

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE

STEP Committee

Technology Fee Application

**Burke-Hawthorne Hall 250 Classroom PC
Computer and Printer Replacement, SPSS
Software Renewal, & Vision Pro Software
Installation**

Title

**Michael Gervais, Allen Latour, &
Dr. Bill Davie**

Name of Submitter
(Faculty or Staff Only)

Department of Communication

Organization

Title: Burke-Hawthorne 250 PC Computer and Printer Replacement, SPSS Renewal, & Vision Pro Software Installation Date: 7/7/16

Name (Contact Person): Michael Gervais

Address: Department of Communication

Phone Number: 2-6107 Email: mgervais@louisiana.edu

Department/College/Org: College of Liberal Arts, Department of Communication

ABSTRACT (250 words or less):

The purpose of this STEP grant is to replace the PCs and printer in the computer-based teaching lab shared by the Department of Communication and Communicative Disorders located in Burke-Hawthorne 250. In addition, it proposes to reinstall and update the existing SPSS computer licenses for the next five years and the addition of Vision Pro software in order to allow instructors to display and control the screens of student computers. The existing computers and printer were installed in 2010, and have exceeded their 5-year life cycle. The current SPSS software is incompatible with contemporary versions available. Burke-Hawthorne 250 is the only Windows-based computer lab in the building used to instruct more than 20 classes, and hosts multiple student organization and other groups that reserve the room throughout the semester. This classroom recently received a Fall 2015 STEP grant for the installation of SMART technology, which makes it available for classes other than CMCN and CODI.

Purpose of grant and impact to student body as a whole

This grant aims to replace the current 18 PC student computers and printer in Burke-Hawthorne 250 with additional software packages. Burke-Hawthorne 250 was recently upgraded with SMART classroom technology, including an instructor podium, LCD projector, computer, electronic routing switcher, and motorized projector screen. By adding Vision Pro classroom management software, the instructor will be able to utilize all computer screens and transmit information directly from the instructor's computer to the student workstations. In addition, this computer classroom is equipped with SPSS, a popular statistical analytics program that is no longer suitable for student instruction since the existing version on the computers is out-of-date and incompatible with new SPSS applications. Courses teaching SPSS are taught at both the undergraduate and graduate levels each semester.

Burke-Hawthorne Hall 250 is the only Windows-based computer lab in the building and is used to instruct approximately 20 different classes per year. While the computer lab is under the auspices of the Department of Communication (CMCN), it is shared with the Department of Communicative Disorders (CODI) each semester. The small size of the lab (18 students) provides a favorable teacher-to-student ratio preferred over larger computer labs and lecture classes. It allows for increased student-to-teacher and student-to-student interaction that tends to produce better learning outcomes. Beyond the regular classes hosted in this room, Burke-Hawthorne 250 is also used by multiple student organizations and groups reserve this room for special meetings and presentations whenever it is available. The room is staffed by Communication graduate assistants and remains open for students to use at various times when there are no other classes or events scheduled in the room.

The PC computers and printer in Burke-Hawthorne Hall 250 are currently over five years old and the warranty on them has expired. In keeping with the 5-year life cycle plan for computers on campus, these PCs need to be replaced. Due to the age of these computers, internal components are prone to failure and not suited for repair or replacement. Workstation failures reduce the number of machines available for instructional and testing purposes. Replacing these 18 machines with units and software described will allow levels of lab use to be maintained, students to access contemporary software, and instructional capabilities improved for everyone using this multiple purpose laboratory.

Projected lifetime of enhancement: 5 – 6 years

Person(s) responsible for

Implementation: Michael Gervais, Chief Engineer for the Department of Communication and Allen Latour, Laboratory Technician for the College of Liberal Arts.

Installation: Michael Gervais, Chief Engineer for the Department of Communication and Allen Latour, Laboratory Technician for the College of Liberal Arts.

Maintenance: Michael Gervais, Chief Engineer for the Department of Communication and Allen Latour, Laboratory Technician for the College of Liberal Arts.

Operation: Departments of Communication and Communicative Disorders faculty and their students will utilize this equipment. There will possibly be other classes included with the recent addition of SMART technology in the classroom.

Training (with qualifications): No training is required.

Discuss all previous funded STEP projects: The Department of Communication received a Fall 2015 STEP grant, “Completion of SMART Classroom Technology in Burke-Hawthorne Hall (#117 & 250),” by Gervais for \$36,000 to upgrade to SMART technology in Burke-Hawthorne rooms #250 and 117. The department also received a Fall 2014 grant, “Audio Instructional Lab Upgrade (Burke-Hawthorne Annex),” by Gervais and Davie for \$6,280 to upgrade software and equipment for the audio production labs in the Burke-Hawthorne Audio Annex.

Budget Proposal

- | | | |
|-----------|--------------------|---|
| 1. | Equipment | \$18,180: 18 Standard Dell Optiplex 3020 desktop PC computers
\$330: 1 Hewlett Packard M402dn laser printer |
| 2. | Software | \$3,600: 18 SPSS Advanced Statistics, license upgrade for five years
\$1,400: Vision Pro Classroom Management software |
| 3. | Supplies | \$ |
| 4. | Maintenance | \$ |
| 5. | Personnel | \$ |
| 6. | Other | \$ |

TOTAL: **\$23,510**