

**U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education,
Title III, Part A, Strengthening Institutions Program**
(<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/iduestitle3a/awards.html>)

P031A080080 – Polytechnic University, New York

Project Title: “Increasing Student Enrollment and Retention through Faculty Development and the Infusion of Technology into the Classroom and the Curriculum”

Institution: Polytechnic University is a four-year, private, not-for-profit, coeducational institution with an emphasis in science, engineering and technology. The main campus is located in Brooklyn, New York.

Student Body Characteristics: Total enrollment for 2006-2007 was 3,396 (IPEDS). Forty-eight percent (n = 1,621) of total enrollments were undergraduate. 80 percent of undergraduate students are male; 20 percent are female. 95 percent of undergraduate students attend full-time. Of Polytechnic’s undergraduate students, 30 percent are White, 11 percent are Black, 12 percent are Hispanic, 31 percent are Asian/Pacific Islander, seven percent are unreported, and 10 percent are international.

Faculty Characteristics: Polytechnic employs 142 full-time and 159 part-time faculty. 85 percent of full-time faculty members hold Ph.D.s and 89 percent of faculty members hold terminal degrees. 18 percent of full-time faculty members and 19 percent of part-time faculty members are women. With respect to ethnicity, 24 percent of full-time faculty members and 16 percent of part-time faculty members are members of minority groups. The student-to-faculty ratio is 14-to-1 and the average class size is 20.

Activity Description: Polytechnic University’s proposed activity, “Increasing Student Enrollment and Retention through Faculty Development and the Infusion of Technology into the Classroom and the Curriculum” addresses enrollment and retention problems at the institution by infusing best practices in technology-mediated educational tools into the classroom and the curriculum. Components of this activity include: (1) Establish a Faculty Innovations in Teaching and Learning (FITL) Center; (2) assessment and implementation of a single university-wide course management system; (3) provide technology teaching tools in 40 classrooms / SMART classrooms; (4) provide faculty professional development to 100 full-time faculty in the use of educational technology to enhance teaching and learning; (5) provide 100 faculty with updated laptop computers to enable incorporation of educational technology into curriculum; (6) modify 50 courses to incorporate best practices in educational technology; and (7) upgrade the wireless infrastructure to support student wireless computing program and increase student access to technology-mediated curricular components.

Key Performance Measures: Institutional objectives/key performance measures include an increase of seven percent in undergraduate enrollment over the five-year grant period and an increase of seven percent in the full-time student retention rate over the five-year grant period

Budget: A total of \$1,919,240 is requested over the grant period. Of this, 36 percent is for personnel, including the salary of the Activity Director/Director of the Faculty Innovations in Teaching and Learning (FITL) Center and the Instructional Designer, which will be institutionalized over the course of the grant. 31 percent of the budget is allocated for equipment, including the establishment of the FITL Center and the installation of 40 SMART classrooms. 25 percent of the budget is allocated to contracted services/other, including the upgrade of the wireless network; the evaluation and implementation of the course management system; and the services of an external evaluator to ensure efficient and effective implementation of the grant. Six percent of the budget is allocated for supplies, and three percent is for travel/faculty professional development.