



Student Technology Fee – University of Washington

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Funding Proposal

Cover Page

Proposal Title: Health Sciences Library Microlab - Enhancement of Macintosh Support

Proposal Abstract

The Health Sciences Library Microlab would like to continue enhancing services to students by purchasing new Macintosh computers and CDR/W drives for several PC and Macintosh workstations. Recent renovations of our facility were funded and supported by the Libraries, Health Sciences Administration, and the Student Technology Fee. Future enhancements will be a continued collaborative effort.

School/College/Unit: UW Libraries/Health Sciences Library Microlab

Date: 1/31/00

	Primary Contact	Approved By	Budget Coordinator	Concurrence
Name	Debra Ketchell	John Coulter	Kelli Trosvig	Paul Ludecke
Title	Deputy Director HS Library	Assoc. Vice President	Director Of Budget	Microlab Manager
Mailstop	357155	356355	356355	357155
E-mail	ketchell@u	coulter@u	kelli@u	ludes@u
Telephone	543-3409	543-7202	543-7202	685-8994

By entering information above, it is assumed support for this request has been given; signatures are not required

Please answer the following questions

1. What is the total amount of funds being requested? \$ 39,980
2. Is this your first application for funding? Yes No
3. How many UW students have access to your resources?
621 Undergraduate Students
2898 Graduate/Professional Students
4. How will students access these resources if funded? Pick the best answer, and explain in the "Access" section of this proposal.
 No Restrictions
 Campus unit students get priority
 By Appointment only
 No access
5. Where will proposed resources be located? Health Sciences Library Microlab
6. Is this funding proposal student-initiated? Yes No



Please describe your proposal using the following guidelines. Limit your discussion to 6 pages, including budget. Feel free to contact the STFC with any questions (techfee@u.washington.edu).

Background

Discuss the context for the proposed project. Describe the population of students in your School/College/Unit and how they currently use technology to achieve their educational, teaching, and research goals.

The Health Sciences Library Microlab was established in 1986 to support the common instructional computing needs of the six Health Sciences schools (Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health and Community Medicine, and Social Work). Funding for day-to-day operations is provided by Health Sciences Administration, and lab administration is provided by the Health Sciences Library (HSL). In the Summer/Autumn of 1999 the entire Microlab area was renovated to add a collaborative style classroom, upgrade workstations, and improve the efficiency and atmosphere of the space. The Microlab currently consists of a traditional lecture style computer teaching room that can be divided into two areas by a folding wall (40 seats), a collaborative style teaching room with 25 seats, two small Library Teaching Labs (PC with 13 seats and Mac with 6 seats), a common drop-in area for general use (70 seats), and an email area of 12 stations. The renovation was jointly funded by the University Libraries, Health Sciences Administration and the Student Technology Fee with special support from the School of Nursing and the Capital Projects Office. The upgrades that have taken place have allowed us to expand the size of the entire facility by about 50%.

The Microlab provides a convenient computer drop-in and teaching lab for over 3,500 graduate and undergraduate students in the health sciences. It is centrally located in the same complex as the classrooms, teaching labs and other instructional support services for five of the six Health Sciences schools (Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy and Public Health). The lab also supports interdisciplinary classes taught by Health Sciences faculty.

Dentistry	286	Pharmacy	403
Interdisciplinary/School	411	Public Health	498
Medicine	1,303	Social Work	460
Nursing	455		
Total	3,519		

Academic course sessions are held in the computer teaching rooms about 15% of our open hours. These courses are instructor-led sessions that use computer software and hardware as part of the course curriculum. During the remaining 85% of the time, the teaching rooms are available for general drop-in use. Approximately 70 STF-funded computers (Dell 266mHz and PowerMacs) and other machines are available in the Microlab’s self-service area, all of which are available during regular hours on a “first come, first served” basis. Student use of this equipment ranges from assigned course software (e.g., anatomy instruction, web-based educational modules, access to electronic course reserve materials, statistical programs) to self-directed information discovery and retrieval and use of general computing software such as word processing, email, and presentation software.



