

**Frye Institute Practicum Project:
Assessment of Educational Technology Programs at the University of Oregon**

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Networked technologies, information resources, and media services permeate the academic and administrative life of the University of Oregon campus. Although the University of Oregon's mission statement does not address technology per se, every aspect of the mission depends upon these systems. Over years of very significant investment, we have built an excellent network and technology-based infrastructure and have established a wide variety of educational technology services. We believe that we are well positioned to leverage our excellent infrastructure into making more direct contributions in the research and teaching and learning mission of the University.

However, before we embark on a new set of investments, we realize that we have a due diligence responsibility to assess the impact of existing investments. To date, we have been less successful at assessing the impact of these investments on student learning and campus life, faculty scholarship and research, and administrative efficiency. The need for assessment was a prominent theme of the University of Oregon's 1997 Accreditation Report, and more recently, the 2003 report of the Educational Technology Coordinating Committee.

Proposed Project

Conduct an assessment of the University of Oregon's educational technology environment. Methodology will include gathering and analysis of both quantitative and qualitative data, including but not limited to:

- revenues and expenditures, with a focus on the student technology fee
- scope and adequacy of services
- market penetration of key services in areas of instruction, research, outreach, and administration
- impact on student learning, overall student experience, scholarship and research, outreach, and administrative processes

Benefits to the campus

- The report will serve as a pilot for an ongoing assessment process.
- The report will give the University of Oregon's executive team a baseline for strategic technology planning.
- The report will inform and contribute to the University's upcoming 10-year accreditation (2006 - 2007). With this in mind, our study will specifically address appropriate criteria in the NWCCU Accreditation Standards
- The report will provide a basis for further work involving recommendations of specific investments or projects that would appear to have benefit to the research and teaching and learning missions of the University.

Benefits to Frye Institute participants (Andrew Bonamici & Dale Smith)

- We will each gain skills in methods of assessment.
- We will gain in-depth knowledge of campus programs, and hear the user's perspective on the ways educational technologies are affecting each academic discipline and administrative function.
- This project will require significant collaboration among many campus areas – the Libraries, Computing Center, Teaching Effectiveness Program, Ed Tech Committee, faculty, staff, Deans of Schools and Colleges, and central administration. Our leadership of this process will enhance our ability to identify and lead additional collaborative projects and services.

Institutional Support

The University of Oregon is committed to providing us with the resources to participate in the Frye Institute and conduct the technology assessment project. John Moseley, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, states “I am committed to providing the financial support necessary to make this project successful.” Deborah Carver, University Librarian and Interim Associate Vice Provost for Information Services, says that “Financial support for our participation and the project will come primarily from the Library and University Computing.” Specific categories of support include but are not limited to:

- Release time and financial support for travel and Atlanta residency
- Dedicated time through the practicum year as appropriate for management of a campuswide project with high priority and high visibility
- Staff and student assistant support as needed
- Survey, market research, and publicity support from the Oregon Survey Research Laboratory, Lundquist College of Business, and/or Office of Communications

References

University of Oregon Mission Statement:

<http://www.uoregon.edu/~uosenate/UOmissionstatement.html>

NWCCU Accreditation Standards: Standard Five, Library and Information Resources:

<http://www.nwccu.org/Standards and Policies/Standard 5/Standard Five.htm>

2003 report of the UO Educational Technology Coordinating Committee:

<http://libweb.uoregon.edu/edtech/reports.html>