HFOSS: HUMANITARIAN OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE IN

THE COLLEGE CLASSROOM*

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

Sean Patrick Goggins
Assistant Professor, Sociotechnical Data Scientist
University of Missouri
The iSchool at Missouri
MU Informatics Institute

"Working in an OSS environment has helped teach me the importance of documentation and how development outside of college works. ... I finally got a feel for what is expected of me as a software engineer…. I appreciate the lessons learned in this class because it was a real-life experience in the work field as opposed to studying theoretical approaches and practicing writing programs which will never be used again." Senior student, Western New England College, December, 2010.

Experience with undergraduate participation in Humanitarian Free and Open Source Software (HFOSS) demonstrates potential to: a) motivate students, b) create excellent learning opportunities, and c) help attract and retain female students. This project, OpenFE, for Open source Faculty Expertise, will develop faculty expertise in participating in HFOSS projects and create and evaluate learning materials needed to apply the HFOSS approach to diverse settings including community colleges. This workshop will provide an introduction to current projects and approaches, sharing access to resources developed through our project team over the past five years.

Sean Goggins is an Assistant Professor at the University of Missouri, Columbia, MO. where he is a member of the faculty in the School of Information Science and Learning Technologies and the University of Missouri Informatics Institute. He is involved in doctoral education for both the school and institute, including the development and leading of seminar courses and writing groups

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"I think of myself as a social informatics researcher, which means that I am principally motivated by how information and communication technologies shape society, changes the way influence occurs, affects leadership and alters the relationships between individuals, small groups, social networks, communities and organizations.

My teaching and research focus on theoretically informed data science, modeling and prediction in learning, collaboration, disaster response and other high dimensional socio-technical domains. A premise of my work, and my contribution to method, theory and knowledge so far focuses on inquiry at the small group unit of analysis in small to large scale social computing systems."