

# 2009 Student Technology Fee Proposal Form

**Title of Project: Fine Arts 101 Computer Lab Upgrade**

Department/Organization: **Art Department / ATUS**

Name(s) of Project Applicant(s)

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Principal Contact person:

Name **Madge Gleeson**

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Amount Requested for project: **\$58,870**

Contribution by Requesting Organization: **None**

*Important note:* Before completing this form, please read the Proposal Form Instructions located on the STF website:

<http://www.wvu.edu/stf/>

## I. Project Abstract

Give an overview of existing environment, and summarize the items being requested. Include a brief explanation as to how the requested technology will improve student access to technological resources and/or enhance the *quality* of the student academic experiences through the use of technology and/or increase the *integration* of technology into the curriculum.

**This project will replace the Macintosh G5 computers in the FI 101 computing lab (purchased in 2004) with new iMac Intel dual-core computers capable of successfully running current versions of design, graphics and video editing software. This will provide a current hardware and software environment for faculty to teach and for students to complete their assignments and projects. This highly-used General University Macintosh Lab will also provide access to all students campus-wide, 24 hrs, 7 day a week when no classes are scheduled. In addition to being a public lab, this is a primary instructional facility for the Art Department, booked for 18-30 hours a week of classes. The machines replaced in this proposal will be used to replace obsolete computers in other locations providing more student access to the Macintosh platform. STF funding for this proposal will greatly improve ability of all WWU students who do academic work with Web, video print, web, and multimedia on Macs, to have access to Mac-based video editing and multimedia software.**

## II. Relationship to STF Objectives and Impact upon existing Academic Programs

Describe your proposed project in detail. Tell us how it will provide positive benefits to specific courses or instructional programs.

1. From a **student perspective**:

- a. How would this project provide additional student access to technological resources?

**FI 101 is the largest of three General University Macintosh computer labs available to all students for general class work and assignments (the others are CF 161 and AW 308). It is equipped with all the general academic software as well as a full suite of graphics, video editing and internet design related software. It is available to all students when it is not scheduled for classes. The equipment in the lab is accessible 24/7. The upgrades proposed here are essential since running current software requires a current operating system, both of which are marginal on the present machines. The machines replaced in this proposal will be used to replace even more obsolete computers in other locations providing more student access to the Macintosh platform.**

- b. How would this project broaden or enhance the quality of the student's academic experience through the proposed technology?

**The current lab is configured with MacG5's. Classes taught in the lab use memory intensive graphics and internet design software that including Final Cut video editing software and will soon include the latest version of Adobe Creative Suite. In addition, the lab is running assorted internet software and the Microsoft Office 2008. Typical projects for both print and internet design require that several of these processor intensive programs be running at once. The individual system requirements of all of this software recommend a considerably more robust hardware configuration than what is currently in place, not to mention the impact of running multiple packages simultaneously. Much of the software is operating very sluggishly at this point; selected tools activate very slowly and certain programs are prone to unexpected crashes with even technically modest projects. It is very challenging for students to save or manipulate large projects. The upgrades proposed here are designed to create a much improved learning environment, enable more complex and sophisticated projects, and greatly increase the efficiency of time spent on the computer. It is also important to have continuity among all the computers regarding software because it presents problems to students who work in one lab with CS3 software and in another lab with CS4.**

- c. How would this project integrate technology into coursework?

**Many other Western students are in need of current video, audio, print, web, and multimedia software operating on Macintosh computers. In addition to being a highly-used public computer lab, FI 101 is also a primary instructional facility; twelve classes a year are scheduled in the lab, each meeting 6 hours a week. Another 8 classes are wholly dependent on it for all assignments and students from many more classes use the lab to complete selected projects. Art design classes must be able to display the intricacies of the design environment in a setting where students can get immediate feedback on their own computers. With its existing teaching podium and digital projection system, FI 101 is ideally suited to this task. All students within the Design Area of the Art Department graduate with**

a professional portfolio of work created with the equipment and software in this lab. Increasingly, additional groups of Art students use the lab for assignments. Computers have been integral to the curriculum of the Design Area of the department since the late 1980's and are being steadily mainstreamed into all aspects of departmental curriculum.

2. From a **faculty perspective**, explain how this project will enhance your ability to help students meet their educational goals.

