

Student Technology Fee

Grant Proposal

2008.019

2007-08

Wireless?

Dr. Jim McCrory

Approved

Denied

Comment:

The use of the wireless access point is not approved as it will interfere with the existing wireless access points.

Diana Hamilton

Approved

Denied

Comment:

Gary Gatch

Approved

Denied

Comment:

this would be considered a rogue wireless router.

Mike McDonald

Approved

Denied

Comment:

Airport Extreme, wireless Access points not allowed

Dale Martin

Approved

Denied

Comment:

wiring

FF

Student Technology Fee
Funding Proposal Request From
Fiscal Year 2007-08
Northwestern State University of Louisiana

2008.019

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Prepared by: Zafer Hatahet For: Department of Biological Sciences

Department/Unit: Biological Sciences College: Science and Technology Campus: Natchitoches

Which NSTEP Goals/Objectives does this project meet? 1, 2, 3, and 7

Requested equipment will be located/installed/housed? Building 090, Bienvenu Hall Room 112

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

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

Signature:  Date: 10/26/07

Grant Proposal Requested Amount: \$ 26,959 Budget Attached (circle one): YES/NO

Grant delivered to Student Technology located in Watson Library, Room 113. Date: 10/31/2007

This grant proposal must include all specifications, description, model number, quotation, cost, state contract number, and vendor for each item. Proposal will be returned if information is not included in full.

1. Describe target audience All 480 Biology majors currently enrolled at NSU.
2. Describe project/initiative for which you are requesting funds. A large number of biology courses can significantly benefit from availability of computers in the classroom. Book publishers as well as many educational web-based resources offer an increasing number of teaching aids that rely on computers. These range from traditional applications such as statistical analysis of biological data to new interactive animations that demonstrate important biological concepts, to electronic testing sites. This grant is requesting fund to purchase 20 Apple MacBook computers along with basic software packages to run both MacOSX and Windows Vista operating systems.
3. State measurable objectives that will be used to determine the impact/effectiveness of the project. a. Increase utilization of computational tools in the classroom. b. Increased utilization of interactive audio-visual resources during lecture and lab classes. These include movies (can be played directly from the computer DVD drive), computer models, educational websites, etc.
4. Indicate how each objective will be evaluated. a. Instructors and students will be surveyed to gauge utilization of the computational tools. b. Instructors and students will be surveyed to gauge utilization of web-based teaching aids in

lectures and labs.

- c. Instructors and students will be surveyed to gauge increased use of audio-visual resources during lectures and labs..

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 should help advance the following NSTEP objectives

1. *To improve access to technology by students, faculty, and staff at Northwestern State University.* Specifically, to increase utilization of computers during lecture and lab courses.
2. *To provide classrooms with updated technology and multimedia.* Specifically take advantage of web-based resources as in-class teaching aids.
3. *To upgrade student technology laboratories with modern technology.* Many lab courses in biology require computational and statistical analysis. Computers are increasingly more adept at such activities than calculators.
7. *To establish processes that encourage technology initiatives by faculty, staff, and students.* This project should enable and encourage the faculty to include/increase interactive audio-visual components into labs and lectures.

- b. The arguments used in support of meeting the NSTEP objectives are equally valid in support of meeting the College technology plan.

6. Provide a justification for funding the 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.

As already mentioned, all 480 current biology majors should benefit from this resource. Although the biology building is equipped with a computer lab, holding lectures in the computer lab is not practical due to limitations of space and room configuration. A "mobile computer lab" would be a much more effective and flexible solution. The Department already has a 10-laptop mobile cart (obtained through a previous Student Tech Fee grant) that can be used to augment the 20 requested in this grant to provide sufficient computational power in most classrooms. Specific courses with unique needs include

- a. Biostatistics (BIOL3060, average enrollment 65-70 students). This course relies extensively on statistical analysis. Currently students use scientific calculators, but much more sophisticated analyses are possible with the help of computers.
- b. Molecular Biology (BIOL3300/3301, average enrollment 65-70 students). These courses rely heavily on web-based computational tools, especially in the area of bioinformatics.
- c. All other biology courses can benefit from readily available (often provided by the publishers) educational learning and testing tools.

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?

Dr. Zafer Hatahet is the designated Biology Department Computer Technical Support person. Dr. Hatahet has been a Macintosh user for over 20 years and he currently uses an iMac in his office). Given that a wireless network connection is already in place, installation of the computers should be straightforward. Once again, a 10 laptop mobile lab is already in use in the department with great success.

