Status Report

Project Title: Bridging contexts: Creating an online professional development tool for enhancing teacher-family communication
Cornerstone #1
Principal Investigator: Joan Walker, School of Education

May 15, 2012

Mid-Project Reports - Please submit the following:

Original goals:
Leveraging technology’s power to immerse learners in authentic problem-solving contexts, the funding requested here would support the development of an online environment that offers pre- and in-service teachers the chance to confront a series of realistic and increasingly challenging case studies under no-fault conditions. Incorporating rich multimedia resources, the site will function as a support system for teachers seeking to learn more effective ways to navigate complex social interactions and as a tool for collecting data about teacher learning and the development of professional expertise for family involvement. The funding requested here is designed to support (1) the incorporation of existing multimedia materials into a technical infrastructure, (2) pilot testing with pre-service teachers in the Pace School of Education, and (3) pilot testing with K-12 school partners.

What progress have you made towards your original goals on your project to date?
With regard to the above 3 goals: I have been organizing and coding multimedia materials for inclusion into the site. (This process was delayed because video data shot last semester was not available for coding until late February.) I have also worked with my collaborator, Bruno Kavanaugh at 3psmedia, to incorporate the media identified to date into a prototype. Given delays in accessing the video, I was unable to create a test site and pilot it with pre-service teachers in the Pace School of Education. This also delayed my ability to meet the 3rd goal of pilot testing the site with a sample of K-12 teachers.

Has your project impacted students? If so, how many?
Not yet. It will impact approximately 75 Pace School of Education pre-service teachers in fall 2012.

Has your project impacted other faculty members? If so, how many?
Not yet; I have discussed my project with School of Education staff in terms of marketing my learning environment to area K-12 school partners. This is important to achieving my goal of piloting the site in fall 2012 with both K-12 teachers (n = 12) and Pace School of Education pre-service teachers.

What are your next steps?
I am continuing to identify content for the site and develop a prototype with my collaborator, Bruno Kavanaugh. The prototype can be accessed using the following information: http://pace-stage.3psmedia.com
Username: jwalker@pace.edu
Password: jo@nw@lker