Improving students’ argumentative essay writing through an online supported peer feedback tool

In the SURF project, we aim to explore the effects of an online peer feedback support tool on various aspects of learning and writing where students with authentic essay writing tasks engage in thoughtful criticism of the work and/or performance of their peers using given criteria. The designed peer feedback tool allows students to provide structured feedback on their peers’ essays reciprocally based on the characteristics of a high-quality argumentative essay. The various feedback features in this tool contain question prompts about the peers’ actual work and/or performance (how am I going/doing?), or indicate a direction by delineating a goal to be achieved (where to go next?). In this project, the relationships between students’ argumentative essay writing performance, online peer feedback performance, and their learning are being explored. This presentation will focus on the results of the SURF project.