TED SIG Panel: Cross-institutional collaborative projects for teachers
The CALICO Teacher Ed SIG

20 May 2011 CALICO Symposium @ the University of Victoria * Kathryn Murphy-Judy, Virginia Commonwealth University
The TED panel topic: the design, implementation and assessment of cross-institutional collaborative projects.

- The various stages of their projects, beginning with ideas for collaboration and finding a collaborating institution,
- The implementation of the projects and the selection of appropriate technological tools,
- The assessment of the outcomes.
- Audience questions and ideas for their own collaborative projects.
The Virginia WL Teacher Educator Consortium

Impetus for the consortium:

Soon after completing the 2007 CALICO monograph on teacher preparation, several of the authors (Murphy-Judy, Kassen, Shrum et al., Franklin, Cummins) realized that a core group hailed from the Commonwealth of Virginia and nearby. We met at other scholarly venues (ACTFL, FLAVA) soon after and realized that we had momentum to build a consortium to improve WL teacher education in the Commonwealth by better communications among ourselves and our programs.

We invited every faculty member we could locate in Virginia to join this group to share information and resources and, importantly, to aggregate up-to-date information on World Language Teacher Education and Preparation in the Commonwealth. The state DOE Specialist joined and soon thereafter brought in the district supervisors.
Our modes of communication

- Email to set up presentations at FLAVA, ACTFL, LTE
- Email to set up meetings at ACTFL
- **Creation and upkeep of our wiki**
  - Invitation of ALL teacher ed faculty and administrators in VA
  - Information, curricula, policies, presentations
  - VA DOE --> statewide supervisors of PreK-12 programs
- Google docs
Consortium lignes de fuite

- FLAVA meeting 2010 the State of the State--Major issues facing us:
  - budget cuts,
  - low enrollments,
  - new teacher retention,
  - adequate and up-to-date technology/media training.
New project

- In response, we are looking to create teacher education modules to be shared by consortium members (we have a wealth of expertise to share) as well as to coordinate and link teacher education cohorts, especially in programs with low enrollment.

- Part of the method to our madness is to use social media to better learn how to teach with it and to train upcoming teachers in it, to help ease our teaching burden by sharing resources, to role model collaborative teaching/learning by doing it ourselves, and to offer our students communities of learning and practice beyond the local.

- Perhaps such communities will help us address the low enrollments in teacher preparation programs and/or the new teacher attrition rate by framing a new way to find support.
Our grant proposal

• 1) **An expanded wiki** serving as project website will provide added structures for on-going collaboration by higher education institutions (HEIs) with each other, with the state and local supervisors, and with the Foreign Language Association of Virginia (FLAVA). Tasks involved in expanding the wiki will take place primarily during the first two years of the project.

• 2) **Design online courses and modules** for use in faculty members’ online and hybrid courses and in programs at any and all institutions in the consortium. Training in the development and teaching of online courses will be provided.

• 3) **Proficiency workshops** will complement the courses and modules in order to prepare university faculty to rate their pre-service and in-service teachers.
Thank you.
Any questions or comments, please address to: kmurphyj@me.com

May 20, 2011
CALICO
University of Victoria