Sheldon H Lee\* (shlee@viterbo.edu), Viterbo University, 900 Viterbo Drive, La Crosse, WI 54601. Online discussions boards: An attempt to foster student interaction and engagement in an online Introductory Statistics course.

We often object to offering online mathematics courses because of the lack of face to face interaction with and between the students, but pressure to offer online courses seems to only increase with time. The standard tool for closing the gap between online and traditional experiences is the discussion board, but to what effect can it be used in an introductory statistics course? It is a challenge to guide students into a meaningful and helpful discussion that is generally openended. In this talk, I will share my implementation of a discussion board, the challenges that I experienced, and student feedback. As this was my first attempt at utilizing a discussion board in an introductory statistics course, I welcome audience suggestions and feedback. (Received September 22, 2010)