

**DIVISION OF INSTRUCTIONAL INNOVATION AND ASSESSMENT
VISION PLAN • 2006–2007**

SUMMARY OF REQUESTS

DIIA is requesting \$1,533,000 in the 2006–2007 ITAC Vision Plan. Of the total 20 requested items, 2 are student programs (\$130,000), 1 is for faculty support (\$92,000), 13 for both students and faculty (\$946,000), and 4 are for network, servers, hardware, and lab (\$365,000).

TOTAL REQUEST FOR 2006–2007	\$1,533,000
<i>Ongoing Operations</i>	<i>\$861,000</i>
~FAST Tex program	\$120,000
Assessment of effectiveness of teaching with technology	\$92,000
Multimedia e-space learning and teaching lab operation	\$105,000
Lecture recording and video podcasting support	\$40,000
TA/graduate student instructor Teaching with Technology certification	\$60,000
World Lecture Hall maintenance	\$10,000
Ongoing Course Assessment system (OCA)	\$30,000
eGradebook support and development	\$74,000
Course-Instructor Survey development and support	\$30,000
Lifecycle funding of staff equipment	\$100,000
* Blackboard support and development	\$200,000
 <i>Proposed New Ongoing Operations</i>	 <i>\$512,000</i>
Gaming and simulation technology evaluation and development	\$188,000
Course development for technology-integrated classes	\$95,000
Voice recognition technology research and support for media	\$45,000
Citation software	\$43,000
Improving student credit-by-exam Web petitioning processes	\$70,000
Scanning software upgrade for classroom tests	\$56,000
Mobile computing evaluation, assessment, and training	\$15,000
 <i>One-Time Capital Expense Projects</i>	 <i>\$160,000</i>
E-space learning and teaching lab	\$140,000
Server storage and memory upgrades	\$20,000

* Blackboard support and development can be removed from this request if it is funded through the collaborative ITS / DIIA vision plan request for the Ongoing comprehensive Blackboard support.

OVERVIEW OF CURRENT IT PROGRAMS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

DIIA's mission is to integrate pedagogy, instructional technology, and assessment to promote effective and innovative instructional and evaluation practices in support of the University's core purpose and values. All ongoing, new proposed ongoing, and one-time capital expense projects align with DIIA's mission. Each one moves the University forward in the areas of teaching and learning, assessment, and the effective use of instructional technology.

DIIA INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES SUPPORTED BY ITAC FUNDS

DIIA relies largely on the ITF allocation to fund our instructional activities, support the multimedia lab, and fund a large portion of our additional recurring expenses. For 2004–2005, DIIA and its Center for Instructional Technologies received ITAC funding of \$715,621, which represents \$405,671 for ongoing operations and \$309,950 for one-time projects. For 2005–2006, DIIA and its Center for Instructional Technologies received ITAC funding of \$650,429, which represents \$360,426 for ongoing operations and \$290,00 for one-time projects. ITAC helps to fund the following programs and services:

~FAST Tex—Administer and monitor 54 faculty projects and employ 57 students; currently in progress

IITAP—Conduct the ninth annual instructional technology incentive program for UT faculty involving call for proposals, administration, management of a panel of national judges, and an open house at which all entrants are showcased and winners are announced

Multimedia lab—Provide the only high-end production facility open to all UT faculty and students for class projects; the lab is open 56 hours per week, staffed by a manager, technicians, and part-time proctors

Courseware—Provide training, second-tier expert consulting, and administration for Blackboard and other Web courseware tools

Technical evaluation—Conduct exploration and development on new and emerging technologies

Database production and maintenance—Build and maintain World Lecture Hall, EUREKA!, E-Portfolio and in-house databases

Resource development—Create Web site resources, tutorials, lab guides, journal submissions, and conference presentations

Training—Conduct workshops, on-site and lab-based training sessions for faculty and graduate student instructors, and for classes based on requests from instructors

Ongoing Course Assessment system—Allow faculty to solicit anonymous, secure student feedback online throughout the semester

eGradebook—Allow faculty to maintain course assignments, related grades, and calculate final grades for their students in a secure online environment

