



**STUDENT TECHNOLOGY FEE  
GRANT PROPOSAL REQUEST FORM  
FISCAL YEAR 2023-24**

**ALL BLANKS MUST BE FILLED COMPLETELY**

Prepared by: Douglas Landry for Veterinary Technology

Department/Unit: Veterinary Technology / STEM College: Arts & Sciences Campus: Natchitoches

Which NSTEP Goals/Objectives does this project meet? 1, 3, & 9

Requested equipment will be located/installed/housed? Bldg Bienvenu Room 102 & 106

Does the department receive lab fees? YES  NO

Are department property policies and procedures in place for requested equipment? Yes

Which individual will be responsible for property control of the requested equipment?

Signature: *Douglas Landry* Date: 11/13/23

Proposal Requested Amount: \$9,283.35 Budget Attached: YES  NO

Email completed request to Chris Brumley at [brumleyc@nsula.edu](mailto:brumleyc@nsula.edu)

Funding from the Student Technology Fee is allocating funds to departments and individual grants, awarded on a competitive basis, which advance the teaching/learning process within the mission of the University. All requests will be considered in this context, as articulated herein and as reflected in the unit's technology plan. Proposals should enable or enhance the ability of Northwestern students to access and assimilate large mounts of information, further their professional competence, and provide state of the art technologies in their field. The nature of, and rationale for, a request for student technology fee allocation must be consistent with the University's and requesting unit's technology plan.

- Grant applications must be submitted by November 16th at 4:00 pm
- Funding decisions will be made during the month of December 2023
- If your grant is approved by STAT, you will be informed via email

## **STUDENT TECHNOLOGY FEE GRANT PROPOSAL REQUEST FORM GUIDELINES**

The proposal must include all specifications, descriptions, model numbers, quotations, cost, state contract numbers, and vendors for each item. If the proposal does not include all requested information, it will be returned.

1. Describe target audience.
2. Describe project/initiative for which you are requesting funds.
3. State measurable objective that will be used to determine the impact/effectiveness of the project.
4. Indicate how each project objective will be evaluated.
5. If funded, which NSTEP objective(s) will funding of this project advance? How will funding of the project advance the University and College/unit technology plan?
6. Provide a justification for funding of this project. Estimate the number of students that will be served per academic year and in what ways. Please indicate also any unique needs of the target group.
7. List those individuals who will be responsible for the implementation of the project/initiative and indicate their demonstrated abilities to accomplish the objectives of the project.
8. Describe any personnel (technical or otherwise) required to support the project/initiative.
9. Provide a schedule for the implementation and evaluation.
10. Estimate the expected life of hardware and software. Explain any anticipated equipment/software upgrades during the next five (5) years.
11. Explain in detail a plan and policy that will be in place to ensure property security/controls for any equipment received through the Student Technology Fee. If you are requesting equipment that will either be checked out to students or moved within the department, you must provide a checkout/loan policy.
12. Does the department that is requesting equipment receive lab fees? If so, please provide a justification for requesting funds from the Student Technology Fee over using lab fees from your department.
13. Attach a detailed budget.
14. Attach two (2) letters of support for the project from the following individuals: the requesting department's Dean, the appropriate Vice President or student request, the SGA President from the requesting campus.

# STUDENT TECHNOLOGY FEE GRANT: VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY

## 1. Describe target audience.

The veterinary technology program offers an Associate Degree as well as a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology with a concentration in Veterinary Technology. Enrollment in the veterinary technology curriculum was approximately 150 students this fall, with many of the students double majoring to include the A.D. and B.S. degree options. We are currently maintaining our enrollment that varies between 140-170 student annually. Our current enrollment approaches the maximum number of students current faculty and staff levels can accommodate within the parameters set forth by our accrediting agency. Graduates of these programs are eligible to sit for the National Veterinary Technician Examination (VTNE) to become Registered Veterinary Technicians or Technologists. The curriculum requires teaching a detailed list of hands-on skills in laboratories to meet the guidelines of our accrediting body, the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA).

