

# UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE

STEP Committee

Technology Fee Application

**Reference Online Center Enhancement**

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Title

**Heather Plaisance, Arthur Almazan,  
Monique Breaux, Elaine Harris**

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Name(s) of Submitter  
*(Faculty or Staff Only)*

**Edith Garland Dupré Library**

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Organization

Title: Reference Online Center Enhancement Date: 07/10/2018  
Name (Contact Person): Heather Plaisance  
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Department/College/Org: Edith Garland Dupré Library

**ABSTRACT (250 words or less):**

The Reference Online Center (ROC) is a vital starting point for students who need to conduct research. The ROC is a teaching lab where reference staff assist students directly with navigating the library's online databases and the library catalog. Students may have several browser tabs open at one time while scanning for quality research materials. This is placing a tremendous strain on the aging equipment currently in the lab. The computers in this location were last replaced by a STEP grant in 2010 and are nearing eight years old. Upgrading these workstations will empower students to perform more effective research in a timely manner. The purpose of this request is to secure funding for the upgrade of the public access workstations in the ROC of the Edith Garland Dupré Library.

## **A. Purpose of the Grant and Impact to Student Body as a Whole:**

The library serves as a hub for students on campus. It has become a popular place for students to study, do research and socialize with classmates. To serve the thousands of students who utilize the library's services every year, it is vital that the library provide them with updated technology to support the university's mission of academic excellence. The purpose of this request is to provide funding to replace the current computers in the Reference Online Center. The lab serves as a primary point of information access for students and is a vital component in the process of facilitating competent and successful research for the student body.

During the 2017-2018 fiscal year, staff at the reference desk received over 7000 questions from students. A primary goal of the department is to provide electronic resource training and assistance to students. With the abundance of information available today, students are unsure as to how to find relevant information in their chosen areas of study and need instruction on how to best utilize library resources. The Reference Online Center is a crucial step in this process. Situated directly behind the Reference Desk, the Reference Online Center is a teaching lab where reference staff assist students one-on-one with their research needs.

The Reference Online Center also serves as a third open access lab in the library where students can work on class assignments, take online tests and collaborate with classmates. The lab is open to students approximately 90 hours each week during the fall and spring semesters, with hours during the summer and intersessions. Additionally, the lab is available to faculty for instruction related to the use of library resources. Since the 2014-2015 fiscal year, 220 classes have utilized the lab for class instruction.

The computers currently in this location were funded by a STEP grant awarded in 2010. The funding from this grant would provide the Reference Online Center with 30 workstations and monitors.

## **B. Projected Lifetime of Enhancement:**

4 to 5 years.

## C. Person(s) Responsible for:

### I. Implementation:

Arthur Almazan, Library System Administrator

### II. Installation:

Arthur Almazan, Library System Administrator

### III. Maintenance:

Arthur Almazan, Library System Administrator

### IV. Operation:

Reference Librarians and Students

### V. Training (with qualifications):

Arthur Almazan, Library System Administrator

## Budget Proposal

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<b>1.</b>	<b>Equipment</b>	<b>\$26,700</b>
	Dell Optiplex 3050 Tower with Monitor	\$890.00 x 30 (UL Lafayette PC Depot)
<b>2.</b>	<b>Software</b>	<b>\$</b>
	N/A	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Supplies</b>	<b>\$</b>
	N/A	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Maintenance</b>	<b>\$</b>
	Dell Service	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Personnel</b>	<b>\$</b>
	N/A	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>\$</b>
	N/A	
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$26,700</b>

## Previously Funded STEP Grants

Edith Garland Dupré Library: Collaboration Stations. Fall 2016.

\$5,630.00

Heather Plaisance and Susan Richard

Purchased 2 Table-mounted outlets, 8 task chairs, 2 large screen monitors, and 5 mobile whiteboards.

Edith Garland Dupré Library: Replacement for Digital Access to Microfilm Reader. Fall 2015.

\$17,878.00

Andrea Flockton and Heather Plaisance

Purchased Microfilm Reader.

Upgrades to Audiovisual Equipment in Dupré Library. Spring 2012.

\$2610.66

Andrea Flockton and Heather Plaisance

Purchased Blu-ray disc players, flat screen televisions, headphones, CD/Cassette players, portable DVD players.

Security Cameras in Dupré Library. Spring 2011.

\$66,858.00

Susan Richard, Betsy Migez, et. al.

Purchased security cameras throughout Edith Garland Dupré Library