The Challenge:
"A great university must manage and direct change and seek innovation and continuous improvement in response to new opportunities, conditions, and needs." [from Action Strategies: Reshaping the University]

Project description
Universities of today are changing, moving towards a greater reliance on technology in all aspects of their mission; in research, in outreach, and in teaching. Many large universities have made great strides towards effective use of technology in pedagogy; a number of new completely online institutions [such as Capella or Phoenix] have developed to compete with traditional 'bricks and mortar' institutions. At the end of this century, the great universities will be vastly different; much of that change will come through the use of technology for instruction.

Project summary
The new College of Design will analyze current educational use of technology in the new college and develop a plan to increase technology enhanced learning. This continues the work of the eScholarship Task Force of the College of Human Ecology. A number of activities are concurrent with the planning process, and some efforts [proven successful through CHE experience] will begin to increase technology enhanced learning. SPiF funding was received to bridge the CHE activities and the long term effort of the new College of Design; after the initial year, funding will be available to continue the effort.

Goals
The major lesson from the project is that the positive and necessary changes needed to advance technology enhanced scholarship are cultural; we need to advance in all areas of scholarship, and that change must be systemic in our College. Application of new technologies also helps drive change through new capabilities, to be sure, but also advancement occurs through a re-examination and re-planning of our current efforts. We can do more with technology in our teaching. Through the actual process of change, we will improve our performance as well.

Current activities
1. Ongoing planning for increasing acceptance and use of e-scholarship.
2. Funding for faculty professional development.
3. Support for TEL conference attendance to faculty.
4. Funding to encourage grad student training for WebCT.
5. Seed grants for faculty TEL grant.
6. Major grants for eScholarship work.

Further info:
CHE eScholarship wiki: [archived]
http://www.tc.umn.edu/~brad/escholarship/

CDes eScholarship wiki:
https://wiki.umn.edu/twiki/bin/view/CDesEscholarship

email: brad@umn.edu