

Academic Resources and Computing Committee

Proposal for Funding

Due Thursday, April 1, 2004 (4:30 p.m.)

Project Title: Classroom Multimedia Enhancement Project for Room 203

Project Director: Leah A. Murray

Department(s): Political Science and Philosophy

College(s): Social and Behavioral Sciences

E-Mail: lmurray@weber.edu

Extension: 6695

Other Members of the Project Team: _____

Instructions:

1. Please complete each section in the space provided. The justification section should not exceed two single-spaced typed pages. (An addendum may be attached describing details of specific hardware and/or software that are requested with this proposal.)
2. You are required to obtain the signature of an ARCC representative for your college, indicating that she/he is familiar with the proposal, and can speak to it during funding deliberations.
3. Your department chair's signature is also required, indicating that she/he supports the proposal, and that the proposal is in keeping with departmental goals related to information technology and its applications to the academic mission of the institution. Your Chair's signature also indicates her/his commitment to help support the project financially if so indicated on the budget page.
4. Your dean's signature is also required, indicating that she/he has read and supports the project. Your dean's signature also indicates her/his commitment to help support the project financially if so indicated on the budget page.
5. Your college's computer committee must rank the proposal, and the committee chair's signature is required.
6. For certain projects an IT expert's signature is required. You must contact the appropriate individual if you are implementing a wireless network, multimedia classroom, software/hardware purchase that will require use of a campus server or work with online course software like WebCT Vista or ChiTester. You must give time before the deadline - the recommendation is 3 weeks - for that person to do an evaluation.
7. Submit one copy of the proposal, together with all relevant signatures, by 4:30 p.m., Thursday, April 1, 2004. NOTE: the ARCC no longer requires seventeen copies.

8. You must both email a soft copy and mail a hard copy of the proposal to the chair, David Ferro, MC 2401.

ARCC Representative:

I have read the proposal and discussed it with the Project Director.

ARCC Representative

Comments:

Department Chair:

The Department has reviewed this project within the context of overall information technology planning within the Department. If the budget page indicates financial support from the Department, I agree to commit those funds to this project.

Department Chair

Comments:

College Dean:

I have reviewed this project. If the budget page indicates financial support from the College, I agree to commit those funds to this project.

College Dean

Comments:

College Computer Committee Chair:

This proposed project has been reviewed and discussed by our college's computer committee. It is the consensus of the committee that this proposed project is consistent with information technology goals within the college. Furthermore, after ranking all of the proposals submitted by our college, we rank this proposal in priority as

_____ out of a total of _____ proposals submitted this year.*

*Note: Each proposal must be given a separate ranking; no two proposals may receive the same rank.

College Computer Committee Chair

Comments:

IT Representative:

For certain projects an IT expert's signature is required. You must contact the appropriate individual if you are implementing a

WIRELESS NETWORK (contact Brook Chase at bhchase@weber.edu or x7192),

MULTIMEDIA CLASSROOM (contact Bob King at rking@weber.edu or x6865),

CERTAIN SOFTWARE/HARDWARE purchases that will require use of a campus server or work with online course software like WebCT Vista or ChiTester (contact Ted McGrath at tmcgrath@weber.edu or x7196).

I have read the proposal and discussed it with the Project Director.

IT Representative (printed and signed)

Comments (including status):

Justification

Your proposed project should be described as clearly and succinctly as possible in the spaces provided below. Be sure to review the "Criteria for Funding" document. *The entire justification section should not exceed two single-spaced pages.*

Abstract (project summary):

The Political Science and Philosophy department does not at the moment have a multimedia classroom. We have a cart that three of us compete to use in our classes. We have a second cart which is outdated and does not run any of the programs we would otherwise use, thus is obsolete. Some of us use PowerPoint as a lecture aid and presentation medium in all classes while others show DVDs as part of their coursework and still others employ online resources for their students. The PowerPoint allows those of us who use it to provide a clear outline of our material in a way that is much more engaging to students than using the chalkboard or overhead projectors. My use of PowerPoint reaches about 100 students a semester as I use it in all classes. Indeed, students have commented in evaluations how useful they find my use of PowerPoint. In my Introduction to Political Science Research I am often teaching students about SPSS and how to use it. Again, having access to this more easily would facilitate a class that serves between 40 and 60 students a year. Another professor uses DVDs to teach critical thinking as he uses a logic program which engages the students in an otherwise difficult class. This course serves about 50 students a year. These classes are introduction, general education classes which easily reach hundreds of students a semester. Another professor uses the laptop provided on the cart for her class which travels to competitions. Thus, sometimes the multimedia cart is not available for the rest of our use. As we begin to become more technologically advanced and more materials for Political Science and Philosophy become available through new media, we have need for computers in the classroom that outweighs our current hardware situation. For these reasons, the Department of Political Science and Philosophy would like to request that a computer, LCD projector, and Desktop Camera be provided by ARCC for room SS 203 (capacity 70) to enhance the learning environment. Most other colleges, and indeed most other departments in our college, have at least one multimedia classroom per department. This is why we are asking for at least one room to be upgraded to let us achieve equity in this area. The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and the Department of Political Science and Philosophy will contribute one third of the total cost, and thus only ask ARCC to fund two thirds.