The requested equipment would be utilized by all students within the program and at multiple levels of the curriculum. The laboratory courses VTEC 1011, 1031, 2091, 3201, and 3701 would integrate the requested equipment into labs that train students in the essential skills required by our accrediting agency that are necessary for competent veterinary technicians. These courses are required of all students majoring in Veterinary Technology and train students in skills involving animal positioning and restraint that animal mannikins will facilitate. These positioning and restraint skills are utilized throughout the program curriculum and will be continually used within the clinical profession. The breath and heart sound stimulation device will also be used in VTEC 1011, 1031, and 2091 as these laboratories train students in physical exam skills and anatomy and physiology. The canine dental technician package will be used in VTEC 2091, 3201, and 3701 laboratories to train students in dental anatomy, radiography, and cleaning/prophylaxis. These courses require that students perform tasks which resemble those skills performed daily by veterinary technicians in veterinary hospitals.

## 2. Describe project/initiative for which you are requesting funds.

We are requesting funds to replace our current animal mannikin model that is deteriorating and is not as anatomically correct compared to the proposed model for teaching animal positioning and restraint. Students enrolled in VTEC 1011 & 1031, Introduction to Veterinary Technology 1 & 2, are required to learn these essential skills. It will also be used by upper-level students in VTEC 3701, Veterinary Technology Radiology, to learn to properly position animals for various radiographic views when a live patient isn't necessary. The breath and heart sound simulator will be used by students in VTEC 1011, 1031, and 2091, Introduction to Veterinary Technology 1 & 2 and Anatomy & Physiology. Students must learn what normal and pathologic cardiac and pulmonary sounds are during thoracic auscultation. Most of the patients our students see at the university have normal thoracic heart and respiratory sounds, but this simulator will allow students to hear what pulmonary crackles and wheezes as well as various heart murmurs and arrhythmias sound like. The dental technician model package will be utilized by students enrolled in VTEC 2091, 3201, and 3701. In VTEC 2091 (Anatomy & Physiology), students learn proper anatomy and terminology related to dentition as well as the Triadan numbering system to chart dental abnormalities. In VTEC 3201 (Veterinary Hospital Technology 2 - Anesthesia & Surgery), students will utilize the model to learn proper intubation techniques on the model prior to performing endotracheal intubation in live animal patients requiring gas

## STUDENT TECHNOLOGY FEE GRANT: VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY

anesthesia for surgery. This model also allows for the mandible to be replaced and used as a simulation for performing dental cleaning/prophylaxis procedures prior to students performing this procedure on live animal patients. In VTEC 3701 (Veterinary Technology Radiography), students will utilize the model to learn dental radiography procedures prior to performing radiographs on patients requiring dental procedures in VTEC 3201. Graduates in the workplace perform these procedures daily on patients and they are required essential skills dictated by the AVMA. These models and mannikins will allow students to train on more realistic and versatile simulators compared to those the department currently has available.

### **3. State measurable objectives that will be used to determine the impact/effectiveness of the project.**

- a. Each equipment item will be set up to be readily accessible to students enrolled in the referenced laboratory courses.
- b. Students will be instructed in the care and use of the equipment and will have the experience of using the equipment to simulate procedures that will be performed on live animal patients in the future.
- c. Course syllabi will be updated to reflect the use of this equipment.
- d. Quizzes and examinations will be administered to each student enrolled in the laboratory courses directly using this equipment for both instruction and graded practical exams.
- e. Students are required to perform and are evaluated on these technical skills during internships completed in veterinary hospitals prior to graduation.

### **4. Indicate how each project objective will be evaluated.**

- a. The laboratory will be inspected and maintained by instructors to ensure that the requested equipment items are properly placed, maintained, and used appropriately in VTEC 1011, 1031, 2091, 3201, and 3701.
- b. The syllabi will be compared to existing syllabi to ensure that updated instructions regarding use of the equipment items are included.
- c. Student examinations will be evaluated by instructors to determine that student acquisition of skills is occurring. Documentation of student acquisition of essential skills will be maintained for each student enrolled in these laboratories as mandated by our accrediting agency.
- d. Instructors will utilize this equipment and models during quizzes and practical exams in these courses relating to animal restraint and positioning, normal and abnormal thoracic auscultation, endotracheal intubation, and dental prophylaxis techniques and radiology. These quizzes and practical exams have an impact on their final grade in the course.
- e. Students are assessed on their performance of these technical skills during a final evaluation completed by supervisors at the completion of internships in veterinary hospitals prior to graduation.

