Hi my name is Christy unakalamba and I am a Graduate Writing consultant at the Grand Valley State University. My presentation topic will be centered on Integrating Gesticulation as a Physical multimodal approach in Online Writing Consultations.

I will be focusing my presentation under three considerations. Which include; what is the role of bodily modalities (for instance, gesticulations) in creating meaning and fostering understanding in online consultations?

Secondly, How can bodily modality be better integrated into online writing consultations in ways that make meaning more accessible?

Thirdly, How might visual, spatial, linguistics, audio/video recordings and other technologically mediated modes of communication be harnessed efficiently to fit into online writing consultations?

Following from these three consideration, I will be creating a scope for my discussion. My scope is within the technology and online consultation. Here technology cuts across the different forms of communication we use; whether written, audio, or video formats.

Considering the physical distance created during online writing consultations, how we inculcate multimodal strategies in the technologically mediated environment without causing disruptions to recipients' understanding. This is critical.

While online writing consultation has more potential for both the writer and consultant with the leverage to technology.  However, there is a need to look into the communication dynamics involved during online writing consultations and its effect on the individual differences. These individual differences can be student differences based on culture, linguistic deficiencies, and learning differences. The online space shapes the power dynamics of a session a little bit because it masks some of the pre-existing commonalities and differences that sometimes appear in a face-to-face consultation or session. The lack of physicality in online sessions removes the ability of the tutor to read body language and other visual cues. Considering this, consultation  and online feedback can  be more inclusive and cohesive, bearing in mind the diverse nature of students who seek help with writing task.

My work at the Fred Meijer Writing Center has made me rediscover that during online writing consultations the approach to physical multimodal adoption to online writing consultation feedback is key. This is because technology cuts across the different forms of communication we use; whether written, audio, or video formats. Therefore, the physical distance created during online writing consultations, should make us begin to ponder,  how we can inculcate multimodal strategies in the technologically mediated environment without causing disruptions to recipients' understanding. These interactions during an online writing consultation involve a multiplicity of communicative styles which is multimodal communication. These range from from verbal to visual and even kinesthetic approaches which make it necessary to accommodate students learning idiosyncrasies.

Based on this, how can we harness the potential that  this provides and how can we ensure that students are able to understand the fee back we give during consultations.

My study showed that excessive gesticulations during writing consultation feedback can disrupt the flow of communication during online consulting bearing in mind differences in non verbal cue processing.  Face to face contact reduces the strain imposed on the student interpreting the feedback unlike the digitally enhanced online consultation. As such, gesticulations can be inculcated into feedback in cases where both consultant and student understand non verbal cues and gesticulations used in the course of an online consultation. This means when both the consultant and the student are able to understand themselves then gesticulation can be encouraged but should be limited.

To wrap up considering the evolving communicative needs in a globalized world, effectively integrating bodily modalities such as gesticulations into online writing consultations will make online writing consultations more engaging for students irrespective of communication orientations, ba