

## **Cover Letter**

This grant proposes to train teachers to use Web 2.0 tools to create scholar and course blogs and wikis. Blogs and wikis are easily published journals, generally textual, and written in a variety of languages but blogs and wikis can also be used as a multi-media repositories of video, audio, photo and textual information for a variety of subjects.

Scholar blogs and wikis are used by faculty, related to an area of expertise and/or research agenda that provide them with opportunities for immediate and frequent publication, built-in peer review, and larger, more diverse readership of their work. Scholar blogs and wikis encourage collaboration and genuine continued dialogue as well as increased accessibility to the work of subject area peers. Course blogs and wikis are specifically designed in conjunction with a course curriculum to store subject area content and course management information. Teachers and students can use a course blog to exchange information with one another through postings, and can use wikis to collaborate on assignments, and to actively engage in dialogue and feedback about their work. Course blogs and wikis can provide students with an opportunity to take ownership of their learning process and also help teachers recognize and respond to students' diverse learning styles. Both scholar and course blogs and wikis build and expand community through increased opportunity for collaboration and idea exchange.

This grant proposes to develop and deliver training workshops for UMB Spanish and Chinese language faculty to integrate web 2.0 tools in the design of their own scholar and course blogs and wikis, and for secondary school teachers of Chinese and Spanish to be involved through the Confucius Institute and the Spanish Language Resource Center in order for them to use this technology in their home schools.

*Mary Simone*

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Mary Simone, IT Manager, principal investigator

*Donna Kuizenga*

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Donna Kuizenga, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts

*Dirk Messelaar*

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Dirk Messelaar, Dean of Corporate, Continuing and Distance Information

*Carol L. Colbeck*

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Carol L. Colbeck, Dean of the Graduate College of Education

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Paul J. Fonteyn, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

**Project Title:** Web 2.0 Workshops for UMB Faculty and Secondary School Teachers

**Project Category:** Multidisciplinary Teaching Improvement

**Principal Investigator:** Mary Simone, Educational Technologist, IT,

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**Other Investigators:** Susan Mraz, Lecturer, Language Coordinator, Hispanic Studies,

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[jessica.downa@umb.edu](mailto:jessica.downa@umb.edu) (617) 287-3987; Dr. Clara Gomez Jimeno, Education Advisor

[clara.gomez@mec.es](mailto:clara.gomez@mec.es) Massachusetts/Department of Education, UMB Spanish Resource

Center(781)338-3034 Xu Guo Chan, Lecturer, Chinese [Xuguo.Chan@umb.edu](mailto:Xuguo.Chan@umb.edu) (617)

287-6266; Wan Li Hu, Associate Director, Confucius Institute, [Wanli.Hu@umb.edu](mailto:Wanli.Hu@umb.edu)

(617)287-7292; Janna Jackson, Assistant Professor, Program Director, Graduate College

of Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, [janna.jackson@umb.edu](mailto:janna.jackson@umb.edu) (617)

287-5792

**Campus and Disciplines Involved:** UMass Boston Campus: Hispanic Studies, Modern

Languages, IT, Educational Technology and Learning Commons, Confucius Institute,

CCDE; Spanish Resource Center, Graduate Department of Education.

**Total Amount of Funds Requested** \$22,500.00

**Project abstract:**

This project proposes to develop and deliver training workshops in the use of web 2.0 tools to faculty teaching Spanish and Chinese language courses at UMASS Boston. It will also provide training for secondary school language teachers of Chinese and Spanish sponsored through the Confucius Institute and the Spanish Resource Center, and will

create Web 2.0 tool box as a repository for language teaching materials for UMB faculty and secondary education teachers to share.

**Project Narrative:**

UMass Boston faculty from Hispanic Studies and Modern Languages teaching Spanish and Chinese, and a consultant in the use of technology in curriculum instruction from the Graduate College of Education will collaborate with IT to develop technology training workshop in Web 2.0 tools for Spanish, and Chinese targeted to UMB faculty and secondary education teachers. Outreach to teachers of Spanish and Chinese in secondary schools will be facilitated through the Spanish Resource Center and through the Confucius Institute at UMASS Boston. This project will deliver a Web 2.0 tool box consisting of blogs, wikis, on-line photo galleries, RSS feeds, podcasting and social bookmarking for use in sharing information with UMB faculty and secondary education teachers about language pedagogy, culture and the application of technology to language teaching, as resource for professional networking, and for the creation of a repository of teaching materials. Unlike the steep learning curve for web design or using a Learning Management System using the Read/Write Web, Web 2.0 tools does not require a huge learning leap, but a small jump comparable to working with a word editor. Students who have grown up with technology are familiar with these on-line tools and their technology literacy often exceeds that of faculty. Web 2.0 tools can help narrow the digital divide between students and faculty since faculty can more easily learn how to use a Web 2.0 toolbox to improve student/teacher collaboration, and build a “classroom-like” online community of student learners. An example of the types of blogs and wikis that will be developed in this project can be found at <http://dulap2.drake.edu/weblog/>

