



COLLEGE OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY
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August 15, 2012

AASHE STARS Staff
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RE: Innovation Credit

Dear Colleagues,

In compliance with the protocol for submission of STARS credits under the Innovation credit, I can affirm that *GeoMobile*, a mobile learning initiative, has undergone development and initial usability testing at Ball State University.

GeoMobile is a smart phone-based learning experience that employs existing apps (GPS, code readers, web browsers) and original web pages to help users learn about location-specific energy systems on campus. Starting with a set of coordinates and a clue (much like GeoCaching), students work in small groups to locate a barcode positioned at a specific site on campus. They scan the code with their phone and the code connects users to a Web page that has several essential questions about the energy system installed on the site. Working together, the group navigates the Web to learn more.

During the 2012 spring semester, usability tests were completed with 11 undergraduate students outside of the confines of a formal classroom. Initial results of field testing indicate learning gains regarding the coal-fired heat plant, geothermal energy system, and daylighting applications. In addition, users indicated positive reactions to the use of cell phones as a learning tool and suggested more extensive use of audio and video files. Upon revision, *GeoMobile* may be adopted for formal class activities or deployed as a tour for visitors to Ball State's campus.

If you have desire additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Professionally,

Mary Annette Rose
Associate Professor
Department of Technology
Ball State University