## STUDENT TECHNOLOGY FEE GRANT: VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY

**5. If funded, which NSTEP <http://www.nsula.edu/nstep/NSTEP.pdf> objective(s) will this funding of this project advance? How will funding of the project advance the University and College/unit technology plan?**

- a. This project will advance the following NSTEP objectives:
  1. *To improve access to technology by students, faculty, and staff at Northwestern State University.* Specifically, to expose students to modern veterinary training equipment, train them in its use, and give them basic essential skills required in their post-graduate veterinary careers.
  3. *To upgrade laboratories with modern technology.* Specifically, to use modern mannikins, models, and simulators appropriate for current "state-of-the-art" training in veterinary medicine and technology.
  9. *To provide and support hardware and software upgrades, new hardware and software for specialized functions, training for technical support personnel.* Specifically, the equipment item requested represents functions specialized for modern veterinary medicine and the training of personnel for the workplace.
  
- b. This project will advance the following University and College of Science, Technology, and Business goals:
  1. *Goal 1: Northwestern State University will endeavor to create and maintain a responsive, student-oriented environment.* Specifically, by providing the latest technological advances in veterinary medicine to student instruction, we will respond to the student's need to be well educated in veterinary technology.
  2. *Goal 2: Northwestern State University will provide programs, services, and operations throughout the University of high quality and effectiveness.* Specifically, the Veterinary Technology program is fully accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association. Providing modern technological equipment for student instruction illustrates that we care to provide a high quality educational experience for our students so that they are well prepared for board examinations and a career in veterinary medicine.

**6. Provide a justification for funding of this project. Estimate the number of student that will be served per academic year and in what ways. Please indicate also any unique needs of the target group.**

Veterinary medicine capabilities and technologies continue to advance at a rapid rate. This fact requires that instructors who educate Veterinary Technicians keep pace with advancements to provide the best education for our students. The Veterinary Technology Program enrollment is approximately 150 students during our most recent count. All students in the program are required to take each of the courses in which this equipment will be used. Enrollment in these courses varies annually but the range is as follows: VTEC 1011 - 40 to 60 students; VTEC 1031 - 25 to 35 students; VTEC 2091 - 20 to 35 students; VTEC 3201- 15 to 24 students; VTEC 3701- 18 to 24 students.

The NSU Veterinary Technology Program serves to educate students who will become Registered Veterinary Technicians after successfully completing the National Veterinary Technician Examination and applying for licensing. This program helps fill a nation-wide

## STUDENT TECHNOLOGY FEE GRANT: VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY

shortage of veterinary technicians. It is a necessity that we have the equipment available to train our students well, so that they will be prepared for their internships and role in the workplace. The equipment items requested are essential if we are to continue providing modern excellence in Veterinary Technology education.

### **7. List those individuals who will be responsible for the implementation of the project/initiative and indicate their demonstrated abilities to accomplish the objectives of the project.**

- a. Dr. Douglas Landry, a veterinarian, has over 20 years of professional experience, and 3 years of experience in teaching veterinary technology students.
- b. Dr. Kaleigh MacQueen, a veterinarian, has over 6 years professional experience, and 3 years of experience in teaching veterinary technology students.
- c. Ms. Katie Gill Coody, a 2008 graduate of NSU in Veterinary Technology, is a Registered Veterinary Technician with over 16 years clinical experience and is in her twelfth year of teaching and assisting in laboratories at NSU.
- d. Ms. Lauren Leger, a 2014 graduate of NSU in Veterinary Technology, is a Registered Veterinary Technician with over 9 years of clinical experience and is in her eighth year of teaching and assisting in laboratories at NSU.

All are well experienced with the use, handling, care, and capability of each of these equipment items used for teaching and in practical clinical veterinary applications.

### **8. Describe any personnel (technical or otherwise) required to support the project/initiative.**

No special installation is required. The equipment items will require minimal assembly, which can be accomplished by instructors.