This project will combine the expertise of language content and pedagogy specialists in Spanish, Chinese, and curriculum instruction with technology expertise. IT has laid the groundwork for delivering web 2.0 technologies as a result of a 2007 grant that integrates these e- tools within the LMS environment. This grant provides an opportunity to train teachers in the use of technology in language acquisition using the Read/Write Web outside the LMS course environment and within existing F2F and on-line courses, and provides technology tools for teachers to engage in professional collaboration with peers and academic collaboration with students. However, the larger value of this project is that it fulfills UMB's urban mission of outreach to area schools and provides a model for future projects that involve rich collaboration between faculty across disciplines, and institutes that play an important role in the community, and secondary school teachers.

Project objectives are: 1) An Hispanic Studies professor at UMB will contribute web 2.0 content for elementary and intermediate Spanish courses and a Modern Languages professor at UMB will contribute course content for elementary and intermediate Chinese courses (2) IT will administer the MACX server purchased through an SAT grant in 2007 to deliver blogs and wikis and one media specialist to assist faculty in the creation of on-line tutorials and F2F workshops on how to use Web.2.0 technologies for language teaching, and a project manager/facilitator of business activities of the project. (3) A consultant from the Graduate School of Education will collaborate with the content specialists to utilize the best practices of integrating

technology into the curriculum developed for Chinese and Spanish content for secondary education teachers (5) Both the Spanish Resource Center and the Confucius Institute will provide outreach and publicity to secondary school teachers to realize the workshops and to disseminate information about the workshops to Spanish and Chinese teachers. A blog/wiki will be developed to publish information for professional development and scholarly research opportunities for secondary school teachers of Spanish and Chinese.

**Project Deliverables:**

1. Hold workshops in Web 2.0 tools to address the teaching and learning needs of faculty who teach language and culture courses of Chinese and Spanish at UMB, and train secondary education teachers of Chinese and Spanish in Web 2.0 technologies.
2. Provide UMB faculty and secondary education teachers with a basic toolkit of strategies for using Web 2.0 in an F2F and blended online environment, and develop their own wiki/ blog space to host course content, collaborate with teachers and to network for professional development.
3. Provide UMB faculty access to a repository of on-line material to continue to share professional expertise in pedagogy and technology after the grant is completed and create an on-line community of secondary language teachers to reach out and share information with one another and with university faculty.
4. Document student and faculty assessment of the integration of Web 2.0 tools into course content. Students will have opportunity to document interaction with faculty through self-reflection and course reflection through the use of blogs.

**Dissemination of Project Results**

- Present papers and panel discussions at conferences
- Establish on-line repository of teaching materials for language courses which could serve alone or be integrated through blogs, wikis and podcasts into f2f and on-line language courses
- Provide survey/ assessment of student experience with web 2.0 technologies
- Deliver workshops to secondary school teachers with professional development points through the Spanish Language Resource Center and Confucius institute.
- Establish wiki for collaboration between university faculty and secondary language teachers affiliated with the Confucius institute and the Spanish Resource Center

**Project Budget**

| <b>Description</b>                                  | <b>Total Cost</b> | <b>Requested</b> | <b>In-kind</b> |
|---|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| <b>Summer Stipend</b>                               |                   |                  |                |
| Spanish Content Specialist                          | \$1,000           | \$1,000          |                |
| Chinese Content specialist                          | \$1,000           | \$1,000          |                |
| Secondary education specialist                      | \$1,000           | \$1,000          |                |
| Instructional designer                              | \$1,000           | \$1,000          |                |
| <b>Workshops (# teachers)</b>                       |                   |                  |                |
| Confucius Institute ( 10 )                          | \$2,000           | \$2,000          |                |
| Spanish Resource Center, (10)                       | \$2,000           | \$2,000          |                |
| UMB faculty (10)                                    | \$2,000.          | \$2,000          |                |
| <b>Technical personnel</b>                          |                   |                  |                |
| 1 programmer part-time grad student to manage Serve | \$3,000           | \$3,000          |                |

|  |                 |          |                 |
|--|-----------------|----------|-----------------|
| <b>Equipment</b>   |                 |          |                 |
| Mac X Serve  |                 |          | \$6,000.00      |
| 3 laptops, software ,webcams and headsets, writing tablets | \$6,000.        | \$6000.  |                 |
| IPods microphones, power adapters , writing tablets        | \$2,500.        | \$2,500. |                 |
| <b>Other</b>   |                 |          |                 |
| Conferences ,meetings                                      | \$1,000         | \$1,000  |                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>\$22,500</b> |          | <b>\$28,500</b> |

