

UNC Teaching and Learning with Technology Collaborative

Annual Report, FY2000–2001

Draft v1 (7/16/01)

Prepared by Hilarie Nickerson, Interim Program Manager

Introduction

Who we are

The UNC Teaching and Learning with Technology (TLT) Collaborative is a consortial organization, created by the President of the University of North Carolina, that provides vision and shared resources in support of TLT programs and initiatives throughout the 16 campuses of The University of North Carolina. Governance is provided by a board of directors consisting of voting representatives of the sixteen campuses, as well as non-voting members of important TLT constituencies.

The vision for the TLT Collaborative is

to unite the collective interests and goals of the sixteen campuses of The University of North Carolina to serve as a catalyst for, and nurture excellence in, the productive application of technology for teaching and learning.

The mission identifies six major goals of the UNC TLT Collaborative, which can be summarized as follows:

1. Communication: Facilitate TLT communications and decision processes for UNC administrators, faculty, and professional staff.
2. Research: Provide a common resource of research and best practices associated with TLT.
3. Professional development: Support campus efforts to provide professional development in TLT for faculty, administrators, and professional staff.
4. Resource sharing: Facilitate efforts between campuses to seek and develop commonalities in support of TLT-related resource procurement and related decision processes.
5. Resource development: Explore funding strategies and mechanisms to support both Collaborative and campus TLT efforts.
6. Policy development: Work with the campuses and UNC Office of the President in an advisory role to identify, review, resolve, or define policy and procedure issues associated with TLT.

Where we are

Since beginning operation fifteen months ago, the Collaborative Board and staff have been successful in establishing strong relationships among professionals throughout UNC. The last year has been a time of tremendous change in the TLT and e-learning arena, in terms of the technologies themselves, professional development services and strategies, organizational and programmatic alignments, and new national and global initiatives. As a new academic year begins, the UNC TLT Collaborative mission remains very well defined and relevant to supporting the increasing need for cooperation and shared resources in this environment.

Relationships between the past year’s projects / initiatives and the elements of the TLT Collaborative’s mission can be seen in the following table:

		Communication	Research	Professional Development	Resource Sharing	Resource Development	Policy Development
Services to UNC	PDP ¹	X	X	X	X	X	
	TLT Conference	X	X	X			
	TLT Symposium		X	X			
	SOLID ²		X		X		X
Services to individual campuses	TLT Roundtable / Flashlight Services	X	X	X			X
	Spring 2001 Grants		X	X	X		
	E-Learning Funds ³		X	X			
Outreach	MERLOT ⁴		X	X	X		

1 PDP: Professional Development Portal

2 SOLID: Strategic Online Learning Infrastructure Development

3 TLT involvement was in the area of reporting only.

4 MERLOT: Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching

This choice of initiatives reflects the Collaborative’s strong orientation during the past year toward growing campus expertise in TLT through internal grants and professional development opportunities and toward cultivating effective connections within the UNC system. In the next year, we will also increase efforts to facilitate the acquisition of external funding for TLT-related programs and to increase our visibility outside UNC.

Professional Development Portal (PDP)

Overview

The UNC Professional Development Portal (PDP) is a strategic service component of the TLT Collaborative, designed to provide an increasing range of online professional development resources for faculty, staff, and administrators throughout UNC. Differentiating the developing Portal from other related types of resources are plans to incorporate a fully collaborative model environment for the dissemination, review, evaluation, and discussion of professional development in all aspects of higher education.

The Portal is initially being developed to provide common access to materials in the following topic areas:

- Teaching and Learning
- Human Resources
- Administrative Leader Development

The portal is designed so that UNC campuses, offices and services can link directly to specific resource information from their own Web sites, thereby reducing duplication of information.

The Portal allows participants to search and browse news, events, organizations, specialists, publications, training materials, projects, funding resources, and other materials through a single UNC-wide gateway. Participants may also submit materials and develop customized searches and interfaces to access the Portal.

