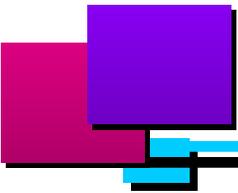


Course Management Initiatives

- **We would like to thank the NITC and Tom Rolfes for giving us the opportunity to address this group concerning an initiative that we feel is critical to the future of education in the state of Nebraska**



Course Management Initiatives

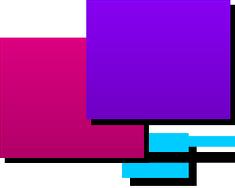
Other CM Initiative participants that are here today:

- **Tom Rolfes – NITC**
- **Dr. Jean Jones – NE Department of Education**
- **John Fiene – UNO Computing Director**
- **Paul Erickson – UNL Instructional Technology Manager**
- **Chuck Friesen – Lincoln Public Schools Director of Instructional Technology**

Course Management Initiatives

Other CM Initiative participants not represented today:

- **A number of other UNL, UNO, UNK, and UNMC staff**
- **K-12 – ESUs, NWSDAC, OPS, LPS, Millard Public Schools, Distance Ed Consortia**
- **HEd – all publics and privates (i.e. UN system, State Colleges, Community Colleges, and all private IHed in the state**
- **All students in the state of Nebraska**



Course Management Initiatives

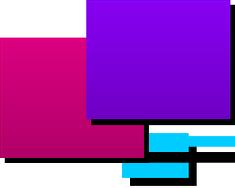
Course Management Software

Web-based software that supports the development, organization, and presentation of educational content

Course Management Initiatives

Course management software – functions and features:

- **Content development and presentation**
- **Linkage to reference materials and other research/instructional sites and services**
- **Lesson planning**
- **Threaded discussion, chat, virtual classroom**
- **Organizations and announcements**
- **Assessment and grading**
- **Email, calendaring**
- **Parental/advisor access**
- **Interfaces to administrative systems (e.g. student information systems, HR, etc)**
- **Portal**



Course Management Initiatives

History of this initiative

- **This initiative grew out of an effort on the part of the Task Force IV Distance Ed project**
- **Jean Jones/Tom Rolfes developed a survey that was distributed to IHED requesting information on the use of Course Management tools/software**

Course Management Initiatives

History (cont'd)

- **Survey results indicated many institutions were already utilizing CM SW – most either Blackboard or Web CT**
- **Tom contacted UN since he was aware we had successfully deployed Blackboard on a U-wide basis**
- **Led to a decision to co-host a Course Mgmt/Blackboard presentation August 16th at the UNL East Campus Union**

Course Management Initiatives

History (cont'd)

- **Approximately 35 people representing 20+ educational entities from all levels from all over the state participated**
- **It was apparent there was a great deal of interest in this technology and in “partnering”**
- **We decided to attempt to organize**

Course Management Initiatives

History (cont'd)

- **Initial focus was on negotiating consolidated licensing agreements with CM vendors which would result in discounted pricing**
- **After a series of meetings and conference calls it became obvious we needed to realign our perspective on this project**

Course Management Initiatives

History (cont'd)

The needs and issues at the K-12 level were very different than those in HEd

Two groups emerged:

- K-12
- IHEd

Course Management Initiatives

History (cont'd)

K-12 - current

- **Current adoption level very low**
- **Interest in CM tools increasing rapidly**
- **Very diverse group demo/geo**
- **Interested in partnering**
- **Very interested in researching/exploring ways CM technology could be utilized**
- **Limited resources**

Course Management Initiatives

History (cont'd)

K-12

- **Need to determine how CM could be utilized led to decision to spawn “proof of concept” pilots**
- **Pilot diversity important (i.e. rural/urban, remote/distance and classroom based, student and staff development use)**
- **Pilots should be initiated ASAP**

Course Management Initiatives

History (cont'd)

K-12 – Pilots:

- **Phase I of pilots = 10-12 instructors/100 – 200 students, initial assessment of use/feasibility at end of Spring term**
- **Phase II = negotiate licensing/pricing agreements & develop plan for limited deployment for the 2003-04 academic year**
- **Phase III = widespread adoption, 2004 and beyond**

Course Management Initiatives

History (cont'd)

K-12 – Pilots:

- **Tri-Valley Distance Ed consortium and ESU6 – John Stritt/UNK host**
- **Lincoln Public Schools – Chuck Friesen/UNL host**
- **Millard Public Schools - ???/UNO host**
- **Omaha Public Schools – Tom McClung/UNO host**

Course Management Initiatives

History (cont'd)

HEd - current

- Most IHED already are using CM tools
- Varying degrees of deployment
- This group is very interested in exploring ways to reduce costs

-and-

sharing information, ideas, resources

Course Management Initiatives

Current/futures

HEd

- **Met Dec 3rd at CCC in Grand Island**
- **Every IHED in state was represented**
- **Four major initiatives emerged**

Course Management Initiatives

History (cont'd)

HEd

- 1) **Negotiate aggregated CM SW licensing and purchasing agreements**
- 2) **Put together a plan for developing and deploying web-based instructional design training for instructors**
- 3) **Develop a strategy for the sharing and management of content**
- 4) **Develop a strategy for eLearning**

eLearning Initiatives

History (cont'd)

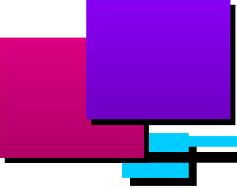


This was not all about CM software and technology – it was really about how technology could be utilized more effectively and efficiently to deliver educational opportunities to students at all levels throughout Nebraska on an equitable and affordable basis

(aka - advancing the academic agenda)

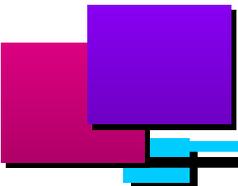
How and where can we cooperate & collaborate?

- 1) **Licensing**
- 2) **Hosting**
- 3) **Support Services – Helpdesk, training, etc**
- 4) **Content development**
- 5) **Content management**
- 6) **Staff development**



eLearning Initiatives

We would like to propose serious consideration for the formation of a Nebraska eLearning Consortium responsible for the promotion, adoption, and effective utilization of technology in the support of eLearning in the state of Nebraska at all educational levels.



eLearning Initiatives

Three major areas of initiative:

- 1) Course management - negotiate aggregate purchasing/licensing agreements and assist entities in the deployment and effective use of this technology
- 2) Content management – develop strategy to put into place a statewide Educational Knowledge Repository to facilitate the sharing of educational resources
- 3) Infrastructure – develop and implement a plan to put in place the network, organizational/administrative, and support resources required to support eLearning

eLearning Initiatives

