

Initiative Proposal

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Initiative: University of Illinois Podcasts of Class Lectures

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Initiative Description:

- To allow students in the College of Engineering a better learning experience through the rebroadcast of class lectures through Podcasts.

Current state of issue & current solution:

- Classes in the College of Engineering do not have a good way to get recordings of lectures to students after the lecture date. A few professors do this on their own, but this solution restricts this technology to technically proficient professors, and also does not centrally locate the Podcasts.

Proposed solution:

- An easy system for both Professors and Students can be attained using technology from Apple Computer Corp. and their podcasting software, iTunes.

Resolution:

- By creating an easy to use Podcast distribution system for both professors and students to use, the goal of class lecture Podcasts will be attainable.

Associated costs and expenses for implementation:

- Costs are at this time pending. There may be equipment purchases needed, although many of the lecture halls already have adequate systems.

Estimated Timeline:

- October and November 2006 – Research the best way to implement this system. Build contacts at Apple Computer Corporation and other Universities that have implemented similar systems.
- December 2006 – Purchase and set up needed equipment for pilot programs.
- January 2007 – Pilot programs. Implement Podcasts of lectures of 1-2 classes (at least on in the Computer Science department) for the spring semester.
- February and March 2007 – Monitor pilot programs. Analyze bugs. Get student feedback.
- April and May 2007 – Conclude pilot programs. Get feedback from students and professors. Research how to spread the program college-wide.
- Summer 2007 – Spread the program to at as many classes that can be supported for the fall semester. Set up a support system for students and professors.