Accomplishments for FY2000–2001

Plans for FY2001–2002

Sources of additional information

For additional information concerning the Professional Development Portal, please see <http://www.unctl.org/tlt/projects/portal/>.

TLT Collaborative Conference

Overview

The 2001 UNC TLT Collaborative Conference, held at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington on May 23-25, 2001, was an expanded version of the previous year's retreat that brought UNC teaching and learning professionals together with their peers in instructional technology. The 2001 conference promoted community-building, communication, and dialog among professional groups and faculty throughout the UNC system having a direct interest in the effective application of technology for teaching and learning.

Compared to the 2000 retreat, the audience for the 2001 conference was significantly more diverse and, with approximately 190 registered participants, over twice as large. Invited participants included UNC faculty, Teaching and Learning Center directors, TLT professionals, UNC library

professionals, and representatives from academic and continuing education programs and IT organizations.

Accomplishments for FY2000–2001

Plans for FY2001–2002

Sources of additional information

For additional information concerning the TLT Collaborative Conference, please see <http://www.unctl.org/tlt/projects/conference2001/>.

TLT Symposium

Overview

The UNC TLT Collaborative partnered with NC State University's Teaching and Learning with Technology Roundtable to sponsor a day-long TLT symposium. This event, which was held on April 16 at the Friday Center in Chapel Hill, brought four nationally recognized leaders in the TLT faculty support arena together with UNC campus representatives. The speakers provided overviews of their programs, successes, and challenges, and moderated open roundtable discussions with conference participants.

The four speakers were selected to represent contrasting viewpoints and programmatic strengths. The 81 participants represented all of the UNC campuses except Western Carolina University.

Accomplishments for FY2000–2001

Plans for FY2001–2002

Sources of additional information

For additional information concerning the TLT Symposium, please see <http://www.unctl.org/tlt/projects/symposium2001/>.

Strategic Online Learning Infrastructure Development (SOLID)

Overview

The Strategic Online Learning Infrastructure Development (SOLID) project was funded by a state aid grant from the UNC TLT Collaborative. The project's goal was to develop a UNC-wide resource to facilitate decision-making relative to course management systems (CMSs) and course content development tools.

Areas of study included

- Features of commonly used course management systems
- Experiences of the campuses in linking CMSs with existing campus services
- Online resources relating to the evaluation, deployment, and effective use of learning management systems

- Help desk and training support for faculty utilizing technology in instruction

The study team also developed a list of vendors whose primary focus has been on the management of online learning environments, created a related Request for Information (RFI), and solicited responses.

Accomplishments for FY2000–2001

Plans for FY2001–2002

Sources of additional information

For additional information concerning SOLID, please see <http://www.unctlt.org/tlt/projects/solid2001/>.

TLT Roundtable / Flashlight Services

Overview

The UNC TLT Collaborative negotiated system-wide cost savings and allocated funds for two year licenses (July 2000 thru June 2002) for UNC campuses requesting any combination of:

- TLT GROUP Flashlight Online Services
- TLT GROUP Flashlight Network Services
- TLT GROUP TLT Roundtable Services

Accomplishments for FY2000–2001

Plans for FY2001–2002

Sources of additional information

For additional information concerning TLT Roundtable / Flashlight Services, please see <http://www.unctlt.org/tlt/projects/tltgroup/>.

Spring 2001 Grants to UNC Campuses

Overview

The UNC TLT Collaborative provided \$8,500 to each UNC campus for use in Spring 2001. These funds were targeted to support specific projects associated with TLT professional development (software training) and TLT research (wireless initiatives, digital libraries).

Recipients are to share knowledge and best practices resulting from these activities with all UNC campuses.

*Accomplishments for FY2000–2001**Plans for FY2001–2002**Sources of additional information*

For additional information concerning the spring 2001 grants to UNC campuses, please see <http://www.unctl.org/tlt/projects/grants2001/> .