### Project Timetable

| Dates            | Event                                      | Participant                                  | Action  | Duration         |
|------------------|--|--|---|------------------|
| <b>Summer 08</b> | pedagogy, technology and content workshops | All content specialists and IT               | collect materials;<br>plan workshop<br>program schedule | 7 days in August |
| <b>Fall 08</b>   | Meetings                                   | All  | Build workshops   | Sept- Oct        |
|                  | Workshop                                   | UMB 10 Faculty<br><br>ALL                    | outreach,<br>publicity and<br>delivery                  | Oct-Nov          |
|                  | Interim SAT Report                         | ALL  | report  | Dec 15           |
| <b>Spring09</b>  | CIT Conference                             | All  | Presentation  | January          |
|                  | Meetings/planning                          | Confucius institute, Spanish resource center | program development for workshops                       | Jan- March       |
|                  | Presentation                               | SAT conference                               | Present panel   | April            |
|                  | Workshop                                   | ALL, 20 teachers                             | publicity, outreach                                     | April            |
|                  | Spanish,Chinese Workshops                  | All, 20 teachers                             | hands-on  | April-Ma         |
|                  | Final report                               |  |   | June 1           |

**From: Mary Simone**  
**Department of IT, Educational Technology**

**Letter of Support for the Integration of Web 2.0 tools in language teaching at UMB**  
**Project Category: Multidisciplinary Teaching Improvement**

**Principal Investigator: Mary Simone - 10% time**

I will be coordinating the project with the various collaborators, lead the steering committee, and the evaluation, assessment and publication of deliverables. My experience includes media production, project management, secondary education and university teaching, as well as the use of technology in language pedagogy.

***IT and Multi-media production:***

- Initiated WebCT modules in 26 elementary and intermediate language courses with language lab component enabling faculty to track students performance on-line for the first time (2006-present)
- Designed website for Spanish Language Resource center, an on-line resource for Spanish Language teachers in Massachusetts Public Schools (2002)
- Produced and wrote laserdisc “Le Salamandre” for intermediate French course at UMB (1988)
- Created and Produced Instructional video , “Fidenza” distributed to 12 Universities in the Northeast including UMB (1987)
- Produced and wrote “Imágenes de Mexico” for “De Mucho un Poco,” a Spanish language television program, broadcast on Channel WLIV-TV, Boston, (1983); and aired on UMAB cable network program “Local Focus (1983,1984,1985)

***Program/Project Management***

- SAT grant 2007, PI, Blended learning and on-line tutoring
- Manages IT support for E-portfolio, rsmart pilot; created on-line SNAP survey for evaluation of product by students and faculty (2006-present)
- Media Center Manager, IT (2006-present )

***Teaching***

- Design and Teach training workshops and orientations to faculty and students in WebCT, language lab web site, and use of the language lab and media center facility ( 1978-present)
- Vista4 on-line course, EDC501 language pedagogy for secondary education teachers (2006, 2007)
- face to face courses: Spanish 101, 102, and 201 elementary and intermediate Spanish; Graduate School of Education, EDC 497C practicum, field supervisor of middle and secondary school teachers of English, French, Italian, and Spanish ( 1994-2008)

***Professional Affiliations:***

- IALLT International Association of Learning Laboratory Technologists
- NERCOMP
- TIS- Technology Information Systems Group, UMASS Boston
- NERALLD New England Association of Learning Lab Directors
- ASCD : Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development

**Department of Hispanic Studies, Spanish/Portuguese Language  
Coordinator 10% time**

Spanish/Portuguese language coordinator, Full-time professional track Lecturer / administrator, to coordinate and teach in Language Instruction Program, train and supervise a large number of part-time lecturers, develop and support on-line language courses and instructors, teach graduate level methodology courses in technology and assessment, develop curriculum, and to act as departmental liaison. :

**Letter of Support for Web 2.0 Workshops for UMB Faculty and Secondary School Teachers**

**Project Category: Multidisciplinary Teaching Improvement**

As the Language Coordinator for Hispanic Studies and co-author of Caminos which is used for three semesters of Spanish at UMass Boston, I am very interested in developing web 2.0 training workshops for educators at the secondary and university levels. Our goal is to provide language educators with the tools they need to develop a technology enhanced standards-based curriculum.

