet.
- **Interaction**  
They include at least one activity that enables and requires participants to exchange ideas and information.
- **Low-Threshold**  
They are LTAs [Low-Threshold Activities/Applications] with low incremental cost in time, money, stress, training, maintenance, etc.
- **Head, Heart, Hand, Foot, and Voice**  
They include a balance of Head, Heart, and Hand. They are practical. Someone's voice must be heard.
- **Personalizable (and Personalized)**  
Modifications are technically possible and legally permitted. Unique characteristics, goals, and capabilities of leaders, facilitators, and participants are recognized and respected.