

## **2012 Title III Grant Proposal Enhancing Online/Blended Course Offerings**

An opportunity exists in 2012 for Missouri State to secure Department of Education (DOE) Title III grant dollars to enhance the University's online and blended course offerings, technology-enhanced classrooms, and associated support services. This grant award totals 2 million dollars (\$400,000 a year for five years), would significantly enhance the areas listed above, and directly supports the Strategic Directions and Objectives component of the University's long-range plan.

- Valuing and Supporting People: Missouri State will value and support faculty and staff in the context of a dynamic University environment that engages their full potential in an environment of inclusive excellence.
  - Enhance and leverage technology to improve teaching and learning systems.
  - Maintain a modern technology portfolio that enhances productivity and efficiencies.

Key components and/or benefits of the grant proposal include, but are not limited to:

- Syncing key initiatives of the University's 2011 – 2016 Fulfilling Our Promise long-range plan with the five-year grant period.
- Infusing indirect funding into the provision of tools, infrastructure, and support services.
- Enhancing instructional technologies.
- Incorporating initiatives, focused on the development of online and blended course offerings:
  - Capitalize on the broadband expansion initiative funded by the NTIA grant provided to the State of Missouri to develop a State Broadband Technology Expansion Plan.
- Funding of networking infrastructure and bandwidth expansion required to support instructional technologies, and the increasing number of online and blended course offerings.
- Expanding professional development opportunities offered by the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning to enhance faculty skills in utilizing instructional technologies, and online techniques to enhance student learning.

To maximize the University's chances of receiving a 2012 Title III grant award, Interim President Clif Smart approved and provided funding for an external grant writing consultant to assist in the development of the University's 2012 Title III grant proposal. Good progress is being made on the establishment of the work group needed to collaborate with the grant writing consultant on the development of the 2012 Title III proposal.

Work group participants thus far:

- Frank Einhellig, Provost
- Jeff Morrissey, Chief Information Officer
- Kent Thomas, Special Assistant to the President
- Joye Norris, Associate Provost, Access and Outreach
- Rachelle Darabi, Associate Provost, Student Development and Public Affairs

**Action Item:** IT Council members are asked to email recommendations to Jeff Morrissey by January 17<sup>th</sup>, the names of others they feel would be good additions to the work group.