

# ***TECHNOLOGY FOR TEACHING PROPOSAL***

***BRAD BALDWIN***  
***BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT***  
***9-26-01***

---

## **Electronic Image Library of North Country Biodiversity**

**Project Goals:** To increase my classroom use of student-gathered images and to produce a class web site that uses these images for learning beyond the classroom.

**Descriptive Narrative:** During the course of active learning projects, my students collect a variety of still and video images that they incorporate into lab reports and video documentaries. I have used more of these projects in the last few years since, in effect, they extend and increase student contact time with live organisms and field habitats here in the north country. Another benefit of this work is the establishment of a rich image library that I can use in classroom lectures and discussions. However, there are two ways in which I can further capitalize on this visual information. First, I could simply use more of these images if I had more time to review video tapes and digitize and edit video clips for use in powerpoint presentations. Second, I could extend student learning if I could assemble more still and video images on a class web site (e.g. my Invertebrate Biology course) that students could use outside of classtime. Taken a step further, such a web site could provide instructors and students at other institutions with visual information (on north country habitats and biodiversity) that can be contrasted with that of their own. In fact, several colleagues have indicated an interest in using such a site and developing one of their own that I might use to aid instruction. Beyond the use of images of habitats and live organisms, our web site could also provide a link to a "virtual museum" comprised of images we take of the vast number of preserved invertebrates we currently house in our Biology Department museum. This would increase the biodiversity value of our web site and serve as a new class exercise where my students work with preserved specimens and increase their learning of biodiversity.

**Project Needs:** At minimum I would like to have a paid student that could (a) digitize, edit, and archive video clips and (b) help me design a web site that uses selected still and video clip imagery. I estimate that each student (or one student that does both jobs) would work for at least one month at 4-6 hrs/week at an hourly rate of about \$6.50/hr for a total of nearly \$315. I would also like IT to install the new program Premier on both of my lab PCs so these student assistants and my own class students can capture and edit images with the latest IT supported software. Likewise, I would like IT to review and upgrade the hardware on these PCs to ensure that these machines work efficiently with Premier. I am not certain of what costs these requests might entail but they are covered at least in part in another TTP proposal submitted by E. Barthelmess of Biology.

**Anticipated Outcomes:** As discussed above, this project will maximize the potential learning my students can do with the visual information they collect in class projects. I will be able to use more of our still and video imagery in class presentations and my students and professional colleagues will be able to extend their learning via an effective class web site.

**Curricular Impact:** This project will increase student learning in an existing Biology course. It is not meant to initiate a new course but it will increase the value of a current curricular direction.