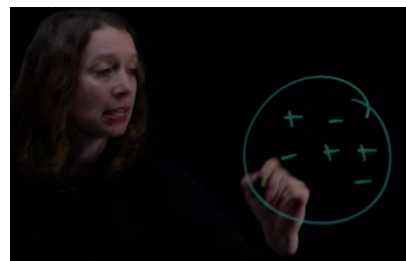# Lightboard

Interview with Amy Pope, Senior Lecturer Physics and Astronomy

The lightboard is a great instructional tool that can present class material while allowing the instructor to face the viewer. Instructors can draw diagrams, equations, or formulas the same way they would on a chalkboard or whiteboard. Not to mention, they can also add their lecture presentation slides. Lightboard studios are available by appointment with Clemson Online at Clemson Broadcast Productions and coming soon to The Watt Center.

Amy works through a sample problem using the Lightboard

What did you like about using the tool?

Using the lightboard allows me to solve problems real time, as I would in class. Lecturing is a very dynamic experience where our facial expressions, tone and gestures all play into student understanding of the material. The lightboard allows all of this to be captured in one fell swoop. I think the educational benefit to the student is tremendous.

The lightboard was easy to use. I provided power point slides to the production team, which provided a framework for the lecture. Figures that were difficult to draw were projected into the lecture.   I was able to have all of my notes in front of me but the camera did not pick them up. If I messed up, I was simply able to start again.

Have you had any feedback from students about the tool?

Students have greatly benefited from the lightboard lectures. Many students approach me and ask if I have additional problems that were solved using the lightboard. They indicate that they were easily able to follow the lightboard content develop and noted that it was convenient to look at my area of focus as they viewed the lectures.

What is your advice for another instructor who is going to use the tool?

- First and foremost, have fun. Using the lighboard is a bit of a learning curve but your students will think it amazing that you can write backwards! Mistakes are wiped away be retaking the video or through the magic of the production studio.

- Think through what you are trying to communicate and how you can incorporate computer generated features in with your handwritten lecture.

- Despite your best efforts, do not expect perfection. You can review videos of yourself teaching and correct many issues (like talking to your notes instead of the camera). The production team will also coach you in looking natural; they will help with the technology and will gladly restart the recording when you mess up royally.

- Enjoy yourself.