



Information Technology and Distance Education Team

UNH Cooperative Extension Mission:

"UNH Cooperative Extension provides New Hampshire citizens with research-based education and information, enhancing their ability to make informed decisions that strengthen youth, families and communities, sustain natural resources, and improve the economy."

Principles:

- The Information Technology and Distance Education Team facilitates UNH Cooperative Extension in achieving its stated mission.
- By providing technological support, resources and training and establishing standards for technology-related purchases, the ITDE Team allows Extension Educators, Specialists, and other staff to focus on their core educational objectives.
- The ITDE Team works closely with appropriate staff to determine how to best support educational program delivery, information dissemination, internal communications and processes, marketing, and external relations.
- Internal communication, teamwork, and cross-training are essential for the relatively small ITDE team to address the broad range of IT issues of the organization.
- The ITDE Team's efforts are directed towards the accomplishment of the mission, not towards technology as an end unto itself.

Vision (from Communications/Technology Strategic Plan):

We envision communications/technologies playing a vital role in assisting UNH Cooperative Extension in accomplishing its mission.

Program Delivery - We envision UNH Cooperative Extension staff will use appropriate electronic technologies to deliver local, state, regional, and national programs to diverse clientele.

Electronic Access to Resources - We envision UNH Cooperative Extension staff will have local access to the resources, i.e. hardware/software, networks, databases, libraries, satellites and information, necessary for professional development, effective communications and program development.

Training and Support - We envision all UNH Cooperative Extension staff will be successfully trained and supported by the Extension CIT Staff and other available resources.

Technology Outreach - We envision UNH Cooperative Extension CIT Staff in conjunction with Extension Educators will assist traditional and "virtual" electronic communities in realizing the benefits and intricacies of establishing networks linked together through the Internet, and will train community leaders and volunteers to utilize them effectively.

Goals (from CommTech Strategic Plan):

1. Maintain and upgrade appropriate computer and other electronic delivery/access systems congruent with UNH systems and those employed by other educational institutions, organizations, consortia, businesses and networks.
Site visits, network administration, upgrade plans.
2. Design, develop, maintain and upgrade appropriate administrative and management computing systems for efficient and effective communications and the processing of administrative and management information and data.
Programming (Web apps, Access, other), Blue Ribbon.
3. Enhance public accessibility to Extension information, research and educational programs and materials through electronic technologies.
Website, Picture-Tel, Blackboard, other technologies.
4. Establish and maintain appropriate distance education, video and other electronic delivery/access systems congruent with UNH systems and those employed by other educational institutions, organizations, consortia, businesses and networks.
Collaborations (GSDLN, ADEC, NHPTV, etc.)
5. Enhance staff access to information and training resources and delivery of educational programs, information, and research to their audiences through distance education and television-based technologies.
Provide access to on-line and satellite training, lending library, computer-based training, training in instructional design and production.
6. Strengthen communities and organizations in the areas of infrastructure development, capacity building, and utilization as they relate to communications technology education.
Outside contacts with communities and organizations.
7. Enhance UNHCE staff understanding and usage of electronic technologies in instruction, administration, and delivery of information and research.
Training classes, core competencies, self-assessment tools, lending library
8. Establish hardware/software recommendations and network standards for each office/department and for groups of individuals.
Develop standards, work with counties and administration to secure resources.
9. Identify and secure the resources necessary for UNHCE support and training in the many areas of communications/technologies.
Identify required resources to support mission.

* *Items in italics are typical tasks which are currently addressing the identified goals.*