**Week 1: Build Online Community – Demo Activity**

*To be facilitated by FLO Facilitators – demonstration of how a mini-session could be delivered in FLO*

**Note**: This activity has been simplified from the original activity tested in FLO Apr2016

**Timeframe** – Wed – Fri in Week 1

**Directions for this activity:**

1. Facilitators should review the Instructions and Schedule (posted as a Moodle Page and Hidden – above the Week 1 “Building Online Community Forum) and update with the appropriate dates.   
  
Make this visible once the session is “launched”.

2. By Tuesday evening (or first thing Wednesday) of Week 1, facilitators should post a Step 1 launch post in the Building Online Community forum. Invite people to participate. Link to the **Instructions and Schedule** page (embedded above the Forum) and ask participants to read through that page and be ready to post their thoughts by **Thursday morning**.   
  
**Include the Step 1 guiding questions**:

* **What comes to mind when you hear the term “online learning community”?**
* **Have you experienced being part of, or building, an online community?**

You may also want to point out that the first video listed in the Resources in the Instructions and Schedule document is what they should watch before they answer these questions.

3. On the same day, post Step 2 discussion thread – Instructor roles in building online community

Include the Step 2 guiding question in the discussion thread:

**Share with us your ideas about instructor actions or statements that can support online community.**

* **What have you seen used by other instructors/facilitators to build online community?**
* **What might you have used yourself?**
* **What, from the resources we have given you (or others you have found), "speaks" to you most?**
* **What questions do you have?**

This step will require them to review the remaining resources listed in the Instructions and Schedule. They are asked to respond by **late** **Thursday or early Friday.**

4. By Friday afternoon or evening, facilitators should post a summary of both steps of the activity in the activity forum. Try to highlight interesting ideas or statements or references from participants. You should not require participants to respond to this summary.

5. In the closing post for the week in the Open Forum, facilitators should briefly highlight things to notice about the way a mini-session was facilitated – explain why we don’t do a Saturday feedback forum.

5. (cont’d)  
Invite comments if desired – in the activity forum. FLO Facilitators will share more points about their intentions (in terms of facilitation) in the Weekly Journal Share Forum – the Facilitators’ Nuggets thread.

References for intro paragraph in Instructions & Schedule: Garrison, D. R., T. Anderson and W. Archer (2000) Critical Inquiry in a Text-Based Environment: Computer Conferencing in Higher Education. The Internet and Higher Education 2(2-3): 87–105, 2000.

Moore, M & Kearsly, G. (1996). Distance education a system view. Belmont: Wadsworth.