UCLA Blended Instruction Case Studies
Call for Electronic Letters of Interest
Due Date: November, 14, 2003

The Blended Instruction Case Studies Vision and Purpose

The Faculty Committee on Educational Technology (FCET) with the support of the Office of Instructional Development (OID) is looking for ways to enrich the undergraduate learning experience using information technologies. To help UCLA plan for the future, the FCET is undertaking a small number of focused case studies exploring different and promising approaches that blend traditional and electronic learning in the UCLA environment. The overall goal is to discover innovative ways to improve student learning and take advantage of the richness of UCLA’s research context by giving students first hand experience with research and help them to think like a researcher. Special interest will be given to proposals that personalize and enrich the educational experience in high demand undergraduate classes. The purpose of the Blended Instruction Case Studies initiative is to systematically draw together and make available to others vital information about select case studies that will implement new ideas using blended instruction. Such information will help current and future efforts to design, on a larger scale, learning environments that optimally blend information technologies with other pedagogical practices.

Call for Letters of Interest

In the first year of the initiative, UCLA is looking for faculty with new ideas featuring the use of a combination of face-to-face and electronic learning in undergraduate courses to achieve course goals that otherwise could not be attained by using either of these methods of delivery alone.

If you are a UCLA faculty member with such an idea we want to hear about it!

Timeline and Process

As a first step please submit a brief electronic letter of interest, due November 14th, 2003, that describes your idea. Letters of interest will be accepted from individuals and teams.

As indicated on the website, you only need to describe your idea and answer the following questions:
1. In which high demand course would you like to implement your idea?
2. What is the pedagogical problem that you wish to solve or learning improvement you wish to achieve?
3. Specifically, how could your idea use blended instruction to achieve this?
4. Why is this idea important in general to undergraduate instruction?
For further information on the process to submit an idea, please visit the Case Studies RFP website at http://www.college.ucla.edu/edtech/BICS.

Faculty proposing selected ideas will be notified within 2-3 weeks of submission and invited to provide a formal proposal outlining a more systematic plan of execution in a course recommended by the faculty member (or team). The final selection of projects will occur early in the 2004 Winter Quarter. The next step for the selected participants will be to work with a pedagogy and technology team to plan and carry out the development, implementation and assessment phases.

**What the FCET can provide**

The types of support available to the selected projects are flexible, depending on the needs of the individual projects. They include:

- Faculty and graduate student stipends
- Technology consulting
- Instructional designers
- Seminars and consulting sessions on pedagogy and course redesign
- Redesign assistance
- Instructional support during the first quarter in which the redesigned course is taught
- Supplies

**Selection Criteria**

Selected projects will involve the participation of one or more faculty and solve a critical educational need in historically high demand undergraduate courses (e.g., core courses, lab courses, high enrollment courses, impacted courses and other courses with a history of over-enrollment problems).

Ideas supporting the potential for benefiting other courses and departments rather than content development limited to a particular course will be favored.

Since one of the goals of this initiative is to help UCLA fully understand the processes involved in designing and implementing the ideas, all participants will be expected to participate in a larger program effort that will document the process and assess the outcomes.

Electronic Letters of Interest are due November 14th, 2003. Please use the web-based submission form at http://www/college.ucla.edu/edtech/BICS.

If you have any additional questions about this initiative please contact a BICS program representative at bics@ucla.edu. We also invite you to explore the blended instruction case studies website.