

**UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA
AT LAFAYETTE**

STEP Committee

Technology Fee Application

Materials Center RAM & SSD Upgrades

Title

Dawn Williams and David Lynch

Name of Submitter
(Faculty or Staff Only)

EDCI

Organization

Title: Materials Center RAM SSD Upgrades Date: 7-12-17
Name (Contact Person): Dawn Williams
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Department/College/Org: EDCI – Materials Center

ABSTRACT (250 words or less):

This grant application is intended to upgrade the six (6) student workstations located in the Maxim Doucet Materials Center. The computers will be upgraded from 4GB to 8GB of RAM and the current hard drives will be replaced by a 256GB Solid State Hard Drive (SSD). These two enhancements will increase the speed of the computers and give the students a quicker, better user experience.

The current computers in the Materials Center were purchased in 2013. These upgrades will make enhance the life expectancy of the computers.

The Materials Center provides students enrolled in the College of Education with the resources needed to successfully complete coursework leading to degrees in education. The Materials Center contains print and electronic resources including children's books, lesson planning and teaching resources, professional references, and computers.

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1. Purpose of the Grant:
 - a. The purpose of this grant is to give our students a better user experience when using the computers in the Materials Center. In addition, these two enhancements will prolong the useful life of the computers without having to replace them. While the current 4GB of RAM will run the operating system and software, going to 8GB will speed up the computers. The more information the operating system can keep in RAM, the faster the computer. Replacing the current hard drives with Solid State Drives (SSD) will do the same thing for student files, except much faster. SSD's have no moving parts and are blazingly fast when retrieving information for the computer.
 - b. The mission of the Materials Center is to provide students with a centralized location where they can access print and electronic materials which can be used to enhance and improve teaching and learning. As a part of this mission the STEP committee has previously funded monies to outfit the Materials Center with computers for student use. During peak hours, there students waiting to access to the six computers we have.
2. Projected Lifetime of the Grant
 - a. The current computers were purchased in 2013. The standard 5 year life cycle will expire in 2018. These enhancements will add approximately three years to their life. The Materials Center is not a STEP lab and is not on the automatic schedule to be refreshed.
3. Implementation
 - a. Mr. David Lynch will install and maintain the hardware for this grant
4. Budget Narrative
 - a. Six - 4GB RAM chips will be purchased for \$66 each. The additional RAM will upgrade the computers to a total of 8GB of RAM. Six -256GB SSD Hard Drives and mounting brackets will be purchased for \$112 each. The hard drives will dramatically increase the read/write performance of data on the computers. Both of these enhancements will make the user much faster.
5. Previous STEP Grants
 - a. Mr. Lynch has received a number of STEP grants over the last 15 years. The most recent of the awarded grants are: EDCI Mobile Computer Carts (2014), Macintosh Campus Lab Integration (2014), Materials Center Computer Update (2014), UAV's for Student Use (2014), Reading Lab Podium Computer Replacement (2015).

Budget Proposal

1.	Equipment	\$ 1068.00
TOTAL:		\$ 1068.00