

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE

STEP Committee

Technology Fee Application

**NVivo and Continued Licensing for SPSS in
the Mouton Step Lab**

Title

George Wooddell

Name of Submitter
(Faculty or Staff Only)

**Department of Sociology,
Anthropology and CAFS**

Organization

Title: NVivo and Continued Licensing for SPSS in the Mouton Step Lab Date: 5/5/17
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ABSTRACT (250 words or less):

In order to continue to teach our students the analytical skills they must learn as a requirement for a degree, we must obtain qualitative analysis software and renew statistical software licenses in the STEP lab, in Mouton 107. Previously, STEP grants enabled us to build the lab, populated it with TEC board and 10 computers, and the software we needed, including a few years of SPSS licensing. Now we are running out of money in that account. Each year we need funds for nine (9) licenses for the lab itself and two more for the instructors – one of those on a personal laptop. We request five (5) years of license funding which totals \$24,055.

Narrative

3a and 3d) This is a simple sustainability request and a request for new software. We need more years of software licenses in our lab in Mouton Hall. The lab serves three Academic departments; Sociology, Anthropology and CAFS, Political Science and Criminal Justice. Sociology and Criminal Justice have required courses that need the lab – and the software we request. When not in use by scheduled classes, the lab is open to all students and receives heavy use. The software we request; SPSS and NVivo, are fairly standard across academia and among those who do statistical and qualitative analysis elsewhere.

SPSS is popular because it has some important advantages. The interface re-enforces the statistical concepts and statistical reasoning we are teaching. It outputs all the necessary statistics necessary for a proper analysis. It is not prohibitively expensive. It works well with Microsoft Office.

NVivo is a computer assisted qualitative data analysis software package that aids the researcher in her or his search for an accurate and transparent picture of the data while also providing an audit of the data analysis process as a whole - something which is often missing in accounts of qualitative research. The advantages of NVivo are: 1) it is relatively simple to use; 2) it is possible to import documents directly from Microsoft Office; 3) one can code these documents easily on screen; 4) coding stripes can be made visible in the margins of documents so that the researcher can see, at a glance, which codes have been used where; and 5) it is possible to write memos about particular aspects of documents and link these to relevant pieces of text in different documents.

The lab contains eight (8) desktops for the students and one (1) other desktop for the Smart board. The instructors also need SPSS and NVivo. So, all together, we need 11 licenses for each package, every year.

3b) We are asking for enough funding to continue for five (5) more years.

3c) George Wooddell will be responsible for implementation, installation (which can be done soon after grant approval) maintenance, operation and training.

3d) The software will enable our students to receive the training in qualitative and quantitative analysis needed for BA in either Sociology or Criminology, analytical expertise being of foundational importance to both disciplines.

6) In 2008, a STEP grant funded the installation of eight computers in Mouton 107 creating the Mouton lab. In 2013, the STEP program funded software and a printer for the lab. In 2014 a STEP grant funded an upgrade of the lab to a TEC lab.

Budget Proposal

1. **Equipment** **\$**

2. **Software** **\$5,500 + \$18,555**

Each license of SPSS costs \$100. We need 11×5 licenses. Eleven Licenses for NVivo costs \$3,711. We need 11 X 5 licenses. In the future, the per license price is likely to rise – but we cannot tell, by how much.

\$

3. **Supplies** **\$**

4. **Maintenance** **\$**

5. **Personnel** **\$**

6. **Other** **\$**

TOTAL: **\$24,055**