E-Learning Grants to UNC Campuses*Overview*

In May 2000, the UNC Office of the President provided \$782,238 in funding through its Division of Academic Affairs to support twenty-four institutional initiatives related to electronic learning. The UNC TLT Collaborative produced a report on activities and outcomes associated with these projects.

*Accomplishments for FY2000–2001**Plans for FY2001–2002**Sources of additional information*

For additional information concerning e-learning grants to UNC campuses, please see <http://www.unctl.org/tlt/projects/elearn2000/> .

Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching (MERLOT)*Overview*

The UNC TLT Collaborative has worked with the UNC Division of Academic Affairs to jointly support UNC participation in the national MERLOT program. MERLOT's mission is to improve the effectiveness of teaching and learning by expanding the quantity and quality of peer-reviewed online learning materials that can be easily incorporated into faculty designed courses.

UNC is a founding member of MERLOT which includes participation from twenty three educational systems and consortia (as of July 2001), and focuses on twelve academic disciplines.

FY2001-2002 participation: Six UNC faculty will participate in national MERLOT review panels covering Music, Physics, Teacher Education, Engineering, and History. One faculty members will participate at the discipline team co-leader level.

FY2000-2001 participation: Eight UNC faculty participated in national MERLOT review panels covering Music, Physics, Teacher Education, Business, Foreign Languages, and Health Sciences. Two of these faculty members participated at the discipline team co-leader level.

*Accomplishments for FY2000–2001**Plans for FY2001–2002**Sources of additional information*

For additional information concerning MERLOT, please see <http://www.unctl.org/tlt/projects/merlot/> .

Summary of General Operations*Structure*

The UNC TLT Collaborative, created by UNC President Molly Broad in Spring 2000, is a consortial organization of the sixteen UNC campuses. Formal operations commenced on March 20, 2000. Organizational governance is provided by a Board of Directors; permanent staff are part of the Division of Information Resources in the UNC Office of the President. The Executive Director of the Collaborative reports to the UNC Vice President for Information Resources and Chief Information Officer.

Governance

All UNC campuses have representation on the Collaborative's Board of Directors. Membership for FY2001–2002 is shown below.

*Board officers:*Chair

Dr. Ray Purdom

Vice-Chair

Dr. Margaret Mertz

Secretary

Dr. Frank Prochaska

*Voting Board members (UNC campus representatives, including Board officers):*Appalachian State University

Dr. Steven J. Breiner

East Carolina University

Dr. Sandra Huskamp

Elizabeth City State University

Derrick Wilkins

Fayetteville State University

Dr. Akbar Aghajanian

North Carolina Central University

Dr. Brenda Shaw

North Carolina School of the Arts

Dr. Margaret Mertz

North Carolina A & T University

Dr. Rodney Harrigan

North Carolina State University

Dr. Henry Schaffer (formerly Joanne Dehoney, FY2000-2001)

UNC Asheville

Dr. Kern Parker (formerly Dr. Chuck Bennett, FY

UNC Chapel Hill

Kathy Thomas

UNC Charlotte

Dr. Sallie Ives

UNC Greensboro

Dr. Ray Purdom

UNC Pembroke

Tom Jackson

UNC Wilmington

Dr. Laura Rogers

Western Carolina University

Dr. Frank Prochaska

Winston-Salem State University

Dr. Joyce Williams-Green

Ex Officio Board members:

UNC Division of Information Resources

Robyn Render, Vice President for Information Resources and Chief Information Officer

UNC Division of Academic Affairs

Dr. Betsy Brown, Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs

UNC University Libraries Advisory Committee (ULAC)

Dr. Carroll Varner, Director of Academic Library Services, ECU

UNC Faculty Assembly

Dr. George Conklin, Department of Sociology, NCCU (NCCU Faculty Senate Chair)

Standing committees:

Planning and Assessment Committee

Dr. Steven J. Breiner (chair), Dr. Henry Schaffer, Dr. Laura Rogers, Tom Jackson

Bylaws Committee

Dr. Joyce Williams-Green (chair), Dr. Brenda Shaw, Dr. Betsy Brown

Finance Committee

Dr. Margaret Mertz (chair), Dr. Sandra Huskamp, Dr. Frank Prochaska

Sources of additional information:

For additional information concerning the UNC TLT Collaborative's Board of Directors, please see <http://www.unctl.org/tlt/board/> .