### **9. Provide a schedule for implementation and evaluation.**

The equipment items will be ordered when funding becomes available. The mannikin and dental model are made to order. Current shipment from VSI estimates the Canine Dental Technician Model can be delivered 2 months after order/payment and Thales and Co estimates the Rescue Critters Mannikin and Breath/Heart Sound Simulator can be delivered approximately 5 months after order/payment. VTEC 1011 and 2091 are taught during the fall semester and VTEC 1031, 3201, and 3701 are taught during the spring semester, so the equipment will begin being utilized as soon as it is received. The equipment will be used by all veterinary technology students by fall 2024 based upon current shipment estimates and evaluation methods of the project fully implemented.

## STUDENT TECHNOLOGY FEE GRANT: VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY

**10. Estimate the expected life of hardware and software. Explain any anticipated equipment/software upgrades during the next five years.**

These equipment items are expected to last more than ten years with proper care and maintenance. Current animal mannikins have been used by the program for as many as fifteen years. Veterinary technology faculty/staff emphasize proper care of equipment to the students as that is also a valuable skill in the veterinary hospital setting.

**11. Explain in detail a plan and policy that will be in place to ensure property security/controls for any equipment received through a Student Technology Fee. If you are requesting equipment that will be either/or checkout to students or moved within the department, you must provide a checkout/loan policy.**

The items are tracked annually through departmental inventory. The laboratories where the equipment will be housed always remain locked unless the laboratory is in use for teaching purposes. The equipment will not be used outside the laboratory. No loss of equipment has occurred from this laboratory in the previous 30 years it has been used for teaching these laboratory courses.

**12. Does the department that is requesting equipment receive lab fees? If so, please provide a justification for requesting funds from tech fee funds over using lab fees from your department.**

Veterinary Technology does receive student assessed lab fees. However, the total amount averages about \$7,000 per academic year. Veterinary technology laboratory courses involve extensive use of expendable medicines and medical supplies, like bandage materials, syringes/needles, gloves, and medications needed to successfully anesthetize animals to perform surgical procedures, diagnostic testing kits, supplies to run diagnostic laboratory machines, etc. Because these materials are one-use items, we must spend lab fee funds to restock these supplies each year. We do not receive funds in the amount necessary to purchase equipment items and models such as these.

**13. Attach a detailed budget.**

A detailed budget follows.

**14. Attach two (2) letters of support for the project from the following individuals: the requesting department's Dean, the appropriate Vice President or for student request, the SGA President from the requesting campus.**

Letters of support are attached.

# STUDENT TECHNOLOGY FEE GRANT: VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY

## Budget Summary:

Qty	Item #	Description	Unit Price	Ext. Price
1	#300	Advanced Canine Positioning Mannikin - Emily	\$3,269.90	\$3,269.90
1	#800/801	Canine Breath/Heart Sound Simulator	\$1,327.00	\$1,327.00
1	K9-Dental Tech- PKG	Canine Dental Technician Package	\$4,686.45	\$4,686.45
		Total		\$9,283.35

1. The mannikin must be the size of a large canine and have fully articulated limbs and joints with at least 90-degree range of motion.
2. The canine breath and heart sound simulator must be able to recreate normal and abnormal heart and respiratory sounds including: crackles, wheezes, pleural friction rubs, pulmonary edema, heart murmurs (mitral regurgitation, aortic/pulmonary stenosis, patent ductus arteriosus), and arrhythmias (atrial fibrillation, ventricular premature contractions)
3. The canine dental technician model must include anatomically correct dentition, tongue, epiglottis, esophagus, and trachea to allow for endotracheal intubation. The simulated bone must be covered by soft rubber gums. The model must have replaceable jaws to allow for practicing dental cleaning and a radiodense set to allow dental radiographs to be taken.



