Student Technology Fee

	Grant Proposal		
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	2010-11		
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Alan Henry			
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Gary Gatch			
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Mike McDonald			
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	Prenared by: Michael F. Matthews For: NSUL ibraries
	Prepared by: Michael E. MatthewsFor: NSU Libraries
	Department/Unit:Watson Library College: Campus: ALL
	Which NSTEP Goals/Objectives does this project meet? #1 and #4
	Requested equipment will be located/installed/housed? Building _Virtual Room_None
	Does the department requesting funding receive lab fees? (circle one) YES
	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:Michael E. Matthews Date:10/29/2010 \$ (p ? 3 0, 00) Proposal Requested Amount:\$13,660 Budget Attached (circle one): YES no
	Proposal delivered to Student Technology located in Watson Library, Room 113. Date10/29/2010
	The proposal must include all specifications, description, model number, quotation, cost, state contract number, and vendor for each item. If the proposal does not include all requested information, it will be returned to requestor.
	1. Describe target audience. The use of the Elsevier Electronic Reference Book Collection would directly benefit all students, especially those who take online courses or are unable to use the NSU Libraries during normal operating hours. By purchasing these electronic reference books, use of the NSU Libraries would no longer be limited to only physical access, and would be consistent with the online learning mission of our university. Unlike paper-bound reference books, these could be accessed anywhere and at anytime with an Internet connection.
	 2. Describe project/initiative for which you are requesting funds. We are applying for either the full or partial funding of the Elsevier Electronic Reference Book Collection. The panel of referees may select a combination of collections including Biochemistry, CIS (Computer Science), Engineering, Finance, Materials Science, and Psychology. The NSU Libraries strives to offer the best and most current information sources to its students. However, the reference collections of our three campus libraries are not available to

students who are pressed for time, geographically remote, or physically disabled. Because of

substantial budget cuts, both of our reference and circulating collections have become outdated. For example, according to our 2008 Self-Study, the average publication date of our science collection is 1972. Our psychology collection has an average publication date of 1967, while business and finance is 1968.

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

By supplying an extensive collection of electronic reference books, we will achieve three objectives.

- 1) Offer students complete, accurate, and current information on a spectrum of topics directly related to their academic majors and course assignments.
- 2) Provide key support for academic departments which offer their courses online (psychology, criminal justice, education and many others)
- 3) Create a truly student-centered library which brings valuable information to its users who may not be able to access its collections.

4. Indicate how each project objective will be evaluated. We will assess the impact and effectiveness of the new electronic reference book collections through a series of student surveys, interviews, and focus groups.

Objective 1: Will be measured by the annual "Library Survey for Students". Respondents will answer questions relating to their overall satisfaction with the Elsevier Electronic Reference Book Collection including ease of use, convenience, and suggestions for improvement of services.

Objective 2: Will be measured by the annual "Library Survey for Faculty" which will ask faculty about their usage of the Elsevier Electronic Reference Book Collection in their courses, whether offered face-to-face or online.

Objective 3: Will be measured through two focus groups, one for students and the other for faculty. Focus group participants will be asked about their experiences in using the NSU Libraries, and how its services and collections could be improved for the future.

All objectives will be assessed through casual interviews of both students and faculty concerning their usage of the Elsevier Electronic Reference Book Collection and whether it meets or exceeds their expectations.

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

The funding of this project would advance the following NSTEP Objectives:

Objective 1: To improve access to technology by students, faculty and staff.

Objective 4: To improve and proliferate the use of distance education within all colleges If funded, this project would advance the following University Technology Goals:

 To attain accreditation for each eligible degree program by a Board of Regent's approved national accrediting agency. Although every program at NSU is currently accredited, the Elsevier Electronic Reference Book Collection will provide instrumental support for the students who need quick and accurate information on a spectrum of complex topics. In this way, the EERBC will help insure the future accreditation of these programs, especially if they are offered 100% online. 2. To develop a plan for a learning centered environment that reflects the "spirit" of the concept including distance learning technologies, innovative strategies and pedagogy, and a commitment to provide the necessary faculty and student resources to make this environment possible.

