

ABSTRACTS FOR THE 2006-2007 TECH PREP MINI-GRANT AWARDS

TV Combo Sets for TV Production Class / Cincinnatus High School/ \$8,284.00:

Nicole Rice

Currently we are in our first year of running our new curriculum titled TV Radio Production, a two-year series for grades 9-12, as part of the 5-Unit Computer Sequence. The curriculum was approved by the New York State Education Department in the Summer 2005 and holds Regents credit. The students are now ready to broadcast their work and are working on future shows on the districts in-house channel 38. All classrooms have cable outlets from Time Warner Cable. Now all we need is an audience to watch, and there are not enough TVs to go around. Some of the older TVs we do have do not go up to channel 38. By having an audience that we broadcast to, we can help reach our goal of having this course earn TC3 dual credit by matching the curriculum of COMM120 Broadcast Operations making it our fifth dual credit course with TC3. To have a TV in every high school teaching area would mean 32 TVs total. We would like to kindly ask for a start of this goal, by placing 16 TVs on carts to reach the main subject areas of our high school students and meet the other half of our goal by purchasing 16 additional TVs through district funds as part of our five year technology plan.

Automotive Diagnostic Measurement Units / OCM BOCES- McEvoy/ \$2,149.80:

Kay Kraatz

The project for Auto Technology, Data Analysis and Statistics, will be Automotive Diagnostic Measurement utilizing the next generation or personal computing tools. The students will be exposed to a hand held platform that is convenient, flexible, and affordable. The students will be able to quickly diagnose and fix vehicle problems, view the data in a grid, graph or meter format. Diagnostic Trouble Codes (DTC) can be viewed and cleared.

Career, College, and Community / Cortland High School / \$2,600.00: Bill Lee

Imagine a school celebrating the future of students. Visualize students actively examining the possibilities and opportunities of their futures through participating in classroom activities and Internet searches; listening to and questioning community presenters; taking college visits; and exploring the resources of a revamped career library. These are some of the goals of the College, Career, & Community: A month-long Celebration of Academic Opportunity project that will connect the Cortland High School community with the local college and business communities to broaden students' academic and career opportunities. Beginning with daily career-oriented messages, the project will weave current traditional and dual credit course study aimed at career-orientation and college success with the community emphasis of school and work-related skill development. Highlights include a career fair; campus visits to Tompkins-Cortland Community College; a guest speaker program, and the completion of a revamped career library.

Digital Video Program / Dryden High School / \$9,962.90: Margaret Grace and Elizabeth Rehtin

This project involves collaboration between Dryden's English and Fine Arts Departments to support the Film Production Course. Students learn to plan, shoot and edit their own films. Their films are then aired on PEGASYS Time Warner Cable's public access television. Due to overwhelming interest in the course, there are not enough cameras, equipment or editing stations available for students to use. In collaboration with the Art Department, Elizabeth Rehtin will help teach the course and students will move into a computer lab with 16 editing stations. The Tech Prep grant will enable us to purchase enough cameras and equipment for student use as well as purchase software and mobile editing stations for the computer lab. It will also enable us to invite staff and students from TC3 to the classroom each semester.

Improving our Water Resources / Groton High School/ \$5,692.70: Paul Wiech

This project will incorporate technology, environmentalism, community and life skills needed to succeed in today's workplace. Students will gain valuable skills in using global positioning technology (GPS), handheld data collection and analysis using Vernier and Palm technology. The scope of the project will include the mapping of ditches, with cooperation from the Cornell Department of Natural Resources, in the town of Groton and evaluating the data to determine our affect on the Cayuga watershed and lake as well as flooding that may be caused by poor ditch design. Students will also gain valuable insight as they involve our community in this data gathering and eventually discuss the topic of ditch remediation.

Communication and Digital Media Course / South Seneca High School / \$9,252.00: Robert Hermanet

The purpose of this project is to create a digital media course involving current hardware/software technologies for video production with emphasis on media literacy and critical thinking. Students will explore content blending business, art and communication curriculums. South Seneca is in a unique situation because Mr. Hermanet is not only certified in business but also additionally in art. He already works closely with the art department, which will foster the interdisciplinary aspect of this project. South Seneca currently offers a limited range of elective courses, particularly in the education of technology. Strong student interest in the subject, tools, and relevancy of this proposed course has been expressed in conversations with educational staff and through guidance surveys. We plan to use this enthusiasm to increase attendance and consequently, improve the academic performance of students struggling in existing courses. Additionally, besides linking multiple academic areas through cross-curricular projects, this course will encourage students to use the skills they develop to enhance performance in other courses. This effort is part of a broader District goal to raise high school completion rate up from the 65% mark established by the 2001 cohort.

Technical Design and Communications / Dryden High School / \$4,275.00: Susan Gilcher

This award will allow the expansion of the Project Lead the Way “Civil Engineering and Architecture” course which is aligned with TC3’s Architectural Drafting 117 course for Dual Credit. Opportunities to develop basic skills in technical communication as well as critical thinking, decision making, problem solving, and human relations will be expanded to include personal student contact with professionals in the immediate and surrounding communities. Many students will be more highly motivated if they see how technical business communication is related to their future careers. This project will also provide opportunities for students to foster a positive, helpful attitude towards others. Daily success and failure of business transactions and messages are in the hands of the communicator. One question that must be asked constantly in evaluating communication performance is, “What will be the reader’s (or listener’s) reaction to what is being communicated?” The primary goal is to help students learn how to communicate more effectively by offering them (technical) speaking, reading, writing, and listening opportunities. Their progress in these areas will depend largely on this experience as they utilize technical vocabulary in real-world situations.