Thales & Co., LLC. dba Rescue Critters

1885 Surveyor Ave. Ste. 101  
 Simi Valley, CA 93063

# Estimate

Date	Estimate #
11/9/2023	3271

Name / Address
Northwestern State University Veterinary Technology 325 Bienvenu Hall Natchitoches, LA 71497 Attn: Donna Trichel

Ship To
Northwestern State University Veterinary Technology 325 Bienvenu Hall Natchitoches, LA 71497 Attn: Donna Trichel

P.O. No.	Terms	Due Date	Rep	FOB
	Pre-Pay	11/9/2023	DMS	Simi Valley

Description	Qty	Rate	Total
Advanced Positioning Mannikin - #300	1	3,442.00	3,442.00
5% Discount		-5.00%	-172.10
Breath/Heart Sound Simulator - #800	1	1,232.00	1,232.00
Heart sound module - #801	1	95.00	95.00
NOTE: ALL SHIP DATES ARE CONSIDERED AS ESTIMATED SHIP DATES ONLY. ESTIMATED SHIP DATES ARE INTO APRIL 24 AND LATER.			
Checks payable to: Thales & Co. LLC Rescue Critters 1885 Surveyor Ave. Ste.101 Simi Valley, CA 93063			<b>Total</b>
			\$4,596.90



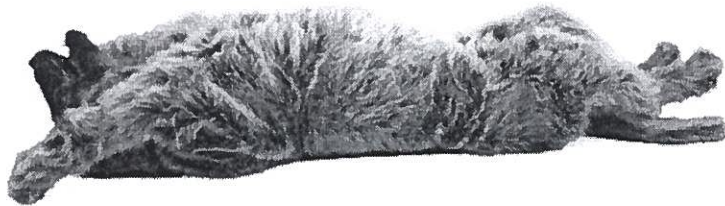
**RescueCritters!**<sup>®</sup> Brand  
Animal Training Mannikins  
Changing the Way You Learn

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## Emily K9 Positioning Mannikin

\$3,442.00



## Emily K9 Positioning Mannikin

SKU: Item #300

Category: Advanced Veterinary Training

**\$3,442.00**

Properly positioning an animal is a skill that makes a better-rounded veterinarian. Emily is built exactly for this purpose.

Students learn how to position dogs for abdominal surgery, x-ray, spay and neuter, advanced spinal stabilization, spinal recumbency and more. It has natural movements and offers resistance; allowing you to safely practice techniques before working on live animals. Fully articulated, Emily has shoulders and hip joints that rotate realistically, with 90° flexibility. Also with 90° range of motion are the knees, elbows, and carpal and hock joints. This baby comes complete with carrying case, kneeling pad and brush.



**1**

**ADD TO CART**



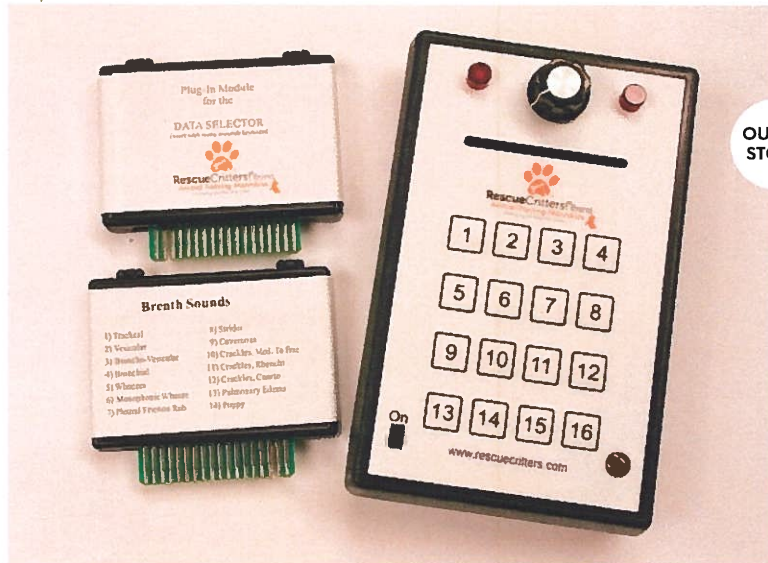
**RescueCrittters!**<sup>®</sup> Brand  
 Animal Training Mannikins  
 Changing the Way You Learn

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1

## K-9 Breath Sound and Heart Sound Simulator 2

\$1,232.00



OUT OF STOCK

### K-9 Breath Sound and Heart Sound Simulator

SKU: Item #800

Category: Advanced Veterinary Training

**\$1,232.00**

Rescue Critters and Pinnacle Technologies Group have worked together to make available this breath and heart sound simulator for our Jerry line of mannikins. Utilizing plug-in modules, instructors can select the appropriate scenario for the classroom situation.