To meet the specific goals of these workshops, I will be working closely with Mary Simone, Janna Jackson, Jessica Downa, and XuGuo Chan so that we might identify specific strategies and train appropriate language educators to work in an online medium.

I anticipate that I will be part of the steering committee and will spend 2-4 hours a week until the project is up and running and 2 hours a week afterward. I will serve as the creative content developer for all interactive components and will oversee the development of Spanish language training modules. I look forward to the successful development of these teaching and learning materials to enhance language pedagogy and access to the rich cultures through web 2.0 tools.

Sincerely,



**From:**  
**Jessica Downa**  
**Media Specialist**  
**IT/ Educational Technology and Learning Commons**

**Letter of Support for the Integration of Web 2-0 tools in language teaching at UMB**  
**Project Category: Multidisciplinary Teaching Improvement**

As a Media Specialist I am always eager to implement, evaluate and improve on the learning experience student receive here at Umass/Boston. My role in the Multidisciplinary Teaching Improvement Grant will be the creation of web 2.0 tools to assist teachers in buliding coloborative workspaces for students and classroom activites. By developing, maintaining and supporting the use of blogs, wikis, podcasts and other web 2.0 technologies for this project I hope to use these new technologies to help develop a working model for faculty to assist students in languages and secondary schools.

I anticipate I will be spending 5 hours a week over the course of 10 weeks and 10% of my time on this project.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Downa  
Media Specialist  
Umass/Boston



**From: Clara Gomez Jimeno. Director of the Spanish Resource Center.  
UMASS Boston**

**Letter of Support for the Integration of Web 2-0 tools in language teaching at UMB. Project Category: Multidisciplinary Teaching Improvement.**

As a language specialist I am a firm believer in the need of using technology in order to make foreign languages accessible to all students. Through this grant, the Spanish Resource Centre and my other colleagues will facilitate teachers the use of technology in the classrooms and help them make the learning of Spanish and other languages easier and interesting for students.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Clara Gómez Jimeno  
Education Advisor  
Spanish Resource Centre  
[http://www.src.umb.edu/version\\_espanola.htm](http://www.src.umb.edu/version_espanola.htm)  
UMASS Boston

**From:**  
**Xu Guo Chan**  
**Chinese Instructor**  
**Department of Modern Language**

**Letter of Support for the Integration of Web 2-0 tools in language teaching at UMB**  
**Project Category: Multidisciplinary Teaching Improvement**

As a Chinese instructor I am happy to implement, evaluate and improve on the learning experience student receive here at Umass/Boston. My role in the Multidisciplinary Teaching Improvement Grant will contribute course content for elementary and intermediate Chinese courses for students. It will provide training for secondary school language teachers of Chinese. I anticipate I will be spending 4 hours a week over the course of this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Xu Guo Chan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Xu Guo Chan  
Department of Modern Language  
Umass/Boston

**From:**  
**Wanli Hu**  
**Director of the China Program Center**

**Letter of Support for the Integration of Web 2-0 tools in language teaching at UMB**  
**Project Category: Multidisciplinary Teaching Improvement**

I am very enthusiastic about this proposal to integrate technology into language teaching at UMB. Chinese language has been regarded as critical language which is related to America's national security. We hope more and more students can learn Chinese language. In order to make Chinese language learning more interesting, efficient and effective, more and more software on teaching Chinese language have been created. However, most Chinese language teachers from K-16 do not have technological capacity to make use of the software. This project will help Chinese language teachers grasp the software and technology to improve their teaching significantly.

UMass Confucius Institute has connection with more than 300 secondary Chinese language teachers in New England. I am sure these teachers welcome our workshops to help them integrate technology into their teaching.

Moreover, I hope that this project will establish a weblog/wiki for Chinese language teachers to share their teaching experience, materials and methodology, even job opportunity.

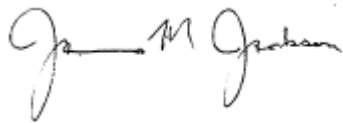
Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Wanli Hu  
Director  
The China Program Center  
Confucius Institute  
CCDE  
UMass Boston

**From:**  
**Janna Jackson**  
**Assistant Professor**  
**Graduate School of Education, Department of Curriculum Instruction**

I intend to participate in the Integration of Web 2-0 tools in language teaching at UMB project. I understand that my role in this project is to serve as a consultant to collaborate with the content specialists to utilize the best practices of integrating technology into the curriculum developed for Chinese and Spanish content for secondary education teachers. As a former high school teacher and a current faculty member of the Graduate College of Education, I am more than happy to lend my expertise to this project.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janna Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line under the first name.