

# 2000-2001 Information Technology Vision Plan

## The University of Texas at Austin School of Law

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### *Part I: Executive Summary*

The School of Law aims to incorporate the appropriate information technologies into its teaching and research missions by pursuing the following long-term goals:

- Improve student access to computing resources.
- Develop and deploy local online resources in support of the School of Law's instructional programs and student services.
- Provide the computing infrastructure to take advantage of new information technologies.
- Provide instructional support in the effective use of information technology by students, faculty, and staff.
- Enhance access to information resources available in and through the Jamail Center for Legal Research.

Fulfillment of these goals will be advanced through the following proposed projects:

- Establish the Center for Technology, Teaching, and Learning.
- Upgrade the Computer Learning Center network's data transmission rate from 10BASE-T to 100BASE-T.
- Extend the installation of public Ethernet ports for laptop use.

- Upgrade projection facilities in the Computer Learning Center.
- Improve the computing resources available in the student-edited law review offices.

The proposed budget for these projects totals \$200,910.

## ***Part II: Goals and Objectives***

The School of Law is dedicated both to the professional training of future lawyers and to the study and advancement of law as an intellectual discipline. Its fundamental aims are to provide effective and inspiring teaching, to socialize students to ethical and professional norms, to engage in useful scholarship, to improve the formulation and administration of law, and to promote public service by lawyers.

In support of School's mission, the Computer Services Committee has established the following long-term goals:

- Improve student access to computing resources.
- Develop and deploy local online resources in support of the School of Law's instructional programs and student services.
- Provide the computing infrastructure to take advantage of new information technologies.
- Provide instructional support in the effective use of information technology by students, faculty, and staff.
- Enhance access to information resources available in and through the Jamail Center for Legal Research.

Significant progress towards realizing these objectives has been made. Among the new services recently made available to the Law School community:

- Introduction of Law Central, a secure Web site providing a variety of on-line services to law students, including curriculum advice, registration information, financial aid assistance, and placement services.
- Replacement of 33 obsolete computers in the Computer Learning Center.
- Installation of two e-mail stations and two telephone lines for dial access to ISPs expressly for student use in the Jamail Center for Legal Research.
- Enhancements to TALLONS, the Jamail Center for Legal Research's integrated library system, including replacement of several public catalog stations with PCs running a Web-based interface, the introduction of a circulation module written in the Java programming language, and the incorporation of over 1,500 links to on-line resources in catalog records.
- An expanded Web presence for both the School of Law and the Jamail Center for Legal Research, incorporating Web technologies such as Web Boards and WebCT into the curriculum.
- The addition of electronic information resources such as the CCH Tax Research Network, Congressional Universe, on-line indices for legal periodicals, and electronic books.

## ***Part III: Facilities and Staffing***

Law students have access to the Computer Learning Center (CLC), a 82-workstation facility staffed and managed under contract with the Jamail Center for Legal Research by ACITS Departmental Services. The

CLC is located in the Tarlton Law Library and is open 99 hours a week and staffed by one FTE facility manager and 3.65 FTE student proctors. A 26-station classroom is used for instruction in computer-assisted legal research, for Law School classes involving a computing component, and for one-on-one and group training sessions in the use of computer applications. The number of logins for the facility during FY 1998-99 averaged over 9,700 per month. Students have access to a full array of desktop applications (Microsoft Office 97, WordPerfect Suite 8), Internet applications (Netscape Navigator and Internet Explorer, telnet, FTP, Usenet), and specialized legal research programs (Westlaw, LEXIS, CALI). One computer is configured for scanning applications. Desktop computers consist of Pentium IIs and IIIs (128 MB RAM, 10 GB hard drives, 450-600 MHz) running Windows NT. A Dell PowerEdge 2300 serves as the network server.

Faculty and staff computing is administered by the Computer Information Center (CIC), staffed and managed under contract with the School of Law by ACITS Departmental Services. A staff of 4.5 FTEs support a network of over 300 PCs and Apple computers on a Novell Netware network. In addition to faculty and staff support, the CIC maintains computers located in student organizations and in law review offices.

Among Law School staff, one FTE is devoted to microcomputer applications, two FTE serve as media specialists, and three FTE perform system analysis. In the Jamail Center for Legal Research, one FTE serves as Electronic Resources Librarian and one librarian has administrative responsibility for the CLC, serves as liaison to ACITS, and has functional responsibility for the integrated library system.

#### ***Part IV: Proposed Projects***

##### **A. Academic instruction projects (ITAC eligible)**

##### **1. Establish the Center for Technology, Teaching, and Learning.**

This facility will be located in an existing seminar room adjacent to the Computer Learning Center and will serve as a resource for faculty in incorporating technology into teaching. Center personnel will assist in the development of tutorials, exercises, and other computer-assisted learning tools in support of the School's instructional program. This facility could well serve as a model for other colleges in the incorporation of technology in the classroom.

