

Project: Engaging Methods in Teaching



Project Goals

- Provide a distribution channel for instructors and staff to share innovative teaching techniques with the college community
- Educate the college community about the capabilities, design and development cycles, resources and the project planning required for creating learning objects
- Provide an evolving archive of learning object development projects and the techniques created by members of the college and the TLC

Project Overview

Since the creation of the department in July 2006, the TLC has been involved in several projects with faculty members to maintain or create new learning objects for courses. These projects typically require close communication between the TLC staff and faculty members. Some of these collaborative endeavors can be developed in a matter of weeks; others require a significantly longer amount of time and logistics. These projects may have been supported by BIG grants or have faculty and department support. The varied types of projects also have required a wide range of planning, software applications, and skill sets.

EMIT will provide a mechanism to collect the insights of the faculty and staff regarding several past, present and future projects. This knowledge base will be shared with the BCC community openly in hopes of allowing others to understand not only what is feasible but also what work goes into a large project.

Among the types of information to be shared are:

- The “spark” of creativity that launches a project
- The means to finance or support the resources for a project (i.e. grants, software, talent, etc.)
- Collecting the information to get a handle on the project (i.e. who might be able/willing to help, department support, technical expertise, etc.)
- Effective planning strategies such as defining the proper scope, timeline, goals, etc.
- Assessing the progress of the project and its end results
- What to do when things don't go as planned
- Examples of the technology used for the project

There is a wealth of knowledge that already exists. **EMIT** will address the practical issues of collecting that information and then making this material available to the community in a user-friendly format.

The channel for sharing this knowledge will be enhanced pod casts and possibly other web-based distribution channels. The podcasts will support both audio and visual information in a format that can easily be played back with computers or portable music players.

The TLC will produce a bi-weekly podcast using portions of the audio interviews or discussions with faculty and staff who have worked on projects that have created new learning objects for BCC courses. Each participant would be involved in a single interview. The TLC will combine the recorded material from the participants into pod casts dedicated to specific topics. This approach leverages the knowledge shared by each participant individually while providing a series of

separate pod casts. Also by using an ever-expanding set of faculty, the project can continue to evolve indefinitely as more and more projects come to fruition.

Project Plan

The following is an outline of the proposed project.

1. TLC invites an initial set of faculty to be interviewed for the project
2. TLC schedules a meeting for the audio interview with each participant
3. TLC creates a list of interview questions that will be used to solicit a varied amount of information from the participants who will get these questions beforehand
4. Interviews occur and the audio is recorded
5. TLC staff edit and produce and distribute a series of pod casts covering appropriate topics
6. Project continues to collect new content with additional participants and evolve into an archived knowledge base

Initial Project Launch Schedule

- Initial recordings (of 2-3 participants) complete: 11/30/07
- Initial Pod casts produced and ready for delivery: 12/06/07