

Request for CoC Instructional Funds

Information	
Name:	Bill Leahy
Date:	10/30/13
Title:	Computational Improv
Courses:	CS4803
Amount Requested:	\$9,000

Elevator Pitch	
<i>Narrative:</i>	<p>This class explores the use of computers and digital media in a real time improvisational environment. Students will learn the basic concepts of improv and then design software, so that, for example, digital images can interact with live performers on stage during an improv (i.e. non-scripted) show. The hardware and software developed during the class is used at the end of the semester in a live improv performance with real actors. They gain real world experience designing and producing an artifact that will be used in an actual live, unscripted performance. Students learn the fundamentals of improvisation and collaborate with professional actors who may be non-technical in order to gain real world experience of working with users who may have a different agenda than the CS and CM student.</p> <p>In spring 2010, we faced many challenges due to the lack of availability for the appropriate equipment. The complexity of borrowed equipment became a distraction for the class due to availability as well as students having to use their personal laptops and cameras which may have not been at the required specification. Thus, the use of the special equipment such as video cameras, high performance laptops, and mixer boards will capture and enhance the overall experience as well as generate excitement and learning among the students.</p>