Staffing

We are currently in the process of staffing the Collaborative as follows:

- Executive Director (search underway, UNC candidates only)
- Program Coordinator (search underway)
- Technology Coordinator (search to be undertaken following appointment of the Executive Director)
- Project Manager (search underway)

In addition, the Collaborative will contract with campuses for specialized faculty and staff to work on cooperative projects as needed.

Current Staff:

Interim Program Manager

Hilarie Nickerson (on contract July–September 2001)

Web Content Developer

Edward House (on contract July–September 2001)

Web Programmer / Database Developer

Todor Lilov (on contract July–September 2001)

Selected staff who served during FY2000–2001:

Executive Director, Technology Coordinator

Mike O’Kane

Online Technology Manager

James Bossert (on contract)

Web Programmer / Database Developer

Paul Brinich (on contract)

Web Programmer / Database Developer

Hillisha Haygood (on contract)

Locations

Primary address:

UNC TLT Collaborative
910 Raleigh Road
PO Box 2688
Chapel Hill, NC 27515

Secondary address:

UNC TLT Collaborative
200 Meredith Drive, Suite 200
Durham, NC 27713

Budget Summary

The fiscal year of the UNC TLT Collaborative is July 1 through June 30. UNC General Administration serves as the Collaborative’s fiscal and contractual agent.

UNC TLT Collaborative FY2000–2001 Budget, 7/16/2001 (Acct. 2-02234)				
Salaries		Allocated	YTD Expenses	Remaining
Total Salaries			\$282,901.22	
Operating				
2000 Office Supplies			\$1,514.82	
3000–3150 Travel, Lodging, Registration			\$24,758.56	
3200, 3205; 3201 Phone, Cellular; Postage			\$2,899.01	
3203 Portal ISP (Virtual Scape)			\$3,539.89	
3206 Mailing			\$147.60	
3400 Printing and binding			\$1,151.53	
3500 Building Maintenance			\$3,439.00	
3700 Advertising			\$804.95	
3800 Contract staffing – agencies (Alphanumeric)			\$28,916.80	
3900 Other operating (\$48,107.20 for TLT Conference expenses)			\$52,697.20	
4000 Fixed Costs (Merlot Membership/Flashlight)			\$34,648.91	
5000 Capital Outlays (hardware/software)			\$11,906.79	
6000 Grants - TLT Campus Allocations			\$136,000.00	
TOTAL Operating		\$307,643.00	\$302,425.06	\$5,217.94
ADDITIONAL FY2000 funds allocated for targeted use by the Collaborative.****				
		Allocated	YTD Expenses	Remaining
TLT Furniture Allocation (Carry forward - account 2-02261)		\$25,000.00	\$14,425.05	\$10,574.95
Merlot: Faculty release time/travel (Carry forward - account 2-02261)		\$106,000.00	\$106,000.00	\$0.00
State Aid Grant: S.O.L.I.D - Henshaw, ECU account		\$87,850.00	\$87,850.00	\$0.00
State Aid Grant: TLT Portal - Purdom/Breiner, UNCG/ASU accounts		\$84,000.00	\$84,000.00	\$0.00
*** The fee for FY2001-2002 participation in MERLOT was paid in advance: \$23,924.38 from Merlot, and the remainder (\$1075.62) from the Furniture Allocation				
**** Funds may not be used for other purposes - excess reverts to carryover account				