The Educational Excellence Innovation Fund provides an opportunity for staff and faculty to “dream out loud.”

All submitted proposals must incorporate at least one of the Educational Excellence Innovation Fund Goals:

- Leverage for fund development
- New programs, reflecting Business & Workforce Training;
- New pedagogies, learning styles, and learning communities;
- Program revitalization

**Title of Request:** Redesign and Update of the Moodle Online Writing Center to Support Writing Across the Disciplines for All COM Students

**Requested By (Name and Title):** Ingrid Kelly, Instructor of English; Dr. Alisa Klinger, Instructor of English

**Amount Requested:** $10,000

**Administrative Summary (100 words):**

This proposal seeks to redesign and update the Moodle Online Writing Center (OWC) and to train the staff and students who access it. Because of technological change and advancements in online pedagogy, the Moodle OWC needs to incorporate Web 2.0 tools that better meet the instructional support needs of all COM students. Funds will be used for organization, presentation, communication, and collaboration once the OWC migrates to Moodle. With a renovation of the OWC, COM will provide Distance Education and face-to-face students across the disciplines with online writing support and writing resources for composition, critical thinking, and informational literacy.

**EEIF Goal:**

3. **New pedagogies, learning styles, and learning communities**
   - Introduces new teaching methods, such as utilizing technology and web-based instruction.
   - Implements faculty development of educational web sites.
   - Creates distance learning and on-line options for instructional delivery.

4. **Program revitalization**
   - Adds new components to existing programs.

**Relationship to College Goals:**

This proposal, if approved, would be part of the implementation of the College of Marin Strategic Plan 2009-2012; Strategic Objective 1.2—the three-year plan to develop Distance Education (DE) at the College of Marin. The plan has two intended outcomes: to increase our online course offerings and to improve the rate of student success in DE courses.

A Moodle Online Writing Center would satisfy the recent recommendations 3 & 5 from WASC and from
the October 2010 follow up report of the Accrediting Commission of Junior and Community Colleges on providing support services to students taking Distance Education courses and to IVC students.

**Benefit to College, Students, and Community:**

This project provides both online and face-to-face students from all disciplines and locations with online support services for academic writing while providing individualized one-on-one tutoring students, satisfying current WASC recommendations and the current College Strategic Plan.

With the migration to Moodle, all students will have access to the OWC right from their first log on to the MyCOM portal. This greater accessibility and an unrestricted seat license will finally permit the OWC to seamlessly serve all students in a more interactive way with video and audio, as well as study networking. To more effectively provide online writing support, we believe we need to give the OWC a technological update and redesign, capitalizing on Moodle’s tools for communication and collaboration to bolster peer-to-peer work and to cater to more diverse learning styles than the text-only environment of Blackboard permitted.

The abiding benefits of the Moodle OWC to COM students, staff, and faculty are improved instructional support for writing across the curriculum and informational literacy, as well as enhanced community membership through online writing and study networks.