

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE

STEP Committee

Technology Fee Application

Computers for Technology Classroom

Title

Robert Willey

Name of Submitter

(Faculty or Staff Only)

**School of Music
and Performing Arts**

Organization

Title: Computers for Technology Classroom Date: 1/10/2012
Name (Contact Person): Robert Willey
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Department/College/Org: School of Music and Performing Arts

ABSTRACT (250 words or less):

A request is made to acquire and maintain computers for the Music Education Laboratory, a busy teaching classroom in the College of the Arts. Thirteen classes from Music, Theater, and Visual Arts are taught there using computers purchased in 2005. Five of these computers have recently failed and more are expected to become inoperable during the Spring, 2012 semester.

New software are also needed to make all workstations run the same versions in order to avoid wasting time and confusing the class.

This state-of-the-art lab is needed to support and improve student learning, and to prepare them for working in the 21st century.

3. Description of your proposal

a. Purpose of grant and impact to student body as a whole

The Music Education Lab, located in room 123 in Angelle Hall, is a computer classroom used by many classes in the College of the Arts. It is designed for 16 student stations, an instruction podium, projector, and sound system, allowing teachers to mix lecture, demonstration, and hands-on lab exercises during class sessions. It was established by a Board of Regents grant seven years ago. Five of the 16 student computers failed during the Fall, 2011 semester, as have a number of other iMacs of the same vintage in faculty offices. We expect that more of the original iMac computers are on the verge of failing and will become unusable by students during the Spring 2012 semester. If we wait until July 15 to make a proposal it would not be until Spring 2013 that replacements would come online.

When a computer fails class is disrupted, and a student in the class misses what is being worked on in lab sessions. This interferes with the pace of the class and prevents the student from developing skills and starting assignments with the teacher's help, which are meant to be built upon during individual time in the production studios. The following semester fewer students are then allowed to sign up for the class.

Computers have become basic tools in the Music Media and other curriculum, around which classes have been redesigned since the lab was built. The classes rely on having the computers in working order. Five new iMacs were purchased last year using emergency funds. These do not have all of the same software as the original computers had, and are no longer compatible with Pro Tools that is presently used, the program that is most important for the recording and synthesis classes. Some of the old packages on the remaining old iMacs will not run on the new iMacs, which come with OSX 10.7. It is important that all machines have the same version of software, so that time does not have to be taken in class to explain the differences, which can be confusing. In addition to new computers, this proposal includes licenses for two of the most used programs.

The Music Education Lab is used by music, visual arts, and theater classes. These include:

Theater

THEA352 - Scenic Design for the Stage (stage plots, etc.)

Visual Arts

VIAR309 - Sound Design (uses Pro Tools)

Music Media core classes

MUS238 - Music Industry (occasional use), taken by many non-majors

MUS276 - Intro to Music Technology (uses Pro Tools), taken by many non-majors

MUS277 - Music Synthesis (uses Pro Tools)

MUS376 - Recording Techniques I (uses Pro Tools)

MUS377 - Recording Techniques II (uses Pro Tools and Sibelius)

MUS422 - Live Sound and Postproduction

(continued on next page)

Music Education

MUS 431 - Marching Band Techniques (animated marching band routines)

Other music classes

MUS350 - Tonal Counterpoint (occasional use for music notation)

MUS365 - Music Notation (uses Sibelius)

MUS515 - Music Research and Bibliography

MUS578 - Analysis of Twentieth Century Music (occasional use)

a. Projected lifetime of enhancement

It is expected that this enhancement will address the situation for 5 years.

b. Person(s) responsible for

- i. Implementation: Dr Willey
- ii. Installation: Dr. Willey and Academic Computing/Collin Wynne
- iii. Maintenance: Dr. Willey, Academic Computing/Collin Wynne, and Apple
- iv. Operation: Dr. Willey and other teachers using the lab
- v. Training (with qualifications): Robert Willey, supervisor of the Music Education Lab since its inception, teacher of Music Media classes.

4. Budget Proposal form

Budget Proposal			
<i>item #</i>	<i>quantity</i>	<i>unit price</i>	<i>total price</i>
Equipment	\$ 13,788		
1	12	\$ 1149	\$ 13,788
Apple iMac computers			
Software	\$ 5,433		
2	17	\$ 249	\$ 4,233
Pro Tools HD 10 is needed to run on the new Lion OS X 10.7 operating system. It has many new features and a different interface from previous versions. It would be confusing to the class to teach half the students with version 10 and the other with version 8 that we have on the remaining computers in the lab. Replacing the old computers will allow us to run the same version of the software on all the machines.			
3	10	120	\$ 1200
Sibelius notation software. We have some licenses from a previous STEP grant that can be transferred. This would complete the installation with a copy on every machine.			
Supplies	\$ 0		
Maintenance	\$ 1,428		
4	12	\$ 119	\$ 1,428
Applecare, an extended warranty covering hardware problems and providing access to technical support, should it be required.			
Personnel	\$0		
Other	\$ 0		
TOTAL:	\$ 20,649		

5. Include any additional information relevant to your application.

Previously funded STEP projects:

Multimedia Studio Development. Added video recording the Recording Studio.

Software for School of Music. Purchased software for Music Education Lab and studios where students do their homework.

Hearing Test Equipment. Funded equipment for hearing testing for student service and research, for joint projects with the Department of Communicative Disorders.

Recording Microphones. Used to record concerts in Ducrest-Gilfry Auditorium.

Server for the School of Music. An Apple server to distribute student work produced in the Music Education Lab and studios.

Music Production System. A Pro Tools system for a new studio used for students to do assignments for classes taught in Music Education Lab.

Performing and Live Recording System. A small public address system for groups to perform with and record events outside the Auditorium.

Recording Studio Upgrade. Improving input and output.

CD Recording System for Auditorium. Record concerts on CD.

Resource Center Upgrade(s). Computers and software for study lab.

School of Music Pro Tools Recording System. Pro Tools system for Recording Studio.