



# NKU program embraces iPad

By Howard McEwen • Enquirer contributor • May 22, 2010

**HIGHLAND HEIGHTS** - The iPad is coming to Northern Kentucky University.

Students entering the Northern Kentucky University Master of Science in Executive Leadership and Organizational Change (ELOC) program this fall will receive Apple's tablet computer for use in the classroom.

"Forward-thinking schools are focusing on e-learning," said Kenneth Rhee, director of the ELOC program. "We want to be at the front edge. There is a lot of potential for what this can do. The iPad offers numerous opportunities to students. Students will use the iPad to read course materials and books, take notes, study, and collaborate with cohorts and instructors. Students will also be able to use their iPads outside the classroom."

ELOC is a two-year graduate-level program that prepares students to become transformational leaders, said Rhee.

"The ELOC program focuses on leadership and organizational change as the key components of effective management," he said.

The iPad was chosen because of its small size and convenience but also because it is the latest technology.

technology not only into their school lives but also into their work and personal lives," said Sigler. "It is all about adaptability."

The approximately 25 students will be receiving the 16MB iPad with wi-fi capability. Apple provides discounts on the iPad to institutions of higher education.

NKU's Office of Information Technology (OIT) is working with the ELOC program to create applications for the iPad.

"The ELOC program's use of the iPad will contribute to an existing body of knowledge that the NKU Office of Information Technology is compiling for mobile development and learning," said Tim Ferguson, NKU's chief information officer. "As NKU's OIT prepared to release its first version of iNKU, NKU's mobile app, there was increased focus and attention placed upon these new technologies and the adoption of pedagogies to accompany them."

"Although the adoption of iPads for the ELOC program is not being treated as a pilot study, NKU, as an institution, will be able to realize some of the ways that iPads can be used to enhance learning."

Ferguson said students want the ability to access materials anytime, anywhere.

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"These applications will enhance faculty and student interactions as well as students' interactions with one another, and students' options for studying, taking notes and more."

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