Abstract:
Live demo of Wimba: a suite of web-based voice communication tools for Voice Email, Voice Discussion Boards, Voice Direct (real-time/synchronous voice chat room) and Wimba’s Oral Assessment Builder, which facilitates easy creation, management, assignment and grading of oral assessments and verbal feedback to students. See how UCLA instructors have been enriching their language courses with Wimba.

Presenters:
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Ganna has taught Russian & Ukrainian Languages at all levels, from elementary to heritage, as well as various courses on culture at UCLA.

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Ted has a background in Linguistics and Computer Science. His mission is to promote and support the effective integration of technology in the Foreign Language Teaching & Learning Community @ UCLA.

Overview of Today’s Session:
Part I ~ Motivation:
  a) Instructor Perspectives
  b) Student Perspectives: 5 min. video on Wimba experience, results of anonymous student surveys presented.
Part II ~ Wimba Technology Primer

a) Communications Tools
   1. Voice Email
   2. Voice Discussion Board
   3. Voice Direct (real-time/synchronous voice chat room)

b) Oral Assessment Builder
   1. Wimba Manager for Instructors & Students
   2. Creating Questions, Creating Assessments (exercises, or quizzes), Assigning to Students, and Giving Grades and Voice Feedback
   3. Keeping Track of Assignments & Student Progress

c) Short Q&A on technology

Part III ~ Language Pedagogy and Wimba – how to target specific language skills & levels with Wimba

a) Using Wimba Communications Tools in Homework Assignments, Lab Practice, and Testing

b) Using the Oral Assessment Builder Templates for Different Types of Assignments & Exercises
   1. An Oral Interview Task-Type
   2. Asking Questions Task-Type
   3. Pure Listening Task-Type
   4. Reading Task-Type
   5. LRW (Listening, Reading, and Writing) Task-Type

Part IV ~ Conclusion

For Information, Access to Demonstrations, and References Cited in Today’s Session, please browse to http://international.ucla.edu/languages/technology/. Scroll down to the Language Instructional Technology section and click on Wimba. Then under Getting Started, click on “Beyond Digital Audio: Wimba, Adding a New Dimension to Language Learning & Teaching”).