Laser printing in the Microlab is self-service and is provided on a cost-recovery basis. The current rate is \$.10 per page, which is subject to change, based on annual reviews of costs for printer maintenance and supplies. Print jobs are selected and paid for at self-service computer printing stations in the lab and on the 2nd floor of the Health Sciences Library.

The Microlab is a focal point for technologically-based course instruction within the Health Sciences schools. Academic courses held in the Microlab make it possible for students to learn with the technology, rather than about the technology. Multimedia tools promote the learning and retention of vast quantities of information (such as anatomy and physiology) and are an effective component in teaching skills (such as how to accomplish blood draws). All Microlab computers provide access to the campus network, to all of the Libraries' public databases, to unique health sciences software programs not available in other computing labs, and to general purpose applications (e.g., word processing, presentation graphics, spreadsheets, and statistics software). Health Sciences students use this conveniently located lab to write papers, read email, complete required assignments, do research, prepare presentations and direct their own learning. Since there is no equivalent of the UWired Commons on South Campus, most Health Sciences students use the Microlab as their primary computing center. An increasing number of courses in all Health Sciences schools now require web, email discussion, electronic course reserves, and other computer activities.

Microlab equipment must be regularly upgraded to keep pace with advancements in computing technology. Systems that were state of the art just four years ago are quickly becoming relics, unable to run new operating systems. Currently, our older Mac systems are closing on the end of their useful lifespans. These systems cannot currently handle modern operating systems such as Mac OS9 without further investment.

We met with a Health Sciences Center student representative group in determining student needs for our recent remodel. In the last stages of the remodel, it became clear that more support of Macintosh workstations was required in order to meet the needs and priorities of our 3,500 Health Sciences students.

To continue the process of enhancing computing access and service for Health Sciences students, we would like to request Student Technology fee funding for the following items:

1. 12 Macintosh G4 workstations as replacements for outdated Macintosh equipment. These high-speed systems (in conjunction with the Health Sciences Administration funding upgrades of networking to 100mb Ethernet) will allow us to improve the users' computing experience, keep pace with current system software and programs, and begin experimentation and implementation of new multimedia technologies, such as video delivery to the desktop.
2. Order and install internal CDR/W drives in 10 workstations (both PC and Mac) to meet rising user demand for easy, universal-format, and high-capacity storage of data, video and other files.
3. Add additional memory to our older Dell server equipment to prolong their useful lifespan and make them capable of running the next Windows Network OS.



4. Order and install the latest version of Macintosh STATA, a popular statistical package available at the Microlab. This will allow Mac users to access the latest version of a heavily used academic tool, without forcing them to work with PCs.

Benefits to Students

Discuss how students will benefit from this proposal. This might include how this proposal will increase students’ marketability for future careers; how this proposal will meet computing needs not currently met by existing resources; how this proposal will enhance students’ education, teaching, and research activities.

The demand for computing access and the tools to accommodate instruction for Health Sciences students is expected to increase over the next biennium as current trends in health care delivery gain momentum: telemedicine, population-based health services, outcome analysis, web-based resources for patient education, electronic patient records, video conferencing. CDR/W drives will support the need for an easy, universal-format method for students to transport large amounts of data between home, the UW and practicum sites.

A poll taken last March to judge Mac and PC use shows a roughly 8-1 ratio between PC and Mac users. Current anecdotal evidence shows that ratio to be increasing slightly due to the availability of 5 upgraded Macs funded by the STF.

	PC use	Mac use	Ratio
Weekday	1638	197	8.3:1
Weekend	171	21	8.1:1
TOTAL	1809	218	8.3:1

Upgrading our 12 older Macintosh workstations will allow our Mac users to have the same high quality access to resources as our PC users.

