

To: The University of Massachusetts Information Technology Subcommittee
on Academic Technology

From: Stan Dick, PI, Math Accessibility Grant, and member of the Equity and Excellence
in Higher Education Committee, which is the group executing the grant.

Subject: Interim Report on the project *Making Mathematics Accessible to All: A Video,
Website and Workshop Employing Universal Course Design to Teaching Mathematics*

21065	B015700000	P20080000006642	B00	105292 Y
RTF-Boston (End Dates)	Mathematics	PDG-ATG-Dick		

Thank you once again for funding this project. We believe the products of this grant will
provide valuable services to the university for some time to come. We also thank you for
granting an extension to this grant until June 30, 2009

Original Objectives

The Equity and Excellence in Higher Education Committee (E&E Committee) proposed
to apply Universal Course Design to address the instructional difficulties facing faculty at
UMass Boston who are teaching mathematics to all students, particularly including those
with visual impairments. To promote Universal Course Design (UCD) with mathematics
faculty, the E&E Committee proposed that:

- A video would be developed to illustrate strategies for making mathematics
courses more accessible to all students,
- A website would be developed to identify resources for ongoing technical
assistance to faculty, and
- A workshop would be held to showcase the video and educate faculty regarding
available resources and support for their teaching, both on and off campus.

We proposed to do this based on the timetable on the next page.

Revision of Original Objectives and Deliverables

We have filed for and been granted an extension, until June 30, 2009, to complete the
project.

The extension also granted permission to change the way the information developed
under the grant is disseminated. The major change to the deliverables granted in the
extension is that in place of developing a special website for the dissemination of
information to faculty:

- 1) two additional workshops for faculty will be held which will feature demonstrations of
technology which faculty members can refer their students to in order to make their
courses more accessible, and which cannot be demonstrated as effectively on a website,
- 2) any additional resource materials gathered under the grant would be provided to
faculty during the workshops, and would be linked to from our existing website.

Activities Carried Out, Deliverables

Faculty Workshop

We designed a workshop for faculty, and held it on October 31, 2007. That turned out to be the same day that the IT Council Subcommittee was holding its grant preparation workshop. For this reason, only Stan Dick was able to leave the math workshop to attend the grant workshop and help with that. At the workshop, members of the Equity and Excellence in Higher Education Committee and faculty in math and the sciences presented various Universal Course Design initiatives that we were using in our courses.

Video

The video was completed in May, 2008, and is currently viewable at <http://www.eonline.org/>. The scheduled cost of the video was \$5,000, but the actual cost to the grant was \$5,600. Actually the cost was \$800 more to create an open captioned version of the video, but we are grateful to the Institute for Community Inclusion which paid for that important amenity.

Budget Accounting

We have spent or committed all but \$1,400 of the funds for this project, and the only tasks remaining are the conduct of two additional faculty workshops, and the posting of certain information to the existing Equity and Excellence in Higher Education website at <http://www.eonline.org/>. We have calculated that the remaining funds will be sufficient to cover the remaining tasks.

Final Report

We expect to complete the remaining tasks by December 31, 2008, and will provide a comprehensive final report on the entire project at that time.