As an innovative and learner-centered strategy, the Elsevier Electronic Reference Book Collection will provide students 24/7 access to high quality information sources which can be navigated and downloaded to their home computers. The Head of Serials, Media and Interlibrary Loan is committed to developing a comprehensive online tutorial which will explain how to use the EERBC.

If funded, the EERBC would advance a key component of the NSU Libraries Technology Plan by assisting in the acquisition and implementation of electronic full-text information resources which can be shared by all students regardless of location.

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 traget group.

2,208 students who major in the Sciences (**522**), Engineering and CIS (**320**) Business (734) and Psychology (**570**) will benefit directly from the purchase of the Elsevier Electronic Reference Book Collection. According to the 2009-2010 Annual Report for the NSU Libraries, the total number of database searches on the library website increased by **21.1% from 468,415 to 594,053.** This increase reflects not only the overall usage of online library databases, but our students' continuing hunger for remotely available and full-text information sources.

While the target group of this grant application is the entire NSU student body, students who are working toward degrees that provide online courses would find the EERBC particularly helpful. NSU currently offers four online degree programs in Business Management (B.S. and A.S.) and Psychology (B.A. and M.A.). These online degree programs have enrollments of 570 and 344 respectively. Although online degrees are not yet offered in the Sciences and Engineering, students majoring in these disciplines do take online courses. According to the 2010 NSU Fact Book, 107 Biological Sciences, 53 Engineering students are currently taking online courses. These students do not have access to reference books except through their local public libraries, which vary widely in quality and scope. Funding of this project would give these students the resources they need to be successful in their classes.

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.

Michael E. Matthews, Head of Serials, Media and Interlibrary Loan will coordinate the delivery and implementation of the Elsevier Electronic Reference Book Collection (EERBC) and serve as point-of-contact between the NSU Libraries and the technical support team of Elsevier Inc. He will also design an online tutorial for using the EERBC. Michael has worked at Northwestern since 2004 and is responsible for both online and face-to-face dimensions of the library instruction program.

Gail Kwak, Government Documents Librarian and LOUIS Systems Administrator will coordinate the loading of the records of each title of the EERBC into the NSU Libraries' online catalog. Gail has worked at Northwestern since 1998 and is primarily responsible for the integrity of both bibliographic and patron records.

8. Describe any personnel (technical or otherwise) required to support the project/initiative. onny Carter, Imaging Specialist and Information Systems Liaison will coordinate with the office of Information Systems on the configuration of security and firewall protocols. As the library's webmaster, he will also code the links to the EERBC within the NSU Libraries website.

Elwin Ellis, Database Administrator will coordinate with Sonny Carter on the configuration of the proxy server so that students will be able to use their MyNSU username and password for easy access.

9. Provide a schedule for implementation and evaluation.

Once the purchase is made, Elsevier (vendor) will input the order and within 3 business days provide access to the selected collections. Within this time period, the above personnel will resolve any problems related to the loading of records, security and firewall configurations, and the use of the proxy server. A banner, including a link to the EERBC will be placed on the NSU Libraries website. An email announcement will be sent to all students, faculty and staff through Messenger. The entire process should not take more than five working days (Monday-Friday) from start to finish.

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

Elsevier maintains the user platform for the Elsevier Electronic Reference Book Collection. Northwestern State University will not host any content on its own servers. No investment in hardware or software will be required.

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.

Because the Elsevier Electronic Reference Book Collection has an entirely "virtual" presence, and will be remotely accessed using the MyNSU username and password system, it does not require additional security or controls beyond those already provided by the university's Information Systems department.

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.

NO. We do not receive lab fees.

13. Attach a detailed budget.

SEE ATTACHMENT

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).