Most Health Sciences faculty rely on the Microlab as the central access point for curricular support, although various departments offer small, special purpose labs (e.g., biostatistics, patient simulations for nursing). Specialized software from smaller labs is duplicated in the Microlab for interdisciplinary use and to take advantage of its longer hours of access. Examples include support for biostatistics instruction within the School of Public Health and Community Medicine, and for anatomical instruction in the School of Medicine’s Department of Biological Structure. Faculty in these departments teach students from various schools and rely extensively on the Microlab for instructional support.

Access

Describe who will be using or will have access to the resources being proposed. If this is not a general access resource (i.e. available to any registered student), discuss what restrictions will be placed on resource use. Include hours of availability. Note that the Tech Fee Committee strongly encourages proposals to include a mechanism to allow all students access.

Since the Microlab is open over 88 hours per week, Health Sciences students have ready access to computing resources at a location which is convenient to their classes, labs, and patient care responsibilities. Other campus computing facilities are located too far from the Health Sciences



complex for drop-in use between classes, lack the specialized software needed for Health Sciences student assignments, offer significantly reduced hours during summer quarter and interims, and are often overcrowded. Over 50% of student respondents to an email survey on lab use reported that they rely on the Microlab as their sole computer lab on campus.

Resources

Discuss currently available financial, personnel, and space resources devoted to technology and level of support. Include dollar amounts if possible. Describe how these resources will leverage this proposal if funded.

Health Sciences Administration continues to fund the core instructional services of the Microlab, including support for classroom computers and software. During the previous year Health Sciences Administration and the Health Sciences Library (HSL) jointly funded a renovation of Microlab facilities and equipment. The renovation included construction of a new classroom; installation of upgraded PC workstations, re-design of Microlab space to accommodate more computers; and installation of improved electrical and networking services including an upgrade from 10mb Ethernet to switched 100mb Ethernet. Current Microlab facilities and staff were used to house, install, and support the added resources and services. Additional construction support was provided by the Capital Projects Office.

Funding for the renovation was provided by:

Health Sciences Library	\$234,000
University Libraries	\$ 56,000
Health Sciences Administration	\$250,000
STF Award to School of Nursing	\$ 53,800
STF Award to HSL Microlab	\$112,000
TOTAL	\$705,800

Support for daily operations of the Microlab includes the contributed time of a librarian, a 1.0 FTE senior computing specialist, and 4.5 FTE Student Assistants.

The HSL also provides support the technological needs of students beyond the resources of the Microlab. There are 31 public search stations (with access to UW Libraries databases, full text journals and the internet), two laser printers (which are also networked to Microlab computers), and 13 email stations. To support off-site users, the Health Sciences Library, with funding from a National Library of Medicine IAIMS grant, has created the HealthLinks web site (<http://healthlinks.washington.edu/>). This site contains links to numerous health related resources including UW Libraries databases, full-text journal articles and textbooks, and course-related materials. HSL also supports the HealthLinks "Ask a Question" form (<http://healthlinks.washington.edu/hsl/forms/comment.html>) which allows students to ask questions about how to access these resources remotely. Students who use HealthLinks resources remotely include participants in residency programs and practicums outside of the Seattle area, distance learning students, and students in local programs.



Timeline

Provide a time-line showing how the proposed project can be completed during the support period. Note that the STFC is flexible regarding implementation delays due to issues such as space renovation.

If funds are awarded before the end of May 2000, the proposed services should be operational by start of Autumn Quarter 2000.



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Budget

Present a detailed budget for the requested funds showing items, quantities, and prices of required material. Please be aware that the STFC does not fund furniture, ongoing costs including paper and toner, or maintenance. The STFC does fund maintenance contracts on machines purchased in advance and does fund software. The STFC will fund servers and related services but will not fund ongoing costs related to them.

