Have a Homework Question?

Now students can justify asking Mom and Dad for that new cellphone! Prof. Will Schleter is currently working on a Project RITE (Research of Instructional Technology in Education) grant from UT’s Office of Instructional Technology (OIT) to incorporate picture messaging into the online homework and discussion board systems used in EF classes. The resulting system will allow students to easily send a picture of their written homework to the web site to allow professors and GTAs to help with questions. The system will also allow on-line annotation of pictures. A link to the blog describing the implementation progress and details is available on the EF web site — http://ef.engr.utk.edu.

Low-tech Collaboration with White Boards

In a meeting with the Tennessee Teaching and Learning Center, the Engineering Fundamentals faculty described a recitation on vectors in which they covered the table with a 36 inch wide piece of graph paper roll, had students draw out vectors, components, and sums of vectors, and how this helped the students work together. The Teaching and Learning Center staff suggested getting a white board for each table, so students could more easily work together on all recitations. We bought a $10 32 in. x 48 in. white board for each table for use in the recitation sections. Anecdotally, we see students collaborating much more, more interaction between the graduate teaching assistants and the students, and we have received good comments from the students. We also have been favored with some great doodling sketches.

Engineering Fundamentals Searching for Lecturer

The Engineering Fundamentals Division is searching for a full-time lecturer to start in August 2011. See the EF web site — http://ef.engr.utk.edu — for details. Please encourage anyone you know who may be interested to apply.