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Pedagogy On-The-Go

Central CHRIE Federation

Exploring VR as a Transformative Education Tool

Energized by:

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Curious about how immersive technology can reshape hospitality education? Central CHRIE spotlights a recent initiative that illustrates how Virtual Reality (VR) is being integrated into hospitality, tourism, and events courses to enhance experiential learning and professional preparedness.

Led by Dr. Shinyong (Shawn) Jung and Dr. Susan Gordon from Purdue University, the project “Empowering Future Leaders of the Hospitality, Tourism, and Events Industry” introduced VR as a core education tool. Students participated in immersive role plays, explored virtual event venues, and experienced empathy-based scenarios such as the Paralympian VR experience. With support from the Envision Center and Engage XR, the team brought VR into classrooms and conferences to demonstrate its power to support learning, emotional engagement, and industry-specific skills.

Key takeaways included increased student engagement, improved learning outcomes, and enhanced realism in simulations such as performance management discussions or property tours. While challenges such as platform downtime were noted, the project demonstrated that VR, when paired with strategic partnerships, can enrich hospitality education in meaningful ways.

For faculty looking to take small steps into immersive learning, this project offers a compelling roadmap, showing how tech-enabled teaching can prepare students for real-world hospitality challenges.

👉 Read the full article here: [Exploring VR as a Transformative Education Tool](#)



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