Hardware			
Item (specs)	Cost Per Item	Quantity	Subtotal
Apple Macintosh G4 workstations	\$2400	12	\$ 28,800.00
AppleCare 3yr service agreement	\$250	12	\$ 3,000.00
Internal CDRW drives for micros	\$300	10	\$ 3,000.00
Memory for Servers (128 dimms)	\$200	6	\$ 1,200.00
Subtotal: Hardware			\$ 36,000.00
Software			
Item (specs)	Cost per item	Quantity	Subtotal
Mac Intercooled Stata	\$160	23	\$ 3,680.00
Subtotal: Software			\$ 3,680.00
Miscellaneous			
Item (specs)	Cost per item	Quantity	Subtotal
Headphones	\$15	20	\$ 300.00
Subtotal: Miscellaneous			\$ 0.00
		Subtotal	\$ 300.00
		Tax	
		Shipping	
		Total	\$ 39,980.00

You may use the table above, or insert your own spreadsheet.

Include justification for any specialized items below. Indicate the source and amount of any supplemental or matching funds to be obtained for this proposal. It is assumed that actual hardware purchased may differ in order to take advantage of price drops and that educational discounts will be utilized where possible.

Endorsements: Departmental

List all participating units and include the endorsements of the supporting deans and/or vice-presidents who will serve as the co-leaders of the proposed initiative. The STFC supports efforts to provide partial funding or external support for projects. Please describe any efforts in this area.

Concurrences: Paul Ramsey, Dean, School of Medicine; Paul B. Robertson, Dean, School of Dentistry, Patricia Wahl, Dean, School of Public Health and Community Medicine; Sid Nelson, Dean, School of Pharmacy



Endorsements: Student

Add student-derived data supporting student need. This might include testimonials, polls, data regarding current use of services or student preferences. Discuss the choice of computing platforms (UNIX, MacOS, Windows) and relation to student needs.

We've solicited student comments about our current proposal. Here are some typical responses:

- * I think it would be great if we could get more new Macs . . .
Alfaiyaz Ibrahim - Dental Student
- * . . . please don't let the Mac section of the HSL Microlab die!
Matt Cunningham - Neurobiology & Behavior Graduate Student
- * i really like the G3 macs. please be sure to include upgraded macs in your proposal
Erin Shade - Nutrition Sciences Student
- * For the last couple years I have been going mostly to upper campus labs and to friends houses to use their computers because the macs in the health sciences library were so slow and poorly maintained. . . . Right now, i'm typing this on a blue and white G3 which is very fast. I'm looking forward to coming back to the health sciences lab again.
Raj Dev - Medical Student
- * I think it is terrific that the library has upgraded to th extent they have. . . . I would love to see more G3's or even G4's installed in the HSL. . .
Adam J. Parcher - Pharmacy Student
- * I encourage the [Mac] upgrades, and the CDR/Ws . . .
Rolf Christensen - Student Public Health Association
- * I want to take this chance to BEG for CD burners . . .
Susan Tyler-Freer - Lab Medicine and Microbiology Student
- * More computers would be a great help. We have to wait in line sometimes for computers to become available. (from a Mac user)
Rebecca Schirle - Nursing and Masters in Public Health Student

Concurrence

Please list contact information for faculty and students supporting this proposal. Signatures are not required. It is assumed that the individuals listed below are aware of and support this proposal.

Name	Affiliation	Mailstop	E-Mail	Telephone
Ted Eytan	Health Services Master's Program	357183	ted1@u	616-8727
Lynley Bage Fow	Nursing	356090	lfow@u	
Jennifer Grimm	Pharmacy		jgrimm@u.	206-675-1442



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Thank you. When you are ready to submit your proposal, please go to the STF website (<http://depts.washington.edu/techfee>) for further instructions. Do not mail this proposal in hardcopy form.

The STFC is interested in working with departments to bring technology to students; feel free to contact us (techfee@u.washington.edu) with any questions regarding your proposal.