Electronic Classroom Technologies Improve Student Learning

**The Need:** New educational technologies are replacing blackboards, chalk and even the way dialogue occurs in a classroom. A number of new tools are available to teachers and Extension agents, but these educators often are not aware of or proficient in the use of these technologies. There is a need for systematic high-quality instruction in how to use technology in teaching.

**Serving the Need:** Dr. Gary Moore of the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education has launched an integrated program of teaching, research and service to improve the use of technology by educators. Here is a snapshot of his activities.

- In addition to teaching “Information Technologies in Agricultural and Extension Education,” Moore recently started teaching “Computer Applications and Information Technology in Agriculture and Extension.” He has upgraded both courses to focus on the latest instructional technologies and has secured the equipment necessary to provide hands-on demonstration of the new tools.

- Moore also teaches digital video production, how to use an electronic classroom response system (“clickers” that allow students to answer questions and enable enhanced data collection by teachers), video conferencing technology, how to produce educational materials on CD and DVD, advanced PowerPoint techniques and Web page design.

**Impact beyond North Carolina:** Research conducted on one of the electronic classroom response systems reveals that students gain half a grade on their test scores and have a more positive attitude toward their teachers as a result of using this technology. This is just one example of how training teachers in new technologies can result in improved student learning.

**For more information, contact:** Dr. Gary Moore, Department of Agricultural and Extension Education, at 919-515-1756 or gary_moore@ncsu.edu.