**It would be a great benefit for our students to use the iMac Intel machines. The latest Creative Suite does technically function on the G5's, but not to its ultimate ability. The minimum system requirement to run most of the CS4 software is the Power PC G5. Therefore in the next generation of the Creative Suite the Power PC will most likely be eliminated from the equation. Using powerful systems like the iMac's will also benefit student productivity from the vast speed improvements of CS4 in accordance with the fast processing of these Intel machines. CS4 uses OpenGL support allowing applications to make real use of graphics processors. "CS3 was slow and tedious to work with, while CS4 will save you time, money, and repetitive strain injuries," says Jonathan Seff of Macworld.com. CS4 has many new features amongst its varying software, including the important new LiveView in Dreamweaver and the Object-based Animation of Flash, but the overall improvements seem to be in the performance and cross-product integration.**

**The Design Area of the Art Department is completely dependent on the specialized hardware and software in this lab for the production of all student assignments including professional portfolio work. These machines are not currently capable of supporting the existing instructional needs of the many classes which depend on it. Graduates of Art Department programs must be trained within current technical standards to be viable in the job market. Graphic Design is not only magazines, brochures, and posters, which do require the latest software and machines, but it is also interactive websites, mobile device design, podcasting, user interface design, implementing audio and video clips into design, and much more. Fine Art is not only paintings, fabrics, and sculpture, its digital photography, digital video, interactive online web experiences, and more.**

3. Will other departments be involved with this project? If so, please describe.

**While FI 101 is a General University Lab, managed by ATUS and open to all students, the Art Department is particularly dependent on it for scheduling its classes and having a computing environment that supports its curriculum.**

4. Has any part of this project previously been funded by STF?

No  Yes  (Please describe): **The equipment in this lab was first upgraded using STF funds in 1999 and then again in 2004.**

### III. Utilization

1. Please list the anticipated number of times and duration per each use, per quarter, that the proposed technology will be used by students.

**Scheduled Hours: 18-30 per week. Open Hours: 140**

**Other Comments and notes:**

**The Fine Arts Building is open weekdays from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. and weekends from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The lab remains open to those who are there by the time the building closes.**

## IV. Project Budget

This section of the proposal details the estimated cost of the project. Please include costs that will be covered by your department or another source, for ongoing costs such as personnel or operating expenses.

To assist you in preparing your budget, please consult with relevant campus support departments (ATUS, Purchasing, Space Administration, etc.) For more information, see this page on our website: <http://www.wvu.edu/stf/instructions.shtml>

ATUS has developed standard configurations for desktop and laptop PCs and Macs. Your project is not limited by these standards, but these figures may be helpful. Standard configurations can be found on the Student Technology Fee website: <http://www.wvu.edu/stf/instructions.shtml>

Please complete all of the following sections (attach Excel spreadsheet for any additional details).

Item	Quantity	Item Cost	Total
<b>STF Standard iMac Computers</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>\$1,700</b>	<b>\$44,200</b>
<b>Security Rebuild</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>\$58</b>	<b>\$1508</b>
<b>Hitachi CPWX 625 wide aspect projector</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$3,400</b>	<b>\$3,400</b>
<b>Scanjet 7650 Scanners</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$400</b>	<b>\$800</b>
<b>HP 9050DN Duplexing Laser Printer</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$4,400</b>	<b>\$4,400</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$54308</b>
<b>Tax</b>			<b>\$4,562</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$58,870</b>
<b>Shipping (taxable)</b>			
<b>Tax (8.4%)</b>			

We recognize your proposed budget as an estimate. Final funding for successful projects will be established after through technical review; some costs may need adjusting due to price changes. The STF Committee may impose special conditions may upon a project. See Sections B.7 & B.9 of the STF Mission Statement <http://www.wvu.edu/cms/WWU.STF/mission.html>

1. What funding is available from your department or other sources?  
No other sources of funding are available for this equipment.
2. Could this project be divided into discrete elements that could be funded separately?  
 No  Yes  Please summarize and prioritize project segments with cost estimate for each segment.

3. Are lab fees charged for any of the courses that will use this equipment?

No  Yes  If yes, please note: the total funding requested from the STF must reflect the amount collected from course fees for equipment replacement and/or equipment acquisition. All proposals asking for course fees will be reviewed by the Academic Budget Office.

**The Art courses taught in the lab charge lab fees. All of the lab fee money is used to help purchase the specialized software that is needed for those courses. No lab fee money is collected for hardware replacement.**

## V. Impact on Existing Resources

The proposal should address your project's potential impact on existing resources. Special attention should be given to impact on data transmission networks (e.g. sources accessed, networking equipment, etc.), and personnel (e.g. staffing, administrative support, faculty support, etc.).