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SEE ATTACHMENT

Student Technology Fee Grant Proposal Checklist:

- Is all information requested provided (items 1 13)?
- Is a detailed budget attached? Is all specifications, description, model number, quotation, cost, state contract number, and vendor provided for each item?

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- ____ Are your two (2) letters of support attached?
- If equipment is to be checked-out/loaned, is your policy attached?

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FINANCE TITLES

9780123745033 An Introduction to Investment Banks, Hedge Fund 9780123748393 An Introduction to Trading in the Financial Market 9780123745071 Auction Theory 9780123785855 Credit Engineering for Bankers 9780123744487 Elements of Financial Risk Management 9780126410037 Global Bank Regulation: Principles and Policies 9780123748379 Global Markets, Risk, Compliance, and Regulation 9780444508973 Handbook of Financial Econometrics, Vol 1 9780444535481 Handbook of Financial Econometrics, Vol 2 9780123749499 M&A Deal Structuring Basics 9780123748386 Market Basics 9780123749482 Mergers and Acquisitions Basics 9780123748782 Mergers, Acquisitions, and Other Restructuring Ac 9780123749529 Optimizing Optimization 9780123745217 Pricing, Risk, and Performance Measurement in P 9780123750266 Private Equity and Venture Capital in Europe 9780123748409 Technology, Networks, and Data 9780123749925 The Sortino Framework for Constructing Portfolio: 9780123749567 Next Generation Datacenters in Financial Services

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Rates:		
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USD	YEN	85

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2010 release & 2011 release titles			
Referex 2010 Fr	ont List	Gross Package price USD	
Collection #	of Titles		
Chemical, Petrochemical & Process	31		
Civil & Environmental Engineering	12	\$	1,570
Computing	28	\$	1,870
Electronics & Electrical Engineering	35	\$	3,730
Materials & Mechanical Engineering	36	\$	5,180
Security & Networking	29	\$	1,310
TOTAL	171	\$	13,660

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Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

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Northwestern State University Natchitoches, Louisiana 71497

A Member of the University of Louisiana System

October 26, 2010

Student Technology Fee Grants Committee c/o Ms. Jennifer Long Martin Northwestern State University Natchitoches, LA 71497

Dear Student Technology Fee Grant Committee:

I am writing in support of Mr. Michael Matthews's application for the grant entitled: "Electronic Reference Book Collection in Science, Engineering, Business, and Psychology".

If the application is funded, it will provide our students unprecedented access to a variety of information resources in many academic disciplines. Students would use these electronic books to do research, prepare for tests, and complete their course assignments all without having to leave their residences and drive to a campus library.

As many of you know, the mission of Northwestern State University is to provide a studentcentered approach to learning which is responsive to their needs. The funding of this grant would provide all students, regardless of their geographic locations or busy schedules, hundreds of volumes of reference books. By having convenient "one-click" access to current, accurate, and authoritative resources, your fellow students will be better prepared to meet the challenges of their course work.

Thank you so much for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

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Dr. Lisa Abney VPASA and Provost

I am writing to support Mr. Matthews's grant application for the *Elsevier Electronic Reference Book Collection*. I believe that the funding of this project would benefit your fellow students by providing them immediate access to the most comprehensive and authoritative reference titles available in these difficult (and expensive!) disciplines.

Unlike the *Gale Virtual Reference Library* purchased earlier this year, the *Elsevier Electronic Reference Book Collection* is focused on the needs of students majoring in the Sciences, Engineering, CIS, Business, and Psychology. Students could access the text of any book by using their home computers and their MyNSU username and password.

There are no recurring costs, and the books are held by the university in perpetuity. After your graduation and commencement, this purchase will serve as an important legacy for future students. For \$13,660, you can make a highly valuable contribution to the mission of Northwestern State University in these times of resource scarcity.

I thank you for your time and attention in this matter, and for your support of the NSU Libraries.

Sincerely,

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Ms. Abbie V. Landry Director