

## **How One Educational Technology Professor Integrates Teaching, Research and Service**

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This paper describes how community service, research and teaching can be fully integrated by an educational technology professor by creating a partnership with a K-6 school. It describes the partnership development process, the grant-writing process, and the implementation process. Roadblocks that threatened the partnership are discussed as well as suggestions for overcoming these obstacles. Specifics about the integration process are discussed in depth.

The partnership between a university and a local elementary school serves a low SES population with few home computers and little Internet access. This project uses existing facilities to provide an after-school Community Technology Center where students, parents and other community members can have access to computers, email, the Internet, and computer instruction. In addition, many teachers in the school lack the skills to use technology effectively within their classrooms. The university professor will provide training to remedy this problem. Classes and access to the Community Technology Center are free to all community members.

This collaborative partnership is advantageous for all stakeholders: elementary school students and teachers will benefit from using the Technology Center after school hours; school and district administrators will satisfy parents wishing greater access to technology for themselves and their children; community members will benefit from access to computers and computer instruction; university undergraduate and graduate students will have opportunities to observe K-12 technology integration; several graduate students serving as research assistants will gain knowledge of qualitative research methods; and the university professor will conduct an extensive research study on students, teachers and parents using technology in a community setting. This project therefore provides the university professor with a strategic way to integrate teaching, research, and service.