

Faculty Innovator Grant 2008
Center for Learning Technologies

Final Report Form

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Project Title: (10 words or less)	Construction Project Portal

Other faculty:

Faculty Name:	Department	Email Address	Office Phone Number

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1. Describe the specific teaching and learning issues being addressed by the proposal.

Students do not have access to actual construction documents for the construction elective series of CET 445, CET 460 and CET 465. Although the CET 460 Estimating text does provide plans and specifications, they are deficient and do not represent the type of construction documents students will use in industry. It is difficult to find documents for the students to use and it can cost over \$250. to duplicate a full set of construction documents, so this is not a realistic solution. If we can provide a portal on the web where students can go and use a complete set of construction documents this will enhance their learning in each of the construction courses.

2. Describe the revised specific teaching and learning issues being addressed by the proposal (if applicable):

In addition to above:

- As part of the CET curriculum, students are required to develop a set of plans and specifications so that they know how to share their design with other people in industry. The construction project portal is being used by faculty in CET 360 Plans and Specifications to provide students with real world examples of how to document and display this type of design information.
- ODU Facilities Management Department has supplied actual construction documents from projects built on campus. This enables students to better visualize the contract plans and specifications to real life example. They have also provided contract management documentation, which helps students understand their future role in the construction process.

3. Describe the development activities involved addressing the learning or teaching issue.

1. Project portal website was initiated by Doran Consulting. Students use the project portal site to access actual construction documents that have been uploaded. Log on and security is similar to what students will be exposed to in industry.
2. Construction documents were obtained from the ODU Facilities Management Department. The documents include plans and specifications, but also project management documentation. Students are exposed to real life examples of construction projects and are better able to visualize the results of an actual project, since the buildings have been constructed at ODU.
3. Homework and class assignments were developed directing students to the construction project portal. Students could not complete the assignments without using the actual documents posted there. Students developed an understanding of the type of information included in the contract documents and produced documents similar to what is used in industry.

4. Describe the learning outcomes attained by the project.

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1. Students are able to differentiate between a complete and incomplete set of contract documents.
2. Students prepare a set of contract documents using the examples provided in the project portal.
3. Students demonstrate their ability to find information and use information from a set of contract documents.
4. Students use a complete set of construction documents to develop a construction estimates and construction schedules.
5. Students use a project portal to access project information, similar to project sites that are used in the construction industry.

5. Describe unexpected outcomes, if any.

Unexpected outcomes are the usefulness of the portal for other CET courses outside of the construction area. Specifically, using the project portal for CET 360 Plans and Specifications.

6. Describe the impact of the completed project on your colleagues, department, college, or community.

The project has provided both students and faculty the opportunity to familiarize themselves with and use actual construction documents. The portal provides easy access for students to find information and is similar to portals that they will be using once they enter industry. The use of actual construction documents is necessary for students to fully understand the construction process from the estimating, scheduling and management perspective. Other instructors have used the project portal to enhance their student's understanding of the design process as well as the construction process. Students are better prepared to enter industry, having seen and used actual construction documents.

7. Describe how the project can be a model, template, or prototype for use by other instructors.

Other CET faculty are using the site that has been developed. They could also develop similar sites for students to access design information.

8. Describe the technology used to help address the issues described in the proposal. Doran Consulting provided a SharePoint site, customized for the construction industry, for use as the project portal. This SharePoint site has been populated with pdf files of construction plans and specifications and project management documentation for an actual construction project. (Student Learning Commons, ODU)

9. Describe products, if any, that are a result of the project.

None.

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10. Describe the future plans for this project, if any.

We will continue to use the construction project portal for classes in the CET curriculum. I intend to survey students to evaluate their opinions on the usefulness of the project portal and the impact that it is having on their learning.

11. Attach a financial report with updated Budget Plan Matrix.

Final Budget Matrix

Budget Item (equipment, personnel, software, etc.)	Qty	Total Cost	Source of Funds	
			Amount from FIG	Amount from Other Source
Faculty summer salary	1 month	\$2750	\$2750	
Project Portal Website	LS			\$1000
Project plan purchase	LS	0	0	