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Sent To: Heads of Further and Higher Education
Institutions funded by the English, Scottish
and Welsh Further and Higher Education Funding
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Of Interest To: Librarians and Learning Resource Managers
Directors of Information Services and Systems
Information & Learning Technology Managers
Principal Investigators in Research Teams
JISC Regional Support Centres and JISC Services

JISC Circular 9/04: Summary Information

Call for Projects to Produce Learning Materials for Deposit in the JORUM National Repository – Exchange for Learning (X4L) Phase 2

Introduction

This circular invites consortia of further and higher education institutions to submit funding proposals to make available e-learning resources that are suitable for wider national use through the JORUM Repository and to explore e-learning embedding issues.

The total funding available for this initiative is £800,000 over 18 months, commencing January/February 2005. It is envisaged that each project will be awarded funding of between £150,000 and £200,000. Each bid must include at least one FE and HE institution. Either a college or university may act as the lead institution for the bid. The JISC envisages that the overall bids funded will involve institutions from England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

The aim of the Programme is to build upon the work of the current Exchange for Learning (X4L) Programme by:

- re-purposing¹ and adapting for re-use² publicly-funded content collections and suitable project outputs from previous related programmes to produce learning materials;
- ensuring that the materials meet specific learning objectives in the context of HNCs/HNDs and/or Foundation Degrees in England, Northern Ireland and Wales, HNCs/HNDs in Scotland and other joint degree initiatives to encourage further effective collaboration within existing FE/HE partnerships; and
- exploring and articulating the workflow processes required for successful and sustainable re-purposing and re-use.

The deadline for receipt of proposals is 12 noon on Friday 3rd December 2004. Projects should commence in January or February 2005 and last for a maximum of 18 months.

¹ For the purposes of X4L, the term *re-purposing* means selecting a number of individual assets, for example images, graphs or charts, articles of text, digital animations or video clips, and making them more useful in learning and teaching by adding the learning context to suit a particular course, topic or lesson.

² For the purposes of X4L, the term *re-use* means selecting existing learning materials that have been developed for a particular course, subject or level and using them with minimum modification within a different course, subject or level.

Why this Programme is Important to Your Institution

Involvement in this Programme will allow your institution to consider the embedding issues associated with e-learning. The Programme will inform the UK FE and HE community about the institutional policies and procedures and staff roles required to help embed e-learning. It will also contribute to ensuring a critical mass of e-learning resources is available through a national learning materials repository. X4L Phase 2 provides the opportunity to:

- increase the value of and access to learning materials available in JORUM;
- increase the value of collections of resources that have been digitised as part of public initiatives by re-purposing them for use in a single curriculum area;
- build upon work previously undertaken about the 're-purposing process' and extend this to 're-use', with a particular focus on establishing effective workflow processes.

X4L Programme (Phase 1)

X4L Phase 2 builds on the existing X4L Programme which commenced in 2002. The Programme has four main aims:

- to use and develop the best available tools to explore whether re-purposing content can become a popular, sustainable way of producing e-learning materials for the future;
- to increase the numbers of people in institutions with the necessary skills to re-purpose learning objects;
- to expose and begin to tackle the challenges associated with re-purposing learning objects;
- to begin to populate a national repository with learning materials as well as case studies and exemplars showing how these have been achieved.

Timescales and Funding

The deadline for full proposals is 12 noon on Friday 3rd December 2004. The total funding available is £800,000 over 18 months, commencing January or February 2005. Each project consortia will be awarded funding of up to a maximum of £200,000. Projects with some early outputs that can be used/tested by other projects in the programme are encouraged and will be considered favourably.

Further Details

The full text of this Call for Projects can be found at:

http://www.jisc.ac.uk/funding_circular9_04.html

Enquiries about the content of this circular should be sent to:

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General enquiries about the proposal submission process should be sent to:

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