Any proposal that includes the replacement of computers should specifically address the feasibility and cost effectiveness of upgrading the computers rather than replacing the computers.

1. Describe how existing equipment is used. Contrast this to projected use if your project was funded.

**The existing equipment is used for instruction and for students to complete assignments and course work. If the project is funded the lab will continue to meet the needs of the Art Department's specialized software and design environments. The equipment is no longer able to support the software at adequate levels. If the project is not funded the lab will soon be outdated for the Art Department's instructional needs as well as the needs of student's completing coursework from of other disciplines.**

2. Is similar equipment or technology available elsewhere on campus—such as the Student Technology Center, Classroom Services, Video Services, Western Libraries, a college lab? If so, please describe why the existing equipment doesn't meet the needs outlined in this proposal.

**Yes, This one of the larger Mac Labs on Campus, but there are also the CF 161 lab (20 seats), the new AW 308 lab (18 seats) and Education's MH 66 lab (30 seats). These labs are already heavily scheduled with classes.**

3. If this project involves the replacement of equipment:

- a. Describe the 'before and after' configuration changes. A spreadsheet reflecting these changes can be attached.

**FI 101 computing lab will receive: 26 new computers, a projector, 2 scanners and a printer.**

**The old computers will replace some even older computers in studio spaces or be used for replacement spares as will the printer and scanners.**

- b. Describe the costs and benefits of replacing vs. upgrading (if applicable).

**These computers cannot effectively be upgraded.**

4. Will this equipment be available to students outside your department?

No  Yes

5. If the proposed technology will be used by students outside your department, please describe how they would gain access, how the availability of the equipment will be publicized, the hours/week when the equipment will be available, and any costs that would apply.  
**FI 101 is a General University Lab and as such it is available to all students when it is not scheduled for classes.**

6. Does this project involve the check-out of equipment to students?

No  Yes  If yes, please discuss whether or not the Student Technology Center could be assigned this task.

6. Does the department have adequate operating funds to provide on-going maintenance and support?

No  Yes  Please describe.

**ATUS has budget resources dedicated to the on-going maintenance and support of the General University Labs.**

7. Does the department have adequate personnel funds to provide on-going staff support for this project?

No  Yes  Please describe,

**ATUS has personnel dedicated to the on-going maintenance and support of the General University Labs.**

## VI. Space and Site Information

This section addresses any space alteration or site preparation necessary for the proposed project. Site alterations include painting, holes in walls, security systems, carpeting, construction, lighting changes, or conversion of a lab or office

Special Note: If this project requires any site preparation, or if this project uses any space not currently under control of the department, a draft proposal must be submitted to Space Administration by **Friday, November 14, 2008**. Space Administration and Facilities Management will conduct a site survey and respond back to you with information concerning project feasibility, cost, and schedule. This information must be included in the final project proposal.

**Proposals for projects that involve any site preparation will be considered only after the required site survey by Space Administration and Facilities Management has been completed.**

1. Location for installation of equipment or technology.  
FI 101

2. Is site modification required?

No  Yes  Please describe. (Electrical, air, painting, lighting, security, network access, etc.)

3. Will this project use space not currently assigned to your department or area?

No  Yes  Please describe.

**The space is assigned to ATUS who are participants in this proposal.**

## VII. Project Schedule

This section describes your overall implementation schedule. Project awards will be announced by the end of spring quarter. It is anticipated that projects would be substantially completed by the end of the calendar year. If there is any site preparation involved, please align your project schedule with the schedule provided by Space Administration and Facilities Management.

**We expect to have all systems installed and functional by the start of fall quarter 2009.**

## VIII. Constraints

This section should list any external or internal factors that could affect your project schedule, project objectives, or the project budget (e.g. if external approval is required for curricular changes, or if funding must be received by a certain date).

1. Please describe any constraints to this project.  
None expected. Lack of equipment availability is a possible constraining factor.

## IX. External Funding

This section must be completed for any **projects over \$100,000**. For project budgets of this scale, the applicant should investigate opportunities for obtaining external funding for all or part of the proposed project.

1. Describe the external organization(s) able to provide funding in support of this project.
2. Describe the funding cycle for these requests (submission dates, projected award dates).
3. Indicate the amount of external funding that would be requested.
4. In cases where joint funding is requested, what will happen if the STF award is made and the external grant is not awarded?
5. Has a grant proposal already been submitted for all or part of the proposed STF project?