

## **2005-2007 LITRE Grant Proposal**

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### **1. Project Title:**

Student Digital Learning Portfolios: Authentic Learning, Accountability, & Assessment

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### **2. Project Coordinator:**

**First Name:** Lisa  
**Last Name:** Grable  
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### **3. Other Participants:**

Tom Oppewal, Visiting Professor  
Mathematics, Science & Technology Education;  
Malina Monaco, Director of Knowledge Management

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### **4. College or Unit:**

Education (also teacher education in CHASS & CALS)

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### **5. Department:**

Dean's Office, MSTE, C&I, ELPS, Agriculture and Extension Education

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### **6. Project Description:**

This project seeks to investigate the dissemination, implementation and institutionalization of a technology innovation designed to promote student ownership in the documentation of learning. Within an online portfolio assessment system, students will create artifacts to demonstrate learning, faculty will assess these artifacts, and the teacher education programs will use this data for program review. To assist in the documentation and aggregation of learning products, the college will pilot the use of a software product that can aggregate data on student learning on a number of college, state and national standards that are matched to products of learning. Programs eligible to participate in the pilot are Middle Grades Language Arts and Social Studies(MSL), Business and Marketing Education (MKE), Technology Education (TED), and Agriculture and Extension Education (AEE) for undergraduates and all the graduate programs.

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### **7. Project Objectives:**

This project seeks to build an infrastructure that provides support and incentives for the early adopter that commit to using an online portfolio assessment system, TaskStream. Objectives include:

1. Pilot the implementation of TaskStream with at least two college programs.
  2. Assess and seek to meet the needs of students and faculty participating in the pilot project.
  3. Document faculty and student successes in using TaskStream.
  4. Document need for changes in support and resources that will benefit the design of the full implementation plan (to begin in Fall 2006).
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#### **8. Estimated number of students affected:**

For piloting the e-portfolio assessment system, we will begin with 50 students in the spring. By fall 2006, we would implement the system for all students intending to apply for licensure, over 400.

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#### **9. Outcomes of the Project:**

1. A cohort of students and faculty that are trained to use the TaskStream software as part of the teaching and learning process.
  2. Students that can select and submit products of work that document their learning and performance in their teaching discipline on institutional, state, and national standards.
  3. An implementation plan for the College of Education and other teacher education programs to use TaskStream will be developed.
  4. A plan for continuing training and support for faculty and students in the use of TaskStream will be developed.
  5. College and programs will be able to collect, aggregate, and use student learning data to improve programs and unit operations.
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#### **10. Project impact on NCSU:**

Professional teacher preparation programs have seen their own professional accreditation standards become more performance based. NCATE and NCDPI, our accrediting groups, ask programs to document teaching and student learning in deeper ways than traditional grades and GPA's. Even for programs that do not prepare students for a profession, recent changes in SACS requirements require more explicit evidence of teaching and learning. This project can benefit the university in three ways. First, it can demonstrate how programs can refine the way students and faculty document teaching and learning. Second, it can provide a way for programs and colleges to aggregate student learning on a number of learning outcomes, thus providing data for making informed decisions about program improvement. Lastly, it can provide valuable lessons about the dissemination of a technology innovation that is aimed at improving the work of faculty, students and support services.

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#### **11. Project Assessment Plan:**

1. Students and faculty demonstrate their ability to use the software by using it as part of the instructional process and creating and assessing products of work using the system.
2. A majority of the pilot students can select and align artifacts( work samples) that document their learning of relevant institutional, state and national

standards. Faculty will be able to use the system to evaluate and assess the extent to which students are successful.

3. The implementation plan will utilize both interviews and surveys of students and faculty in the study to shape the implementation plan for all of the professional education programs (13 undergraduate, 16 graduate teacher education, 4 graduate special services personnel) .

4. From what is learned in the pilot there will be a plan developed and put in place that will support ongoing needs in the college.

5. The pilot programs that submit data to the TaskStream system will be able to obtain aggregated data from the TaskStream data center. These reports will be available at the end of the spring semester. Program meeting minutes will reflect how programs use the student learning performance data to improve the program and to improve the assessment system.

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## **12. Staffing and Support:**

Grable and Monaco are 12-month employees and will work on this project as part of their duties. Oppewal will assist in the data analysis, development of the full implementation plan, and preparation of the final report. A graduate assistant will be hired to assist in training sessions and data collection.

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## **13. Financial Support Requested:**

**EPA salary total:** \$2500

**SPA salary total:**

**Other salary:** \$4884.75

**Equipment:**

**Cost associated with assessment:**

**Other financial support requested:** \$1250

**Total Funds requested:** \$8634.75

**Additional Explanation of how funds will be used:**

1. Two weeks of summer salary are requested for Dr. Oppewal to assist in the data analysis, development of the full implementation plan, and preparation of the final report.
2. A graduate assistant will be hired to assist in training sessions and data collection.
3. \$1250 will pay for the software subscriptions for 50 students for the pilot test of the electronic portfolio assessment system.

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## **14. Funding Breakdown:**

**Total funding requested for fiscal year 2005-2006:** \$8634.75

**Total funding requested for fiscal year 2006-2007:** 0

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## **15. Staff Support and/or Technical Support Requested:**

N/A

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## **16. Timetable for Implementation:**

Dec. 05 – selection of faculty for pilot; Jan. 06 – hire graduate assistant, train faculty and students, load assessment rubrics into system; Feb.-Apr. 06 – students submit artifacts, faculty conduct assessment, ongoing training, interviews & surveys of faculty and students; May 06 – final assessment of portfolios, test reporting capabilities of assessment system; Jun. 06 – analysis of outcomes, prepare final report

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**17. Human Subjects Protection:**

If your proposal project involves research using human subjects, you will need approval from the Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects in Research (IRB) prior to final approval. IRB information is available at <http://www.ncsu.edu/sparcs/irb>



**18. Proposal Release:**

By submitting this proposal the applicant grants the LITRE Advisory Board permission to make this proposal available as an example for future grant applicants. All personal information will be removed if this proposal is used as an example.

