Student Technology Fee Request for Funding

**Project Title**

Multimedia Studio Mac Pro Upgrade

**Brief Project Overview**

The Campus Media Center (CMC) has remained committed to helping UWB students stay ahead of the technology curve with support for high-end multimedia computing in the Multimedia Studio (MMS). This unique campus center for advanced computing offers students not only the latest technology, but also comprehensive technical support. This services enables students to create polished audio/video projects and to create multimedia PowerPoint presentations. In order to help maintain the high standards necessary for the success of the MMS program, the would like to replace the current MMS computer workstations (currently half Mac and half PC) with 12 new Mac Pro computers (able to run both Mac and PC applications) along with necessary components.

**Full description of the project that includes the following sections:**

**A. The goal of the program or project**

This replacement effort would help accomplish the following goals:
- Provide a consistent platform for supporting student projects on all workstations to maximize workstation consistency and usability for students
- Increase MMS capacity to support both greater number and a greater variety of student projects
- Ensure student access to the latest multimedia computing technology

**B. A description of the program and how it will benefit the student body**

Providing a consistent platform for supporting student projects on all MMS workstations will benefit the students by increasing usability and allowing the CMC to provide more focused support. Currently, the CMC supports two platforms that are not compatible with one another. Students must choose between using Mac workstations for video editing projects or PC workstations for PowerPoint projects. The Macs are not compatible with the PC-based PowerPoint projects and the PCs cannot support video editing projects. This means that the students encounter two very different systems when working in the MMS. Not only must they be prepared to learn how to work on either system, but often, the must learn both for a single project. For example, a student may use a Mac to edit video clips and then a PC to integrate the clips with PowerPoint. The new Mac Pros are able to “dual-boot” either Microsoft Windows or Mac
operation systems; this will enable students complete both PC-based PowerPoint projects and Mac-based video editing projects on a single computer. This drastically reduces the learning curve for UWB’s busy students and allows the CMC staff to provide more focused support on a single system, rather than splitting support and training resources up to support multiple systems.

By installing workstations that offer both video editing and PowerPoint capabilities, students benefit from the increased support capacity for either type of project. Currently, there are six Macs available for video editing and five PCs available for PowerPoint. The MMS cannot support more than six video editing projects in the MMS at any given time, even though video editing is by far the most popular application in the facility. Last year the MMS supported 472 video editing appointments and only 82 PowerPoint appointments. As finals week approaches each quarter, all of the current Mac workstations fill up and students are sometimes turned away or forced to wait for appointments. For example, all six Macs may fill up with students working on video editing projects while only two PC stations are in use for PowerPoint projects. In this scenario, students with video editing projects may be turned away even though four stations are sitting idle. While these data demonstrate the demand for video editing projects, the ability to support PowerPoint (particularly the integration of multimedia in presentations) as the standard campus standard presentation tool should not be sacrificed. By upgrading to the Mac Pros, the support capacity for video editing projects will double from six to twelve stations without sacrificing the capacity to support PowerPoint as well. In fact, the support capacity for PowerPoint will likewise increase; this leaves room for growth in that area as well. These stations will allow more students to complete both a greater variety of projects at the same time.

As new technology develops, the Mac Pro has emerged as the best computing technology available for the support of multimedia computing projects at UWB. The MMS affords students a wonderfully beneficial opportunity to gain expertise in creating high-end multimedia presentation materials. These skills are invaluable in today’s job market and can be very expensive learn outside of the MMS. At UWB, students are able to take advantage of both the MMS technology and the CMC’s comprehensive technical support at no additional charge. In order to maximize the benefit of this opportunity for the students, we must provide technology that maximizes usability for the students and while keeping up with the demands of the changing world of multimedia.

C. Specific information about the equipment and/or services being requested

The CMC has developed a comprehensive cost estimate for the Mac Pro computers as well as the software and peripherals necessary to complete the project. Please note that CMC will be able to absorb installation costs. The equipment needed for this project includes twelve each of the following:

- Mac Pro Computers
- Vertical Matrix Switchers
- Video Capture Cards
• Final Cut Studio (software)
• iLife (software)

Final Cut Studio and iLife are the only two software packages that need to be purchased in addition to the standard bundle for the Mac Pro systems.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Since the CMC serves UWB and Cascadia jointly, Cascadia students will enjoy equal access to all MMS equipment. Cascadia, however, is currently funding all of the CMC staff needed to support the MMS and UWB students, of course, enjoy equal access to this staff.

D. How the project will be implemented and by whom

CMC staff will configure and install all of the new MMS computing workstations. It is the CMC’s goal to introduce the new Mac Pro studio workstations for this coming fall quarter, 2007.

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Project Title
Campus Media Center, 358560
Name of Department (if applicable), and Campus Mailbox Number

Joe Shelley
Representative or party responsible for the program

425.352.5312, jshelley@uwb.edu
Phone number and e-mail for contact

$67,224.69
Total amount requested

Co-sponsors if any

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Please see attached for available specifications and pricing from selected vendors. Final vendors and pricing will be determined through the UW's purchasing process if this request is approved.

* This page is a crucial portion of your funding request. Items have to be described in detail, the number of people who this event will serve, quantity and cost of each item, etc. Pricing must be supported by additional documentation from the organization providing the items. Please be specific when listing costs, otherwise your request might not be granted.