Tarleton Technology Vision

3.5.3

Academic Programs

Academic programs will effectively integrate technology in teaching and communications to enhance learning, research and classroom administration. The responsibility for integrating technology into an academic program’s curriculum or instruction resides within the department.

As technologies evolve and are used within disciplines, departmental faculty will determine if changes to programs are warranted. This process depends on an open dialogue between faculty and their department heads. To support this process:

- Academic programs will review their curriculum to determine the appropriate technologies and instructional strategies that can be integrated into the curriculum.
- Academic departments will set appropriate goals on the use of technology within their strategic plans and evaluate accordingly.
- Academic colleges will conduct an ongoing series of open forums to discuss topics in using technological tools in teaching, research, and classroom administration.

Faculty Innovation

Tarleton will invest in its faculty to achieve continual classroom innovation and collaboration. This investment will support faculty initiatives to integrate technology as part of curriculum and instruction. To facilitate this process Tarleton will:

- Provide internal and external training opportunities to support faculty development.
- Implement a system of instructional grants and/or release time that supports the faculty use of technology in teaching to encourage innovation within the classroom or academic lab.
- Encourage faculty technology development through mentoring or other collaborative activities to provide additional discipline specific support.
- Implement a recognition and reward system that encourages faculty technology development and promotes excellence in technology innovation in teaching.
- Create and maintain a centralized support structure to provide a rapid response to technical classroom problems.
**Equipment and Services Infrastructure**

Tarleton will provide an equipment and services infrastructure supporting faculty-defined teaching and learning requirements to enhance the educational experience and learning outcomes of our students.

To accomplish this vision, Tarleton will establish a standing university committee to:

- Develop and implement a technology-mediated classroom plan that will provide a dedicated standardized equipment and services infrastructure for technology enhanced classrooms, and support a college-level distribution and management system.
- Evaluate the use/demand rate for technology enhanced classroom and services infrastructure to recommend resource allocation which will effectively meet demonstrated needs.
- Allocate funds for acquisition, replacement and maintenance of instructional equipment as needed.

**Students: Technology Literacy**

Tarleton will provide appropriate program opportunities for students to acquire technology literacy sufficient for success in college and in their careers.

Tarleton will incorporate basic technology literacy skills in word-processing, presentation, computation and spreadsheet, communication, and library research database into the core curriculum and assess student learning outcomes pertaining to those skills.

Tarleton will incorporate advanced technology skills into student’s academic major programs as appropriate and will assess student learning outcomes pertaining to those skills.

Tarleton will provide both classroom training and student mentoring through library and computer lab initiatives to support student learning in technology and its applications.

**Expectations for students entering Tarleton State University**

Students entering Tarleton will be able to

- Use the student e-mail system to communicate with faculty and fellow students.
- Keyboard.
- Save and transfer data files.

**Expectations for all students graduating from Tarleton State University**

Students graduating from Tarleton will be able to

- Use and apply word processing, presentation and spreadsheet software in various contexts.
- Gather research from credible sources electronically.
- Use web-based technologies to communicate effectively.
- Use technology and information ethically and legally.
Expectations for students graduating within specific disciplines from Tarleton State University

- Each academic program will define learning outcomes pertaining to required technology literacy in that discipline beyond those of the general University outcomes. Those expectations should be reflected in learning outcomes of identified required courses in that discipline and thus reflected in the master syllabus for that course.
- Each academic program will develop mechanisms to assess student learning outcomes for technology literacy.
- If assessment results indicate improvement is needed, the academic program will develop strategies to modify program curriculum as needed.