

Classroom Podcasting Phase 2 Joint Project
Academic Year 2009-10

The major aspects of the joint project *Automated Instructional Video, Podcasting and Blogging* for Academic Year 2008-09 are currently being deployed. This project provides a basic infrastructure for the recording of classroom activities (lectures, student performances and other events). The server-based encoding and delivery infrastructure is in place, and we have begun deploying recorder units within Communication and Law School classrooms. Classrooms in other buildings will come online shortly.

Additionally, Law is using local funds to pioneer the next generation system, using secondary camera sources and automatic switching equipment that will provide a more professional level of finish, without requiring staff involvement. This incorporates pressure sensitive mats that define a target area within the classroom, and cause the system to switch to the “tight shot” camera. It reverts to a wide shot whenever the presenter steps away from that target area. We are also adding encoding gear that can capture whatever the presenter is sending to the classroom’s main video projector. This represents an evolutionary step in classroom recording, building on what was funded in AY2008-09. Law has lined up at least one major course to pilot the system in Spring 2009.

With this project proposal, we aim to follow the Law experiment with a revisit of the now 25 classrooms incorporating video recording via last year’s project. We will add the secondary camera and switching apparatus to each room, at a per-classroom cost of approximately \$3000.

Participants:

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We ask for a one-time allocation \$75,000 to accomplish this. Given the “add on” nature of this project, we expect a relatively quick deployment of the system. Future maintenance of the system will be the responsibility of the participating units.