

## Chapter 5: Program Initiatives to Improve Performance - Speech

*“How do you propose improving future performance?”*

*\*When proposing an initiative(s), use the following structure for each initiative proposed:*

1) Initiative Title: Technology Specialist position

Describe Initiative: This initiative is put forward by Speech, Language, and English units as a cooperative effort, and will provide technical support for students taking online classes, students and staff using computer labs and classrooms, and students and staff using other technology-rich learning environments.

Why do it? Speech faculty are offering 14 online classes (350 students) in 03-04 and will increase online offerings in future years in response to student demand. Online students have no technical staff assistance when they experience computer problems or have questions about WEBCT access. In addition, all speech communication courses that focus on presentation work (current year: 47 sections, 1175 students) are held in new smart classrooms which are unsupported by other technology staff positions. Faculty and students need ongoing instruction and support in order to make the best use of smart classroom equipment provided by bond funding.

What will the product of this initiative be? This position is in alignment with the learning-centered principles of engaging learners as full partners and creating options for learning, and will 1) support instruction with technical training for new smart classrooms, and 2) support students enrolled in online classes when they have computer and other access questions.

What is the need or intended use? Both faculty and students need help in order for efficient and effective use of new classroom equipment and the rapid growth of online instruction.

What would be the campus location of this request/project? The technology specialist will be located on the 4th floor of the Center Building in order to be available to assist faculty in new smart classrooms.

How many students (per year) will benefit? In addition to the 350+ students taking online classes, 1175+ students are currently taking speech presentation courses in new smart classrooms.

How will students benefit? Efficient and effective use of already existing technology and online opportunities.

Describe the resources needed: Technology Specialist salary, office, computer hardware and software

List the possible funding sources: general fund (salary), TACT (hardware and software)

Can this project be partially funded? Yes

If so, what minimum cost? .75 position (\$25,412)

ORG: 651001

PROG: 111000

How does this project articulate with the college's vision, mission & goals and contribute

toward meeting the President's/Board's approved goals?

All EFLS classes serve professional-technical and college-transfer programs and contribute to students' foundational academic, language, and life skills development, as well as lifelong personal development and enrichment. This project increases student access to education through support of online classes, and it also supports technological innovation.

2) Initiative Title: 2 computers with CD Roms

Describe Initiative: Purchase of two computers equipped with CD Roms and headphones, to be placed for student use in EFLS Listening & Testing Lab.

Why do it? All current speech communication texts come with CD Roms, but on-campus computer labs do not accommodate student CD Roms, so many students cannot make use of the course materials they have purchased.

What will the product of this initiative be? Because students have daily access to the EFLS Listening and Testing Lab, placing computers with CD Roms in that setting will provide them with appropriate and easy access to their ancillary materials.

What is the need or intended use? Allow students to access appropriate and required technology on campus

What would be the campus location of this request/project? EFLS Listening and Testing Lab, Center 4th floor

How many students (per year) will benefit? All college-transfer and many professional-technical students are required to take speech classes. All students in all courses will benefit.

How will students benefit? Student access to technology will be increased.

Describe the resources needed: two computers

List the possible funding sources: TACT funding

Can this project be partially funded? Yes, if we purchase only one computer.

If so, what minimum cost? \$1000

ORG: 651001

PROG: 111000

How does this project articulate with the college's vision, mission & goals and contribute toward meeting the President's/Board's approved goals? Speech classes meet Lane's core abilities and support professional-technical and lower division college-transfer programs as well as foundational academic, language, and life skills development. This project creates options for learning and supports student access to appropriate technology.

### 3) Initiative Title: 3 to 4-credit course conversions

Describe Initiative: Speech faculty have successfully completed the first phase of the credit conversion process, and have received approval from the curriculum approval committee for 8 or our 10 courses to change from 3-credit courses to 4-credit courses. Seven of the 8 courses will convert to 4 credits effective fall 2004; the 8th course will convert to 4 credits effective fall 2005. The next phases of the conversion project include an in-depth review of each of the 8 courses, with an examination of the ways in which expanded breadth and depth may offer our students a more "learning-centered" education and experience in our department.

Why do it: By converting the majority of our courses to 4 credits, we allow articulation with the 4-year universities, as well as alignment with the college goals of responding positively to change. Our students will have added outcomes and proficiencies documented on our conversion forms, and as instructors, we will have the opportunity to offer a more pedagogically enriched learning environment.

What will the product of this initiative be? The result of this initiative will be expanded (four credit) course offerings for the following speech courses: SP 100, SP 105, SP 112, SP 115, SP 218, SP 219, SP 220, and SP 262.

What is the need or intended use? Creation of relevant, expanded new course materials.

What would be the campus location of this project? Speech Communication Department

How many students (per year) will benefit? 2300 + students

How will students benefit? Students will gain in both the breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding by expanded content in the identified communication courses. Students will be offered greater application exposure in communication studies enabling them to interact more effectively in academic, professional and social settings.

Describe the resources needed: Curriculum development funding is needed to support the development and revision of expanded course offerings, and oversee the creation and development of new classroom materials. We request 50 hours of funding per class.

Can this project be partially funded? No

ORG: 651001

PROG: 111000

How does this project articulate with the college's vision, mission & goals and contribute toward meeting the President's/Board's approved goals? All eight courses serve professional-technical and college-transfer programs and contribute to students' foundational academic, language, and life skills development, as well as lifelong personal development and enrichment. Conversion of speech communication courses to 4 credits is an appropriate and innovative response to changes in Oregon's 4-year universities.

#### 4) Initiative Title: Listening curriculum project

Describe Initiative: Complete the rewriting project for the workbook used by all Listening and Critical Thinking classes.

Why do it? Because the old text for Listening and Critical Thinking is out of print and badly outdated (1975) and no other appropriate text is available, Barbara Breden has been working for the past two years, assisted by Instructional Specialist Patricia Hammons last year, to update all course materials. They are currently midway through the project of creating a new text for the course and updating recorded materials. The college has already demonstrated its commitment to this project by providing curriculum development for the first half of the rewriting project.

What will the product of this initiative be? The product will be a new workbook, *Learning to Listen*, which will enhance the relevance of the listening program to students' lives and integrate their ethnic/gender experiences into course content. In addition to the workbook, the developers will oversee an updating of recorded materials to be bundled with the workbook for student purchase and use.

What is the need or intended use? Creation of relevant new course materials

Campus location: Speech Communication department

How many students (per year) will benefit? 500

How will students benefit? Students will benefit from a significant reworking and updating of materials for Listening and Critical Thinking, a course that addresses the needs of under-prepared students in particular, helping them to upgrade their skills by reforming listening habits and improving their abilities to interact effectively in academic, professional, and social settings.

Describe the resources needed: Curriculum development funding to support the continued work of developing the new text and overseeing the updated recordings; TACT funding to pay for the recording process, including sound studio time to cut CD's.

List the possible funding sources: Curriculum development funding (rewriting project), TACT funding (recording project)

Can this project be partially funded? No

ORG: 651001

PROG: 111000

How does this project articulate with the college's vision, mission & goals and contribute toward meeting the President's/Board's approved goals? This course supports Lane's mission and core values by enhancing the learning-centered environment for professional-

technical and lower-division college-transfer students, supporting skill upgrading and career enhancement, and infusing issues of difference, power, and privilege for diverse ethnic and gender audiences. The recording project will also increase student access to technology by replacing outdated audiotapes with CD's to be bundled with the course text.