UNC TLT Collaborative
Spring 2001 Campus Funding Allocations

1. Campus: UNC Charlotte

2. Campus office that is to receive the funding allocation: UNC Charlotte Faculty Center for Teaching

3. Accounting information: Account # 1-15556 with the following budget codes: #1-15556- 5200: EDP Equipment: $5,000; #1-15556- 2300: Educational Supplies: $3,500. Total= $8,500

4. Project Category or Categories:

> TLT Professional Development – Concept Mapping with Inspiration ($3,500)
> Other Campuses receiving allocations in this category: NCSA

> TLT Wireless/handheld computing ($5,000)
> Other Campuses receiving allocations in this category:
> > ECU, NCAT, NCCU, NCSU, UNC-C, UNC-W, WCU, WSSU

5. Project Description (a) Wireless Laptop:

This request is to contribute to a collaborative project with the Information Commons faculty/staff of Atkins Library and the Faculty Center for Teaching. The funding would assist in the development of two wireless instructional classrooms in the library with a shared mobile laptop resource (laptops and recharging/security cart). One classroom is currently devoted to Library instruction and the other is one of the instructional spaces used by the Faculty Center for Teaching for faculty development workshops/instructions. The basic research questions that we will be addressing are: 1) In what ways would the use of wireless laptops enhance library instruction and in what ways does it interfere with that process?; and 2) In what ways would the use of wireless laptops enhance faculty development activities and in what ways does it interfere with that process?

5. Project Description (b) Concept Mapping through the Use of INSPIRATION:

This request is to contribute to an examination of the use of concept mapping as a tool that allows users (faculty and students) to visually display key concepts and their relationships in key ways. The professional literature suggests that there are many possible uses for concept mapping that have utility in academic settings. These include idea generation, design support, enhancement of communication, enhancement of learning, as well as assessment. The purpose of this project is to develop a delivery strategy that would allow faculty in diverse disciplines to learn about concept mapping possibilities and best practices, and to provide them with software that would allow them to readily adopt this instructional and pedagogical tool. INSPIRATION is a relatively

simple-to-learn software package that contains an integrated diagramming and outlining views that work together to help users focus on the ideas and not the drawing of the diagrams.

6. Collaboration with other UNC Campuses:

(a) Wireless Laptop: Because this project has utility for library instruction and faculty development, both applications of the proposed wireless instructional facilities will be shared with the other campuses but with different audiences in mind. The benefits/drawbacks for library instruction would be communicated using appropriate channels in the state library networks as well as the Collaborative. The benefits/drawbacks for faculty development activities would be communicated through a variety of formats, including the portal, and a workshop or other form of presentation that would have applicability for The Collaborative as well as the Association of UNC Teaching Center Directors. In addition, it is very likely that the results of both applications will be presented jointly at appropriate professional meetings, (POD, Educause, etc.)

(b) Concept Mapping through the Use of INSPIRATION: This project is one that has ready-made collaboration built into the conceptualization of the project. Although UNC Greensboro has not requested funding for its role in this project, it will join with representatives of the Schools of the Arts, and UNC Charlotte to develop a sharable resource for this teaching and learning strategy and the software that facilitates its use. Among the three schools, the collaboration would include both a context for the strategy (teaching/learning literature support), as well as applications across the three universities (and best practices elsewhere) that potentially involve multi-disciplines, various levels of students, and use in technology-enhanced and distance ed. courses. The results would be communicated through a variety of formats, including the portal, and a workshop or other form of presentation that would have applicability for The Collaborative as well as the Association of UNC Teaching Center Directors. In addition, it is very likely that the results of the project will be presented jointly at appropriate professional meetings, (POD, Educause, etc.).

7. Deliverables in addition to those specified for all 2001 UNC TLT funding allocations:

In both proposed projects, we will be providing updates on the projects for the portal and will welcome visits from our colleagues to observe our progress. We will also make every effort to communicate our progress/results to a audience beyond the UNC system to obtain feedback and other forms of review.