Electronic Texts Pilot for Fall 2013

November 30, 2012, Email to Current Participants and Interested Institutions

EDUCAUSE and Internet2 continue to collaborate on a series of pilot efforts to evaluate diverse technologies and business models as textbooks evolve from print to electronic form. We plan to offer several options in a fourth pilot scheduled for the Fall 2013 semester, each available under a simple “Evaluation Pilot Participation Agreement.” We expect to provide the formal application for this pilot, along with more detailed information about the effort, at the end of January 2013.

We need your feedback on new eText pilot options! Please share your thoughts on any publishers and commercial or homegrown eReader platforms that you would like us to consider for the Fall 2013 pilot or beyond. Email your suggestions to us at eText-Pilot@internet2.edu no later than Friday, December 7.

For example, University of Illinois, one of our member institutions, has proposed that we include an eReader platform it developed in house as one of the pilot options. A two-minute video available at https://etext.illinois.edu describes its eReader functions and features succinctly. See also the attached document for more information about the University of Illinois’ eText.

We will plan to conduct a poll during the week of December 10th to determine which options the community is most interested in evaluating through a pilot program. As you think about options to propose as well as potential participation in the Fall 2013 pilot, please remember that technology accessibility for persons with disabilities remains a key consideration in this area for all colleges and universities.

Sincerely,
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