Appendix H: UCAT Participation in Funded Projects

The Ohio’s STEM Ability Alliance (OSAA), supported through five-year Regional Alliance in Disability Education (RDE) Grants # HRD-0833561 & HRD-0833644, is providing partial funding for one UCAT staff member. Through OSAA, UCAT organized and facilitated a professional/faculty Learning Community, in parallel with the UCAT OSTEP program, to assist academic and Student Life Disability Services (formerly the Office for Disability Services) advisors in enhancing advising skills and support for STEM students with disabilities.

The Ohio State University Campus Suicide Prevention Program, was funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). This effort is developing a comprehensive, effective, culturally responsive, and sustainable system of suicide prevention for students at The Ohio State University. The program links both the academic and services sides of the University and engages more than 30 campus and community partners. UCAT contributed 5% of Stephanie Rohdieck’s time as key personnel as part of the in-kind match for this grant.

GeoGames—A Virtual Simulation Workbench for Teaching and Learning through a Real-World Spatial Perspective. This exploration project addressed the innovative use of geospatial and gaming technology for teaching and learning of complex interdisciplinary subjects. Building on the existing “GeoGame” prototype framework, the project developed and designed a web-based platform that merged Massive Multi-player Online Game (MMOG) software with online Geographic Information Systems (GIS), creating a learning environment that allowed users to easily blend, experiment and interact with real-world data and simulation models. The project had a rigorous, pre-test and post-test assessment of the impact of the platform on student learning, engagement, and attitudes towards subjects taught. Kathryn Plank served as a co-Principal Investigator, providing expertise on the teaching, learning, and assessment elements of the project.

Create eLearning in NIFA Challenge Areas to Transform Education of Controlled Environment Animal Production (eCEAP) For Sustainability. Alan Kalish and Teresa Johnson are key personnel on this recently funded project. It is funded by USDA, began on June 1, 2014, and will create new eLearning modules in National Institute of Food & Agriculture (NIFA) challenge areas related to animal production. Larger and more concentrated animal farming operations face significant challenges effecting their viability and sustainability, including climate change concerns, animal welfare issues, and increasing energy cost. Research has
been conducted to develop knowledge-based and technological solutions to the emerging critical challenges. However, current curricula on environmental control of animal facilities have not yet incorporated these research findings. This project will develop eLearning curricula on Controlled Environment Animal Production (eCEAP) for addressing the aforementioned emerging challenges. UCAT will provide project faculty with Course Design instruction and will lead assessment efforts.