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

None, other than Dr. Hatahet.

9. Provide a schedule for implementation and evaluation.

Considering that the computers are available under State Contract, and that hardware infrastructure is already in place, purchase and installation of the computers should be achievable within 4-6 weeks of funding of this grant.

Evaluation of the project will begin immediately after installation of the computers and continue for the following four semesters.

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

The realistic lifespan of the hardware is three to five years, primarily because fast pace at which computer technology develops. It should be noted that the budget includes service contracts for three years of warranty covering both the hardware and software. No significant software updates are anticipated during the first two to three years. Upgrades to operating system software and MS Office may be necessary in three years but projecting their cost is not practical. Considering the relatively small cost of such upgrades, departmental funds may be available for this purpose.

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 Tech Fee grant

The mobile lab cart will be kept locked and stored in the Departmental office when not in use.

Attach two (2) letters of support for the project from the following individuals: the requesting department's Dean, the appropriate Vice President (for non-academic units), or the SGA President from the requesting campus (for student requests).

Student Technology Fee Grant Proposal Checklist:

Yes Is all information requested provided (items 1 – 11)?

Yest Is a detailed budget attached?

Yes Are all specifications, description, model number, quotation, cost, state contract number, and vendor provided for each item?

Yes Are your two (2) letters of support attached?

NA If equipment is to be checked-out/loaned, is your policy attached?

Detailed Budget:

See attached quotes

Item	Vendor	Catalog #	Units	Price Each	Total Price
Apple Mobile Learning Lab	Apple	BC873LL/A	1	\$25,599	\$25,599
Office Mac All Languages Lic/SA Pack MVL, 3 Year(s) SA MVP	SHI	731-00513	20	\$68	\$1,360
Total					\$26,959

Budget justification:

1. The Apple Mobile Learning Lab is a convenient and cost effective choice. It includes 20 MacBook laptops, a three-year extended warranty, a networkable laser printer, and a cart to store and secure the computers.
2. The choice of Macintosh over other manufacturers was made for several reasons,
 - a. The price is comparable if not cheaper than other brands including Dell and Gateway.
 - b. It can simultaneously operate Mac and Windows operating systems (if the need arises to run Windows).
 - c. It has a built-in connectivity by ethernet, wireless, and video links (via built in camera). ?
 - d. It is less prone to virus attacks than Windows PCs.
3. MS Office is a standard software package that is necessary for most basic computer operations. The virtualization software and Windows operating system are requested to enable faculty members to run software that is available only on the Windows platforms.

Thank you.

Your proposal has been sent.

Web Proposal Number: **W32334618**

Items you have selected	Part No.	Qty	Unit Price	Ext. Price
Apple Mobile Learning Lab (20 MacBook 1GB computers) with AppleCare Protection Plan - Auto Enroll for each MacBook	BC873LL/A	1	\$25,599.00	\$25,599.00

[Download Your Proposal Information](#)

Subtotal Please note that your subtotal does not include sales tax or rebates. **\$25,599.00**

Proposer information:
 Zafer Hatahet
 State of Louisiana Education Store
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 (318)3576514

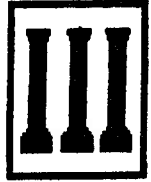
Proposer comments:

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COLLEGE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

OFFICE OF THE DEAN



October 29, 2007

To: Student Technology Fee Proposal Selection Committee

From: Austin L. Temple Jr., Ph.D.
Dean, College of Science and Technology

Subject: Proposal offered by Dr. Zafer Hatahet for Equipment

I am pleased to offer my endorsement for the grant proposal written by Dr. Hatahet. The Department of Biological Sciences is continuing to revamp and modernize curriculum and seek additional teaching strategies. The addition of the Apple Mobile Learning Lab will allow instructors to use teaching aids and web based resources that rely on computers. The addition of the Learning Lab and associated software will improve the technical skills of the students and give them exposure to modern technology.

Thank you for consideration of this proposal and for your effects in selecting worthy requests.



A Member of the University
of Louisiana System

Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

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Northwestern State University
Natchitoches, Louisiana 71497

DATE: October 31, 2007

TO: Student Technology Fee Committee

FROM: Dr. Thomas Hanson
Provost and Vice President
for Academic and Student Affairs

RE: Grant Application from the Department of Biological Sciences

I have reviewed the referenced grant application and support it. The implementation of this proposal will greatly enhance the educational opportunities of the students in the Department of Biological Sciences.