Cost projection:

<b>Item</b>	<b>No. of units</b>	<b>Unit cost</b>	<b>Total cost</b>
Dell OptiPlex GX1p MiniTower (256 MB SDRAM, 20GB hard drive, 21" monitor, Montego 64 PCI audio card, Sony CD-RW, nVIDIA TNT2 16MB PCI graphics card)	4	\$3,950.	\$15,800.
HP Color LaserJet 4500 printer	1	\$2,500.	\$2,500.
Kodak DC260 Zoom Pro digital camera	1	\$1,000.	\$1,000.
Fujitsu ScanPartner	1	\$1,625.	\$1,625.

600C color scanner			
Studio DC10 Plus video capture card	4	\$230.	\$920.
Sony tape deck	1	\$250.	\$250.
Panasonic VCR	1	\$250.	\$250.
RealServer Plus 7.0 (including server configuration)	1	\$2,500.	\$2,500.
Adobe Dynamic Media Collection	4	\$1,600.	\$6,400.
Adobe Acrobat	4	\$250.	\$1,000.
Adobe PageMaker Plus	4	\$500.	\$2,000.
Soundforge v.4.5	4	\$500.	\$2,000.
Camtasia	4	\$150.	\$600.
Macromedia Authorware v.5	4	\$280.	\$1,120.
ColdFusion Studio v.4.5	4	\$300.	\$1,200.
RealProducer Plus v.7.0	4	\$150.	\$600.
Web Crossings	1	\$695.	\$695.
Installation of network drops	4	\$150.	\$600.
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$41,060.00</b>

## **2. Upgrade the Computer Learning Center network's data transmission rate from 10BASE-T to 100BASE-T.**

Applications requiring high data transmission rates, such as those involving the delivery of streaming media files or Java classes, are slowly being introduced in legal education. The development of instructional video and audio files for use in on-line tutorials and the use of the CLC's classroom facility for Web-based teaching are predicated on high bandwidth. The existing network infrastructure does not have the capacity to effectively deliver these technologies.

Cost projection:

<b>Item</b>	<b>No. of units</b>	<b>Unit cost</b>	<b>Total cost</b>
Cisco Catalyst 2924 XL switches	5	\$2,000.	\$10,000.

## **3. Extend the installation of public Ethernet ports for laptop use.**

A pilot project this year will result in the installation of approximately 120 public Ethernet ports in common areas in the School of Law and outside the Computer Learning Center. This project will extend the availability of plug-in ports to all study carrels on the 5th floor of the Tarlton Law Library and to selected classrooms in the School of Law. This service would be available to all campus researchers using the facilities of the Law Library.

Cost projection:

Item	No. of units	Unit cost	Total cost
Cisco Catalyst 2924 XL switches	10	\$2,000.	\$20,000.
Wiring for Library 5th floor	91	\$150.	\$13,650.
Wiring for THN 2.140 (classroom)	120	\$150.	\$18,000.
TOTAL			\$51,650.

#### 4. Upgrade projection facilities in the Computer Learning Center.

The single, portable LCD projector currently available for use is inadequate for high resolution displays. The installation of two (one for each side of the divisible classroom) ceiling-mounted, remote-control operated, high resolution projectors would greatly improve presentation facilities.

Cost projection:

Item	No. of units	Unit cost	Total cost
Telex P1400 XGA LCD video projector	2	\$10,000.	\$20,000.

#### 5. Upgrade hardware in student-edited law review offices.

All law schools in the United States publish at least one journal edited by its students. These publications provide a meaningful research and writing experience for students. Ten law reviews are currently published at the School of Law. The small subscriber base for these journals precludes a revenue stream sufficient to cover the cost of regular hardware upgrades. Installation of a new server and desktop computers in journal offices would significantly improve the editorial process at these publications.

Cost projection:

Item	No. of units	Unit cost	Total cost
Dell OptiPlex GX1p MiniTower (128 MB SDRAM, 10GB hard drive, 17" monitor)	35	\$2,100.	\$73,500.
Dell PowerEdge 2400 server	1	\$4,700.	\$4,700.
TOTAL			\$78,200.

#### B. Administrative/research areas (non-ITAC eligible)

Significant progress was made upgrading staff desktops and in deploying standardized software images, simplifying management and troubleshooting. A separate server for desktops located in the Jamail Center for Legal Research has distributed network resources more evenly. Several units, primarily those used by student organizations, still fall below baseline standards recommended by ACITS. Computing resources are funded from a variety of sources, including a Computer Learning Center non-course related incidental fee.

A consistent life cycle methodology for hardware in the Computer Learning Center was only recently made possible through a substantial increase in the CLC incidental fee. Current resources are inadequate to

support such a methodology for faculty and staff computing resources.

Continuing development of the Law Central, the School of Law's secure Web site, and TALLONS, the Jamail Center for Legal Research's integrated library system, are funded from existing budget lines.

## *Appendices*

### **1. Total IT summary expenditures for 1998-99**

The School of Law did not receive an ITAC appropriation for FY 1998-99.

### **2. Infrastructure summary**

All desktops in the School of Law have access to UTNet and all network wiring in the facility is Cat 5 UTP.

The classroom in the Computer Learning Center contains 26 Dell GX1p/T+ desktop computers (128 MB RAM, 10 GB hard drives), six of which have Pentium II processors (450 MHz), the remainder with Pentium IIIs (600 MHz).