**Proposal to Create a Teaching with Technologies Program**

IRM proposes a collaboration among the Center for Teaching and Learning (CLT), the College of Education (COE), and Information Resource Management (IRM) to create a new teaching with technologies organization. This newly created organization would provide instructional design and technology support as it relates to the effective use of technology in teaching.

Our initial proposal is to accomplish three specific objectives:

* Create a semi-annual, week-long faculty institute addressing the use and application of technologies to pedagogical practices to enhance effective teaching with technologies in traditional classroom, online, and hybrid environments.
* Create a series of online faculty enhancement materials for commonly used technology sets to ensure that preparation for effective use of available technologies and pedagogical principles are available to all faculty when and where they need it.
* Prototype a new instructional design concept by working with the College of Engineering to put a series of programs online.

**Objective 1: Teaching with Technologies Workshop**

The CTL and IRM would host a one-week teaching with technologies workshop. Outside experts and speakers will be brought in to lead the discussions. The workshop will focus on instructional design concepts and hands-on training with the various technologies, including one-on-one sessions on how to address identified goals of individual faculty members. Each faculty member then will draft a project plan for the course s/he will develop for the following semester. The project will include three phases: the workshop; during-term implementation and support; and an end-of-term “expo” of faculty success and feedback, possibly combined with a general teaching with technologies expo/conference (panel discussions, demos, vendor participation). Faculty from all colleges will be encouraged to participate as presenters as well as participants.

**Objective 2: Develop Online Training Materials**

The new teaching technologies program will develop a series of online training materials for using the various technologies available to enhance the delivery of education in classroom, hybrid, and online environments. Working together, the CTL, IRM, and interns from the College of Education will work together to incorporate good design concepts and best teaching practices in development of training materials in small, focused topic areas that target specific needs. Faculty and student training materials developed as part of this program will be made available to both faculty and students. Some of the initial training will be specific to tools such as Blackboard and Elluminate to help participants familiarize themselves with these heavily used tools. Training then will shift to concepts and broader understanding of appropriate toolsets. After sufficient training materials are developed, the program may move to a certificate-type program. As an example, a faculty member who completes a track of courses tailored to enhance skills for teaching online may receive a certificate to that effect.

**Objective 3: Pilot Instructional Design Program**

FAU needs an effective instructional design process in order to successfully teach courses online, and this can be facilitated by the partnership we propose. IRM will recruit an assistant director-level position to facilitate the efforts of this program. The assistant director then would be supplemented by an additional instructional designer and interns from COE. We propose an initial pilot project with the College of Engineering and Computer Science (COECS). The COECS has expressed a desire to redevelop the current FEEDS curriculum into a technologically updated online set of programs and has approached IRM to partner on this endeavor. This is a great opportunity to launch a new instructional design support process. The instructional design process will not be dedicated to COECS, but a pilot project such as this is an important opportunity to establish respect for the program.

**Summary**

A sound teaching technologies program is essential for FAU to fulfill the need for effective and efficient online delivery of academic programs. The CTL and IRM are jointly filing this request with the Technology Fee Review Committee to fund this proposal. Since the technology fee was specifically designed to support instruction, we believe this proposal is an obvious fit: its goal is to provide students with quality online education and, in the process, it will also give COE students valuable on-the-job training, thereby enhancing the COE students’ learning experience. The table below presents a proposed three-year budget that would be submitted through the required RFP process. The first year assumes a start-up by January of 2010. The incentive programs would address either stipends or release time as appropriate. Operating costs would address both office and technology needs to support the program.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Line Items** | **Year 1** | **Year 2** | **Year 3** |
| Incentive Programs/Stipends | $ 30,000.00 | $ 45,000.00 | $ 45,000.00 |
| Operating Costs | $ 20,000.00 | $ 20,000.00 | $ 20,000.00 |
| Lead Instructional Designer | $ 45,500.00 | $ 91,000.00 | $ 91,000.00 |
| Instructional Designer | $ 25,750.00 | $ 65,000.00 | $ 65,000.00 |
| Instructional Technologist |  | $ 65,000.00 | $ 65,000.00 |
| Annual Showcase |  | $ 4,000.00 | $ 4,000.00 |
| Internships | $ 30,000.00 | $ 60,000.00 | $ 60,000.00 |
| **Total** | **$ 151,250.00** | **$ 350,000.00** | **$ 350,000.00** |