The unit includes four speakers directly installed into any of our Jerry line of mannikins. Each BHS Simulator comes with one module. Please specify Breath Sound or Heart Sound module when ordering.

Breath Sound module includes:

Tracheal, Vesicular, Bronchial-Vesicular, Wheezes, Monophonic Wheeze, Pleural Friction Rub, Stridor, Cavernous, Crackles, Pulmonary Edema and Puppy.

Heart Sound module includes:

Atrial Fib, Mitral Regurgitation, Mitral Valve Click, Normal Heartbeat, PDA, Pulmoic Stenosis, Respiratory Crackles and MR Murmurs, SAS, Mitral Regurgitation, VPC and VSD.

Breath Sound and Heart Sound modules can be purchased separately.

Item #801

\$95.00



**Veterinary Simulator Industries Inc.**  
 Unit 120, 2985-23 Ave NE  
 Calgary AB T1Y 7L3  
 403 262-9393  
 consult@vetsimulators.com  
 www.vetsimulators.com  
 GST/HST Registration No.: 751913500RT0001

# Estimate

ADDRESS
Northwestern State University of Louisiana Veterinary Technology Bienvenu Hall Rm 325 Natchitoches, LA 71497

SHIP TO
Northwestern State University of Louisiana Veterinary Technology Bienvenu Hall Rm 325 Natchitoches, LA 71497

ESTIMATE #	DATE
2499	07/11/2023

DATE	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	TAX	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
	<b>K9 - DENTAL - TECH - PKG</b>	Canine Dental Technician Package	Exempt	1	4,500.00	4,500.00
	<b>shipping</b>	Shipping/Handling from Calgary, AB to Natchitoches, LA. Incoterms DAP. Rate does not include any applicable customs fees or taxes that may be due. Consignee must clear customs.	Exempt	1	186.45	186.45

**SUBTOTAL** 4,686.45  
**TOTAL** **USD 4,686.45**

Accepted By

Accepted Date

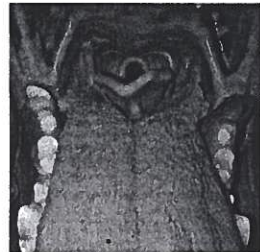
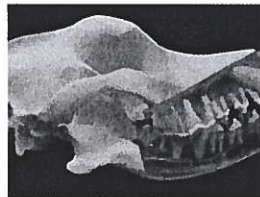
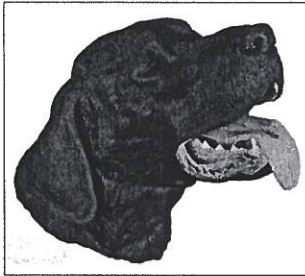
**Payment Terms:**

- \*50% deposit, remainder due NET30 once items received
- \*Payment can be by cheque or EFT in USD Funds only

CANINE



## Canine Dental Technician Model



CANINE



## Canine Dental Technician Model

3

### Product Features:

- Simulated teeth and bone are surrounded with soft rubber gums
- Allows for practical simulation including manual and ultrasonic scaling, probing, nerve blocks, as well as tongue, epiglottis, esophagus, and trachea to allow for intubation training
- Maxilla and mandible are easily replaced
- Model comes with clamp and arm, and two jaw sets:
  - > One set with calculus accumulation for scaling
  - > One radiodense jaw set to practice positioning techniques for radiographs

\* X-ray set has gums with periodontal ligament

**\$3,950 USD**

\*Crating/shipping/handling not included

### Canine Dental Technician Package Price:

Package Price: \$4,500.00 USD  
Shipping not included

### WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Canine dental model in either brown or black
- Two replaceable scaling sets
- One replaceable x-ray set
- Carrying case with custom foam inserts
- Clamp and arm for securing to table
- BONUS clear jaw set
- 30 ml jar of artificial calculus

Jaw set consists of one mandible and one maxilla

Canine skulls also sold separately

Contact us at [vetsimulators.com](http://vetsimulators.com) or e-mail [consult@vetsimulators.com](mailto:consult@vetsimulators.com) for a quote.



