



End of Year Report on the 2005-06 Duke Digital Initiative: Executive Overview

This report describes key activities in the Duke Digital Initiative (DDI) in 2005-06, summarizes faculty and student feedback on the DDI course activities and the DDI program overall, and describes key projects for the next academic year which have grown out of this year's program.

The Duke Digital Initiative for 2005-06 has been a successful follow-on to the *iPod First-Year Experience* in 2004-05. Many of last year's innovative practices in technology-enhanced learning have been sustained or enhanced. A growing number of faculty from a variety of departments, programs and schools have explored new technology-enhanced approaches to instruction. Faculty and students continue to report that the use of portable, personal multimedia technologies and digital course materials contributes to the course experience and to students' learning. Duke's experiments with new technologies continue to attract public interest and to lead to new opportunities for collaboration with universities, businesses and other organizations.

The goals for this year's Duke Digital Initiative were to promote innovative and effective teaching, to use technology in support of curriculum enhancement, to develop our technology infrastructure, and to share knowledge about effective instructional technology strategies.

Key activities in this year's Duke Digital Initiative included:

- continued experimentation with iPods for audio capture and playback of digital audio
- utilization of new iPod functionalities through course activities involving portable playback of digital images and video, and development of learning materials that incorporate multimedia
- exploration of tablet PCs to increase student engagement in class
- use of hand-held computers for data capture as part of student research assignments
- development of support models for the creation of original video for student and faculty course projects
- pilot of the Lectopia component of the DukeCapture classroom recording service
- hiring a scholarly communications expert to help in navigating issues of intellectual property, copyright and fair use

Major successes this year included:

- use of technology to support key curricular areas such as foreign language learning, writing, service learning and student research as faculty found success using specific tools and strategies across a department or program
- growing number of courses involving multimedia production activities, with faculty and students reporting that this increases student engagement and student learning
- development of collaborative staffing models and more robust technical environment for support of instructional IT projects

- active collaborations with businesses, universities and other organizations which allowed Duke faculty and students to shape development of new technologies; examples include partnerships with the University of Western Australia (Lectopia), Apple (iTunes U), Public Radio International (digital audio content)
- multiple opportunities for Duke faculty and staff to discuss their ideas with a national and international set of colleagues through participation in conferences and professional groups
- use of faculty and student experiences with and feedback on educational technology to plan new facilities in the Library and other parts of campus

Innovative use of technology brings with it a set of challenges. Some key issues this year included:

- difficulty obtaining multimedia content for courses in a timely and cost-effective way
- rapid and unpredictable evolution of consumer technologies which created ongoing challenges for planning, training, and support
- demand for video capture of classroom presentations exceeds classroom capabilities
- continuing need to transition instructional practices into the multimedia environment

Given the interest in technology innovation expressed by students and faculty and the now-established uses of portable, personal digital media devices in courses, the University will continue the Duke Digital Initiative in the 2006-07 academic year. The coming year will focus on further development of infrastructure and support services for those technologies and teaching strategies deemed successful by students and faculty plus new explorations of technology in learning and instruction.

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The Duke Digital Initiative is a joint project of the Office of the Provost, Office of the Executive Vice President, Office of Information Technology, Division of Student Affairs, Center for Instructional Technology, and Duke University Libraries.