

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE

STEP Committee

Technology Fee Application

**Cognitive PSYC Instructional & Experimental Lab
Upgrade**

Title

**Dr. Brooke Breaux, Dr. Robert Michael, Allen
Latour, Dr. Cheryl Lynch**

Name of Submitter

(Faculty or Staff Only)

Psychology Dept, College of Liberal Arts

Organization

Title: Cognitive PSYC Instructional & Experimental Lab Upgrade Date: July 13, 2017
Name (Contact Person): Dr. Brooke Breaux
Address: Girard 222B
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Department/College/Org: Psychology Department, College of Liberal Arts

ABSTRACT (250 words or less):

This grant seeks an update to the technology in the Cognitive Psychology Instructional & Experimental Research Laboratory housed in Rougeou 318. Undergraduate students, graduate students, and faculty use this multipurpose laboratory space for instruction and research. Fifteen new computers are needed to take the place of 28 computers that are either unusable or, at best, extremely outdated. We also need valuable software and hardware for students and faculty to: develop state-of-the-art psychological experiments; collect accurate psychological data; and analyze that data appropriately.

Purpose of grant

We (Dr. Breaux and Dr. Michael) are junior faculty members in the Psychology Department who conduct research in the area of cognitive psychology. We also teach a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses. For the past year we have been using a laboratory space in Rougeou 318 that was occupied by Dr. Čech prior to his retirement. We received the lab space in a state of disrepair, and together have worked diligently to transform it into a temporarily usable lab for our undergraduate and graduate students. To make the space functional for training, education, and research, we need 14 new desktop computers and 1 new laptop. These computers would take the place of 25 old desktop computers and 3 old laptops. Sixteen of these old computers have already been discarded. The remaining 12 were purchased in the early 2000's and are barely functional. Undergraduate and graduate psychology students as well as psychology faculty will use the new desktop computers to create, conduct, and analyze psychological research. Training in research methods is essential for students seeking a career in psychology, and most modern psychological research is computerized. A laptop is included in this grant for off-campus data collection and data analysis. Additionally, research in cognitive psychology often requires precise timing of stimuli and recording of reaction times. Therefore, we also request SuperLab 5 software for experiment development and response pads compatible with SuperLab 5 for data collection. Finally, a projector is included in this grant because it is critical that students have the opportunity to practice speaking publicly about their research in an environment similar to that of an academic conference.

Impact to student body as a whole

The Psychology Department has more than 600 undergraduate majors and approximately 35 masters graduate students. A significant number of these students are planning to pursue higher degrees in Psychology or related fields. These students need research experience to be competitive for positions in these programs. Dr. Breaux and Dr. Michael are committed to fostering student research at both the undergraduate and graduate level. As evidence of that commitment, students and faculty in the Psychology Department have used Rougeou 318 for a variety of different research purposes in the past year—with a primary focus on developing students' research skills. For example, members of Dr. Breaux's Cognition and Psycholinguistics (CaP) Research Lab—consisting of 10 undergraduate and 4 graduate students—uses the space for weekly meetings, developing computerized experiments via SurveyMonkey and SuperLab, and giving practice presentations. Dr. Breaux also uses the space to mentor students completing Honors Contracts and those taking her Special Projects research course. With updated equipment, Dr. Breaux could use this space to provide more students in her undergraduate psychology courses with hands-on instruction in basic research. Furthermore, Dr. Michael plans to use the space to hold regular lab meetings, to develop experimental protocols and materials, to collect data, and to train students. During his first year at UL Lafayette, Dr. Michael—assisted by students in his lab—collected data for a research project and has already submitted the results for publication. In addition to 600 undergraduate majors, approximately 800 undergraduate students are enrolled each semester in the Psychology Department's introductory course for non-majors. Each of these students is required to participate in research. The updated computers and software would allow Rougeou 318 to be used as a space to collect data and to introduce these students to psychological research. In fact, the department desperately needs these resources: All psychology computer lab spaces were fully booked near the end of the Spring 2017 semester, and students were desperately searching for spaces on campus in which they could conduct data collection.

Projected lifetime of enhancement

We expect the grant to have a lifetime of at least 5 years. After 3 years, the needs of the laboratory space will be reassessed and a strategy will be developed to update the space prior to the end of its lifecycle.

Person(s) responsible for

Allen Latour will be responsible for the implementation, installation, maintenance, and operation of the contents on this grant. Mr. Latour is the Laboratory Technician for the College of Liberal Arts Manager and is a certified Microsoft Technology Associate.

Previous funded STEP projects

None

Budget

<i>Description</i>	<i>Qty</i>	<i>Price</i>	<i>Total</i>
a. UL Standard Desktop with upgrade to 8GB memory	14	\$995	\$13,930
b. UL Standard Laptop with upgrade to 8GB memory	1	\$1,075	\$1,075
c. Response Pads	6	\$499	\$2,994
d. Projector	1	\$430	\$430
e. SuperLab-5 Developer Licenses	1	\$695	\$695
f. SuperLab-5 Run Licenses	12	\$50	\$600

Budget Proposal

1.	Equipment	\$15,005	15 Computers
		\$2,994	6 Response Pads: 2- RB540, 2- RB740, 2- RB844
		\$430	1 Projector: ViewSonic PJD5555W
2.	Software	\$695	1 SuperLab-5 Licenses @ \$695 each
		\$600	12 SuperLab-5 Run Licenses @ \$50 each
3.	Supplies	\$	
4.	Maintenance	\$	
5.	Personnel	\$	
6.	Other	\$15	Shipping of SuperLab equipment and software
TOTAL:		\$19,739	



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Quote

Invoice No.	Date	Page
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2	RB844	RB-844 Response Pad		\$499.00	0.00% %	\$998.00

Exempt - CA 97-790841

Comments

Quote updated on July 11, 2017.

User: Dr. Brooke O. Breaux
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(337) 482-6584

Subtotal	\$4,289.00
Freight	\$15.00
Tax	\$0.00
Total Amount	\$4,304.00
Amount Received	\$0.00
Balance	\$4,304.00

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* Intensity level is variable - 3-years limited on parts and