Objectives and goals of this project:

This equipment will be used to enhance the teaching and learning environment of the Department of Political Science and Philosophy's two largest and most used rooms. We will thus be able to reach the most students with this technology. This will impact many introductory general education courses in both Political Science and Philosophy and would also open up the multimedia cart for dedicated use in the smaller classrooms. The equipment being purchased reflects those items purchased for standard classroom at the Davis Campus.

Identify specific courses and/or programs that will directly benefit from this project:

(You may also want to describe how specific courses may be enhanced by this project.)

POLSC 1100 (Introduction to American National Government): PowerPoint Lectures, Online Searches, Demonstrating Library Resources, DVD Use

POLSC 3700 (Introduction to Public Administration): PowerPoint Lectures, Online Searches, Demonstrating Library Resources, DVD Use

POLSC 3990 (Introduction to Political Science Research): PowerPoint Lectures, SPSS Demonstrations, Demonstrating Library Resources

PHILO 1010 (Introduction to Philosophy): DVD Use, Online Searches, Demonstrating Library Resources

PHILO 1150 (HU 1150, Critical Thinking): Critical Thinking Software Use, Demonstrating Library Resources, DVD Use

PHILO 1160 (Introduction to Logic): Online Logic Puzzle Use

If applicable, describe how this project will help to increase faculty productivity or enhance competency in some area of information technology.

(Please note that ARCC does not support faculty desktop or laptop computers.)

By making information technology more available to professors who are already competing for its use will encourage the use of this more innovative teaching tool. Students, also, will be more readily knowledgeable of information technology using it in presentations and demonstrations. Most textbooks now include DVDs and interactive demonstrations and this equipment will allow professors to more seamlessly work their lectures into what the students are reading.

Describe how the success of this project will be evaluated.

(If reports or publications are anticipated from this project, please indicate such.)

The project will be evaluated by the use of student evaluations to assess the effectiveness of this technology for learning.

Timeline:

(If funded, when will this project be implemented?)

Hardware will be purchased Summer 2004 with the equipment available for faculty use by Fall 2004.

Budget

Note: Please be as specific as possible regarding requested hardware, software, or other resources (you may include an addendum to describe the hardware). If funds are being committed from other resources, please so indicate.

Hardware:	ARCC (Requested)	Department (Committed)	College (Committed)	Other (Committed)
1 Dell Dimension 4550 Computers with CD and DVD player	799.00			
1 Canon RE 450 Desktop Cameras	2000.00			
1 Panasonic SA-HE70K Stereo Amplifier	180.00			
1 NHT Super Zero XUW Speaker	180.00			
1 Sony AV Selector SBV 405	90.00			
1 Panasonic XGA (600 x 800) LCD Projector PT-LC56U	1571.00			
1 Panasonic ET-PK 730 Projector Ceiling Mount	400.00			
Hardware Subtotals:	5220.00			
Other:	ARCC (Requested)	Department (Committed)	College (Committed)	Other (Committed)
Projector Installation Costs	150.00			
Workstation Installation Costs			1500.00	
Other Subtotals:	150.00		1500.00	
Grand Totals:	5370.00		1500.00	

TOTAL FOR PROJECT: 6870.00 (Sum of all columns) ** please see rationale

Additional Resources

Please describe what other resources will be required to implement this project:

(Additional resources may include needs such as Academic Computing technical support or hardware installation through Electronic Services.)

When I spoke with Conway Morris, Facilities Management, he said that to install the equipment in the classrooms it would cost about 1650 dollars and that the project is feasible in SS 203.

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The request for the above equipment is based on previous grants written for departments in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. These grants were written based on standard equipment purchased for all classrooms in the Davis Center. Thus, the equipment represents the minimum necessary for a comprehensive multimedia classroom. The Political Science and Philosophy Department will provide VCRs.