

# The *Developmental Study*: An inter-university project on effective TAL

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## Background



- A collaborative international and interinstitutional study project
- Overall goal: To enhance the implementation and integration of technology-assisted learning (TAL) at higher education institutions
- With Prof Mark Schofield, Edge Hill University, UK
- Memorandum of Agreement in 2007

## Aims in April 2008



- Enhance the quality of learning provision in participant universities through TAL
- Provide facility to meet needs identified in self-evaluation and review (including development of research capacity)
- Test collaborative model as a basis for meeting the demands of other challenges in the SA HE system

#### Towards 12 lenses



- First tool: Nine "lenses" of self-evaluation
- Survey: Present and future activities
- Invitations: Submit information
- First "Combined Report"
- Workshop at UJ: 28 May 2008, 20 participants from 13 SA universities
- Video conference: M Schofield at Edge Hill
- Lenses refined, three added

#### The 12 lenses



- 1) Curriculum D&D (macro, meso and micro level)
- 2) Quality management
- 3) Professional Development
- 4) Technical and system support
- 5) Client support
- 6) Leadership and change management
- 7) Resources and sharing of resources

#### The 12 lenses



- 8) Students' and lecturers' experiences
- 9) Collaborations and partnerships
- 10) Funding, budget and FTE's
- 11) HR: Career paths and number of staff members
- 12) TAL policies to implementation
- Lenses finalised and further strategies discussed during visit to Edge Hill (participants at research seminar)

### Towards ASADs



- Second round and "Second Combined Report"
- Invitation: Formulate areas of strength and areas for development (ASADs)
- 49 ASADs received
- Concept matrix for development
- Second workshop: 10 October 2008, 14 participants from 10 universities
- Video conference: M Schofield at Edge Hill

## Towards papers



- At Second Workshop: Six topics identified
- Convenors appointed
- To be developed: Position papers on topics identified
- ■To be used: "Third Combined Report" as background to be finalised
- Web page (at NWU) with blog and wiki's: Keep all participants informed on teams' progress

## Six topics identified



- 1) Technical, system admin and portals
- 2) Institutional matters, policies and relationships
- 3) Professional development and strategies
- 4) D&D, sharing of resources
- 5) Integration of new technologies
- 6) R&D: Experience of students

## Towards a colloquium



- Six papers: Offered at colloquium on 22 April 2009 at UFS (day before SA Bb Users' Conference)
- The sharing of these findings will be a highlight of our developmental process
- Present universities: CPUT, CUT, NWU, SU, UFH, UKZN, UL, UP, UFS, UWS, UZ and VUT (and UJ)
- Added after 10/10: UNISA, TUT and UCT

#### Towards research



- Teams can publish after colloquium
- One Topic: "Research and development on TAL, especially on the experience of students", MK as convenor (possible use of instrument of *Educause* nationally)
- ■FvZ, ER and EP in other groups
- This collaborative process, research methodology and associated outcomes: Basis of more processes of the same kind?

#### Towards celebrations!



- Developing good practices
- Enhance implementation
- Developing national and international collaboration
- Research outcomes
- Recognition for CenTAL and UJ

## We live CenTAL's motto



Sikhuthaza imfundo!
We energise learning!
Ons gee woema aan leer!
Re fa thuto mafolofolo!

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