

# Technology Vision Plan

2003-2004

**College of Education**  
**The University of Texas at Austin**

Submitted by

**The College of Education**  
**The University of Texas at Austin**



## **College of Education Technology Vision Plan Committee**

**Larry Abraham**, Chair, Department of Curriculum & Instruction  
**Ryan Baldwin**, Manager, Computer Services, Learning Technology Center  
**Laurie Caldwell**, Publications Editor, Learning Technology Center  
**Larry Chauvin**, Undergraduate Student in Applied Learning & Development and President, Education Council  
**Frank Escobedo**, Administrative Associate, Learning Technology Center  
**Paul Resta**, Director, Learning Technology Center  
**Herb Rieth**, Chair, Department of Special Education  
**Mike Thomas**, Associate Dean for Administration  
**Jenny Wilson**, Graduate Student in Curriculum & Instruction  
**Chris Yallalee**, Manager, Computer Services, Learning Technology Center

February 2003

## Table of Contents

<i>Executive Summary</i> _____	3
<i>IT Projects Proposed for 2003-2004</i> _____	4
Construct New Network Closets and Rewire Data Network in Sánchez Building _____	4
Provide Laptop Computers for Field Experience Facilitators _____	5
Install Permanent Projectors in Classrooms _____	6
Provide Mobile Laptop Computer Laboratory _____	7
Create Additional Technology Classroom _____	8
Upgrade and Enhance Model Technology Classroom _____	9
Provide Handheld Devices to Support Instruction _____	10

# College of Education Technology Vision Plan

**2003-2004**

## Summary of Requests

The College of Education (COE) has made rapid progress toward its goal of integrating computing and telecommunication technologies into all phases of its academic, research, and service functions. The College envisions all components of its undergraduate and graduate student preparation programs, including field experience, academic courses, and research, utilizing the latest computing and telecommunications technologies to maximize educational benefits, professional preparation, collaboration and research quality. The College is committed to providing the high-speed networks, technology-rich facilities, training and support necessary to achieve this goal.

The Student Laptop Initiative, which went into effect in 2002 and requires all students in the teacher education Professional Development Sequence to purchase an Apple iBook, represents a major step toward these technology goals, and has affected all facets of the College's planning for technology services and facilities.

Working to provide the many levels of support required for the laptop initiative has led to the realization that the College must now begin to plan how its next generation of computer labs will best support the current technology trends. In fact, the College must also explore other ways to deliver technology in a variety of settings that expands the reach of technology into more classrooms, cooperating schools, and hands of students and faculty.

The projects of the 2003-2004 College of Education Technology Vision Plan address these new realities. The new data wiring and closets in the Sanchez Building are the necessary foundation to keep technologies current and allow for new capabilities in the future. A project to provide iBooks to teacher education field experience facilitators provides critical support to the Student Laptop Initiative. Outfitting twenty College classrooms with projectors, providing a fleet of mobile laptop computers, and creating an additional technology classroom will allow the use of computer technology in many more of the College's classrooms. Enhancements to the current Model Technology Classroom and a classroom set of handhelds will allow faculty to explore the potential of new technologies to improve instruction.

The budget requested for 2003-2004 is **\$604,800**.

If there are questions concerning these projects or other information described in this report, please contact Dr. Paul Resta, Director, Learning Technology Center, College of Education (*resta@mail.utexas.edu*).

## IT Projects Proposed for 2003-2004

### Construct New Network Closets and Rewire Data Network in Sánchez Building

The College of Education's plan to update its Sánchez Building data network infrastructure, as described in the 2002-2003 Vision Plan project "Data Network Infrastructure Upgrade", is now underway. The new gateway and node closet switches will provide the greater speeds, higher bandwidth, and data security necessary to take advantage of the latest technological advances.

Current network equipment is housed in the building's electrical closets. The new equipment must be installed in racks, which safety standards and the closets' size prohibit. The College proposes constructing eight new data network closets, two per floors 2-5, using existing storage closet and restroom lounge space. The new closets will have cable tray access, floor-to-floor access holes, and allow for rack installation.

The building's current data ports must then be rewired to the new closets. Rewiring will allow the College to replace older, failing cables and a hodge-podge of termination technologies with a consistent infrastructure of Cat 5e cabling, providing a faster more secure data network.

These upgrades will provide the infrastructure the College of Education needs to take advantage of network and computing advances well into this century.

#### **Budget Detail:**

Network Closet Construction (8)	\$10,000
New Cable Installations (735)	\$111,000
<b>Budget Total</b>	<b>\$121,000</b>

### **Provide Laptop Computers for Field Experience Facilitators**

Each semester the College of Education employs about forty facilitators of field experiences in its teacher certification programs. These facilitators, working with a faculty coordinator, closely supervise the classroom experience in area schools of pre-service teachers. Since the College's certification programs instituted the Student Laptop Initiative, the daily use of laptop computers by pre-service teachers for coursework, lesson planning, communication, and record-keeping has been emphasized. The College has provided each faculty coordinator a laptop, but facilitators have not been so equipped.