Entrepreneurship / Dryden High School / \$2,444.46: Nichole Gunn

The project money will be used to purchase one digital camera, two scanners and to fund curriculum development time in July and August for Tech Prep teachers at Dryden High School. The digital camera, scanners, and activities will be incorporated to support the contextual learning aspects of this Tech Prep program. In order to successfully integrate Entrepreneurship into the existing syllabus, teachers will work closely to develop curriculum to support the necessary workplace skills. As student work on the yearbook, they will be engaged with contextual learning activities that apply professionalism, teamwork, document preparation, oral communication, digital photography, image manipulation, and computer technology to transition skills from the classroom to workplace and college environments. Examples for the planned transition from classroom theory to “real world” application of these skills include student –training sessions to learn camera/scanner operation and related computer technology and preparation of digital images for the development of the yearbook.

Digital Editing Technologies Expansion / TST BOCES / \$5,450.00: Michael Blegen

This project money will be used to fund the expansion of curriculum integration of digital editing into the Computer Technology course of study at TST BOCES. The Computer Technology teacher will coordinate with the Microcomputer Specialist, Counselor in Student Services, and Communications Program Chair at TC3 in order to deliver a high-level course of study and help students produce quality materials. Students will work together to produce promotional and instructional materials for TST BOCES as part of their course of study.

School/Community Video Project / Trumansburg High School / \$4,160.00: James Perkins

This video project seeks to bolster student video skills by active involvement in shooting, editing, and producing school/community events, guest speakers, parades, and local events. Student involvement in this project will allow a greater exploration of career related video production.

Digital Media Collaboration / Groton High School / \$12,983.36: Mick LeVick & Joann Morrison

This project will be used to fund the updating of current analog video and photo labs. This interdisciplinary project will join the Fine Arts and English Language Arts at Groton. Mick LeVick (ELA) and Joann Morrison (Fine Arts) will concurrently teach a video production, video editing and photojournalism class. Chris Xaver (TC3) and Kathy Morris (TC3) will provide project input. The courses will provide students with the knowledge and resources to produce and edit multimedia presentations including pod casts. By merging our video production studio and digital photo studio, we will provide students with knowledge and resources to produce and edit multimedia presentations for use in the classroom with digital college portfolios and the revitalization of the Groton school newspaper. Shared space between both the English and Art rooms will house the updated video and photo lab. The current video lab will be updated for both onsite video productions and digital editing. The Tech Prep grant allows the purchase of camcorders, computers, and digital cameras, video and photo editing software and supplies to make the courses possible. Joann Morrison will attend Kathy Morris' photojournalism class, while Mick LeVick will work in conjunction with Chris Xaver in updating skills in new media production. Both collaborations will be used in preparation for Groton's offering of future dual credit courses in both photojournalism and video production. Moreover, students from TC3 will be offered the opportunity for internships in both media and photo production at Groton High School.

Medical Technologies- Certified First Responder Project / TST BOCES / \$5,346.25: Jane Wells – CLASS CANCELLED

Medical Technologies is a secondary-level Medical Assisting program at TST BOCES. Tech Prep funds will be used to purchase supplies and materials to certify Medical Technology students as New York State First Responders. The project will permit Med Tech students to meet new, first aid requirements for professional Medical Assistants. The project will also allow for the continuation of articulation agreements with two Associate Degree Programs in Medical Assisting and will help establish a new articulation agreement with the TC3 Emergency Medical Technician program. Med Tech students who become CFAs will increase the number of individuals in the community with emergency/disaster training and contribute to local pools of qualified health care professionals.

Palm Pilot in Computer Theory / Marathon High School / \$5,000.00: Todd A. James

This project is phase two of an original project in which we introduce Palm Pilots for student use in two courses, Financial Decision-Making and College Accounting, in our Business and Computer Technology sequence. This project will extend the use of the Palm Pilot to the Computer Theory and Advance Computer Theory classes. We will apply for dual credit between Computer Theory and TC3 courses in Microsoft Word (1 credit), Excel (1 credit) and Power Point (1 credit) and between Advanced Computer theory and the advanced courses in each of these areas. Approximately 20 additional students will participate in the Palm Pilot program as a result of this expansion. Students will use their Palm Pilot skills in WiFi wireless connectivity to the internet and “Documents to Go” for lessons developed to focus on contextual learning, work-based learning, and the integration of the SCANs skills. The grant will also allow us to continue our study of how Palm Pilot technology can be integrated throughout the 7-12 curricula in Marathon.

Collaborative Laboratory Exercise “Physics & Chemistry”/ \$ 8,865.43: Paula Jones

In an effort to form a more collaborative science curriculum, a laboratory experiment from regents physics and regents chemistry courses will be linked together by having students perform the experiment collectively. In this experiment, fuel is used in a “potato gun” to launch a projectile down a football field. Chemistry students will mentor physics students by teaching combustion concepts. This information will enable students to choose the most effective fuel during the lab. Similarly, physics students will mentor chemistry students regarding applications of the impulse momentum theorem and projectile motion theory. Students should then be able to choose optimum angle of inclination and barrel length. The opportunity to share curriculum specific knowledge with other groups of students realistically portrays information flow in the workplace. The experimental objective is to determine what fuel/angle/barrel length choices will produce a maximum projectile range. The ultimate goal is to compare and contrast theoretical predictions with actual results. This grant will provide laptop computers for on-site data acquisition and analysis during the laboratory experiment. Grant purchased digital cameras will enable this experience to be shared with parents via e-mail, and the community via the school newspaper. Printers and supplies acquired through this grant will provide hard copies and photographs for communication with families lacking internet capabilities.