Technology Innovation Proposal Process

The Distance Education and Instructional Technology (DEIT) Department encourages faculty, division, and program technology innovation. Our process for supporting the recommendation of new distance education programs or technology implementations centers on the proposal process detailed below.

I.   Complete the two-page DEIT innovation proposal document. Find it under Helpful Links at http://deit.desales.edu/deit/

II.   Meet with DEIT to discuss implementation plan: timeline, costs, assessment metrics and training plan.

III.   Gain approvals, if needed, from relevant faculty committees, deans, provost, chair, and/or program director.

IV.   Submit final Technology Innovation Proposal for DEIT approval.

The definitions that follow should assist you in engaging in this process.

21st century learning and skills: An expansion of core subjects (English, math, science, and history) instruction to include global awareness, civic literacy, financial, economic and business literacy, providing learners with authentic learning experiences beyond the classroom. According to the Partnership for 21st Century Skills (2004), learning should include opportunities to develop and use the following skills: collaboration, self-direction, social responsibility, accountability, knowledge application, critical thinking, and creative problem solving.

Innovation: "An idea, practice, or object that is perceived as new by an individual or another unit of adoption" (Rogers, 1995, p. xvii). Adopters hope an innovation offers better alternatives to previous ones for solving problems.

Instructional strategies: The components of sequencing and organizing content, specifying learning activities, and choosing delivery methodology (Dick, Carey, & Carey, 2001). Extrapolating from Dick et al.'s definition of instructional strategies, *instructional practices*, then, are the actions taken by faculty to manage and deliver content and learning activities.

Instructional technology: Technology used in a "purposive and controlled" manner to facilitate learning (AECT Definition and Terminology Committee, 2004). According to the committee, purposive and controlled mean that someone guides a learner toward specific goals or objectives by utilizing planned methods and resources.

Integration: "When teachers incorporate new resources into their curricular plans" (AECT Definition and Terminology Committee, 2004, p. 10).

Teacher efficacy: Teachers' confidence and beliefs about the extent of their efforts to influence student achievement and to achieve their instructional goals in the classroom or online.

Teacher professional development: For teachers, professional development is professional learning or collegial work to develop and refine their practice and often occurs in workshops or in courses (Darling-Hammond, 2005).

Technology Innovation Proposal Rubric

Criteria	4 points	3 points	2 points	1 Point
Proposal Presentation	Proposal clearly identifies the 5 Ws and H: who, what, when, where, why, and how. Nothing is omitted.	Proposal identifies the 5 Ws and H: who, what, when, where, why, and how. Minor questions remain.	Proposal does not clearly identify the 5 Ws and H: who, what, when, where, why, and how. Presentation is underdeveloped.	The proposal seemed rushed. Major omissions exist.
Mission, Goals, Outcomes	This initiative has the potential to effectively further DSU, division, and program mission, goals, and outcomes in an innovative fashion.	This initiative clearly supports DSU, division, and program mission, goals, and outcomes within traditional measures.	This initiative loosely and partially supports DSU, division, or program mission, goals, or outcomes.	This initiative detracts from a key element of DSU, division, and/or program mission, goals, and outcomes.
Instructional Quality	This initiative treats core content areas and assessment outside of traditional strategies, resulting in creative approaches, greater problem-solving, research fluency, learner self-direction, productivity, and creativity.	This initiative addresses core content areas and assessment. It appears to target higher-order 21st Century skills and student-centered learning.	This initiative addresses core content areas but is missing either an assessment component or the engagement of higher-order 21st Century skills.	This initiative is underdeveloped in the area of instructional innovation, including assessment and student-centered instruction for 21st Century learning.
Faculty Effectiveness	This initiative potentially redefines how faculty teach and deliver content. Sufficient time, resources, and leadership support exist for faculty professional development.	This initiative appears to promote teaching innovation within traditional definitions and classroom structures. Sufficient time, resources, and leadership support exist for faculty professional development.	It is unclear how this initiative will improve teacher effectiveness. However, sufficient time, resources, and leadership support exist for faculty professional development.	This initiative does little to improve teacher effectiveness and does not delineate sufficient resources and support for faculty development.
Impact	This initiative has the potential to significantly impact all targeted students, positively affecting student retention, achievement, and satisfaction.	This initiative impacts a large number of students and appears to positively affect student retention, achievement, and satisfaction.	This initiative seems to have some positive impact on achievement, persistence, and/or satisfaction.	It is unclear how this initiative will serve and impact the targeted student population.
Sustainability	This initiative's benefits far outweigh the costs. Once implemented and funded, this initiative will be self-sustaining.	The benefits outweigh the costs. Once implemented and funded, this project will require minimum support.	The benefits and costs are equivalent. Potential funding sources are identified, but it's doubtful they will materialize.	The costs of this initiative far exceed the benefits. No funding is included. This initiative is unsustainable.