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**NORTHWESTERN STATE**  
COLLEGE of   
**ARTS & SCIENCES**

**MEMORANDUM**

Date: November 13, 2023

From: Francene J Lemoine   
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

To: Student Technology Fee Grant Committee

Re: Letter of Support for Dr. Douglas Landry's Grant Application

Student Technology Grant Committee:

I am writing this letter in support of Dr. Douglas Landry's proposal to purchase new laboratory equipment for the veterinary technology laboratories located in Bienvenu Hall. These laboratories are utilized by all students (approximately 150) in the associate and/or bachelor degree programs in the Department of Veterinary Technology within the School of STEM. There are three specific requests in this proposal.

First, the proposal requests a new, state-of-the-art canine mannikin which provides several advantages over the outdated mannikin that currently can be found in the laboratory. The new mannikin has articulating joints. This will allow faculty to teach students proper restraint and positioning techniques. The experiences gained from using such equipment will make our graduates more attractive employees in clinical positions and stronger candidates for graduate/professional schools.

Second, the proposal requests an electronic Breath/Heart Sound Simulator. This will be new equipment for our VTEC laboratories. It will allow student to hear and better understand heart and respiratory auscultation abnormalities when performing physical exams. The ability to simulate these types of abnormalities is important for the students' well-rounded education.

Finally, the proposal requests a canine dental model. This model is anatomically correct and will allow the Department to better train students in dental radiography and dental cleaning techniques. This model-based training will enhance students' experiences when they eventually begin performing these procedures on live animals. Additionally, students can practice endotracheal intubation using this canine dental model.

The Department of Veterinary Technology within the School of STEM currently has outdated and/or insufficient equipment for student instruction in certain areas. While the Veterinary Technology program does collect lab fees for some courses, those fees are used to purchase consumables that are used in educational laboratories. Equipment, such as those requested in Dr. Landry's proposal, are not deemed an acceptable lab fee purchase based on state-mandated purchasing guidelines. Furthermore, the lab fees that we do collect have not been adjusted for

**A Northwestern State University education is**  
*personal, valuable, and impactful.*

**NORTHWESTERN STATE**  
COLLEGE of   
**ARTS & SCIENCES**

**MEMORANDUM**

inflation in over 15 years. Therefore, the collected funds are not sufficient to purchase larger pieces of equipment like those requested here. Additional funding sources are required to keep our laboratories outfitted with current technologies to provide our students with the best educational experience.

Dr. Landry has my full support in the submission of this grant proposal. I trust that you will give him every consideration as he works diligently to improve the student experience in the Department of Veterinary Technology within the School of STEM. If you have any questions regarding my recommendation or support, please do not hesitate to contact me.

# NORTHWESTERN STATE

## Office of The Provost

November 13, 2023

Dear Committee Members:

I wholeheartedly support this grant request from Dr. Landry for funding veterinary technology laboratory equipment improvements. While the department does receive lab fees to cover the cost of consumable items, there is not sufficient funding to purchase models, mannikins, and electronic heart and lung sound simulators such as these. This equipment will provide students with improved training and veterinary skills instruction across five courses required of all veterinary technology students and will be routinely used by students in the program. The mannikin and dental technician model will provide students with more realistic training models, and the breath/heart sound simulator will allow students to better identify abnormalities on physical exam of patients. The faculty and staff in veterinary technology have a history of maintaining efficient, organized laboratories and keeping their equipment in good working order so this equipment should be an investment for students for years to come.

The veterinary technology program currently serves approximately 160 students and continues to be in high demand by entering freshmen as well as transfer students. Regional veterinary hospitals recognize the quality of NSU graduates in veterinary technology and demand for student interns and graduates always exceeds the supply. Providing needed equipment will allow the program to continue serving the student population's educational requirements.

As Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, I offer my full support of this application, and I remain very grateful to the Board of Regents for its continued support of educational programs here at NSU and throughout the state of Louisiana.

Sincerely,



Greg Handel  
Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Dean of the Graduate School  
Professor of Music Education

EST 1881