The College proposes providing a set of laptops available for semester-long checkout to these field experience facilitators to ensure that students are mentored by those who can teach, supervise, communicate, and evaluate using the expected level of instructional technology integration.

**Budget Detail:**

Apple iBooks and Carrying Cases (40)	\$40,000
<b>Budget Total</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>

## **Install Permanent Projectors in Classrooms**

The number of College of Education instructors who have laptop computers has increased in recent years, and with the Student Laptop Initiative, many students are also now equipped with them. These laptops could be used much more often to facilitate instruction and student presentations if projectors were available in classrooms without prior planning for projector reservation and delivery.

The College proposes installing permanent, ceiling mounted projectors in twenty classrooms that instructors and students can connect their laptops to via wall outlets.

### **Budget Detail:**

LCD Projectors (20)	\$104,000
Spare bulb (20)	\$7,000
Video Cables (20)	\$1,600
Wall hardware & installation (20)	\$4,000
A/C Power in Ceiling (20)	\$50,000
Fiber Optic Security (20)	\$30,000
<b>Budget Total</b>	<b>\$196,600</b>

### **Provide Mobile Laptop Computer Laboratory**

The demand for the College of Education's computer laboratories cannot be met at times, especially for classes of more than 30 students. Now that wireless network access is available throughout the Sanchez Building, any classroom has the potential to be a computer laboratory/classroom if a fleet of laptop computers is available.

The College proposes acquiring 35 laptop computers and two mobile laptop storage/recharge carts to create a mobile laptop computer lab/classroom. This will address the demand for computer lab/classrooms and the College's goal to make technology more available in general classrooms. The two carts could be used together or separately, depending on class size, increasing the flexibility of the equipment's use.

**Budget Detail:**

iBook Laptops (35)	\$35,000
Laptop Storage/Recharge Carts (2)	\$4000
<b>Budget Total</b>	<b>\$39,000</b>

## **Create Additional Technology Classroom**

The College of Education's Model Technology Classroom, completed in large part with ITAC funding in 2001, has been a great success. The room is constantly in demand for semester-long courses, meetings, training sessions, and workshops. College faculty make effective use of the room's flexibly arranged seating and multimedia projection, and their requests to use the room must often be denied.

The College proposes creating an additional technology classroom in the Sánchez Building that can seat 35 students to allow more faculty with larger classes to use these technologies in their instruction. The room's features will include electrical/data connections throughout a raised floor, flexibly arranged student desks, instructor multimedia console, and projector.

### **Budget Detail:**

Flooring/Electrical/Data	\$30,000
Furniture/Chairs	\$45,500
Instructor Console	\$37,500
Projector	\$6,000
Projection Screen	\$2,000
<b>Budget Total</b>	<b>\$121,000</b>

## Upgrade and Enhance Model Technology Classroom

The Model Technology Classroom continues to be in great demand, as it has since its completion in 2001. Its features allow instructors to model best practices and experiment with new instructional technology techniques. The College of Education proposes equipment updates and enhancements that will keep this room in the forefront of instructional technology.

The laptops currently used in the Model Technology Classroom are older "clamshell" iBooks. Their lack of true VGA output and slower CPU speed make multimedia display and the future use of OS X difficult. Replacing these with the newer 12" PowerBooks with SuperDrives will provide the room with G4 processor technology and make multimedia design much more feasible.

Enhancements to the room's SmartBoard capabilities will expand its hallmark flexibility, allowing instructors to experiment with an even wider variety of classroom techniques. A wireless option for the rear projection SmartBoard would provide the potential for any student computer in the room to connect directly to the SmartBoard. Overlays for the room's two plasma screens will allow them to also function as SmartBoards, extending their functionality as group breakout tools.

### **Budget Detail:**

SmartBoard Wireless Option	\$1000
SmartBoard for Plasma Screens (2)	\$8,000
12" PowerBook SuperDrive (25)	\$60,000
<b>Budget Total</b>	<b>\$69,000</b>

### **Provide Handheld Devices to Support Instruction**

Handheld computing devices have become nearly as ubiquitous as the laptop computer. Already these devices have been integrated into instruction for real-time feedback, data collection with scientific probes, and fieldwork records. They can also be used with many conventional computing applications such as word processors and databases.

The College of Education proposes acquiring a classroom set of these devices, along with a suite of software and peripheral components, to allow faculty to explore their potential to improve instruction.

**Budget Detail:**

Handheld Devices (35)	\$5250
Probes (35)	\$8750
Software	\$4200
<b>Budget Total</b>	<b>\$18,200</b>

---

<b>Total All Projects Requested</b>	<b>\$604,800</b>
-------------------------------------	------------------