CIS/eCIS—Allow students to give feedback to faculty about their courses and teaching at the end of each semester

Infrastructure—Provide network, servers, hardware, software, computers and lab equipment that support these programs and services

These services support best practices by streamlining existing processes, allowing better communication and collaboration between faculty and students, training faculty in the effective use of technology, allowing faculty and students to use more technology in their classrooms, and enabling DIIA to more effectively evaluate, assess, and implement emerging technologies on campus.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES SUPPORTED BY LOCAL/SPECIAL FUNDS

DIIA receives student fee money and state-appropriated funds for developing policy for technology-enhanced learning and its other operations: credit-by-exam testing, petitioning, management of student credit-by-exam tests, test administration, computer testing labs, classroom

scanning, administration of the course instructor survey, and online services that integrate student information.

DIIA does not receive other local money or special funding for operations that:

- Provide students and faculty reliable instructional technology services
- Make possible direct access to online and multimedia learning and teaching technologies
- Support and complement departments and colleges in their endeavors to promote innovation in instruction
- Partner with colleges in the research and development of instructional technologies
- Collaborate with other campus entities in implementing technology grants

Not represented in this plan are the following collaborative proposals:

- Ongoing comprehensive Blackboard support with ITS

NEEDS AND PROPOSED USE OF FUNDS

Ongoing Operations

\$861,000

~FAST Tex program

\$120,000

Continuing funds are needed for 40–50 students to support over 50 projects impacting more than 30,000 students. Includes lifecycle replacement of equipment and hardware and software upgrades.

Assessment of effectiveness of teaching with technology

\$92,000

Continuing funds are needed for an evaluation specialist to provide assessment-specific support for faculty who integrate technology in their teaching, two graduate students who have expertise in qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis, and equipment to record and transcribe qualitative interviews. Duties include evaluating the effectiveness of online courses and lectures, new and existing online resources, new multimedia instructional materials, and ~FAST Tex projects, as well as providing IITAP entry consulting. This request also supports research studies to inform the effective use of technological resources for teaching and learning.

Multimedia e-space learning and teaching lab operation

\$105,000

Continuing funds are needed for a systems analyst, computer programmer, and part-time lab proctors to manage and operate the lab.

Lecture recording and video podcasting support

\$40,000

To continue research and support of online instruction development, webcasting, video podcasting, and tutorial development, student assistants will be hired to facilitate production and training. Licenses for tools must be renewed and server support must be maintained. Our mobile encoding system will be upgraded and made available for checkout by UT faculty and students for recording and webcasting lectures and presentations.

TA/graduate student instructor Teaching with Technology certification

\$60,000

DIIA, in collaboration with the Office of the Provost, Office of the Graduate Studies, and the International Office, has developed a series of workshops focused on teaching with instructional technologies. The series will lead to a certificate in technology-enhanced teaching methods and create a pool of qualified graduate student instructors for large classes, as well as train future faculty skilled in using technological innovations in teaching and student learning. Three graduate student instructional designers will be hired to provide development and training.

World Lecture Hall maintenance

\$10,000

The widely praised World Lecture Hall Web site needs ongoing funding to maintain a rich and prestigious resource at an acceptable technological level.

Ongoing Course Assessment system (OCA) **\$30,000**
Continuing funds are needed to coordinate, enhance, and support UT Austin's Web-based Ongoing Course Assessment system to provide both qualitative and quantitative statistical data to assess teaching effectiveness by both faculty and students.

eGradebook support and development **\$74,000**
Continuing funds are needed to coordinate, enhance, and support UT Austin's Web-based eGradebook system with which faculty can manage course assignments and each student's related grades throughout the semester. The system can automatically calculate final grades and integrates directly with the University's Online Grade Submission system.

Course-Instructor Survey (CIS)/eCIS **\$30,000**
Continuing funds are needed to support the CIS process from distribution of paper forms to data-gathering and generating results. This system will continue to enable automatic creation of results on the Web for deans, chairs, and faculty. Fast reporting would allow faculty to make meaningful and expeditious adjustments to their courses, before the beginning of the next semester, based on student feedback.

Lifecycle funding of staff equipment **\$100,000**
DIIA staff hardware, software, and peripherals require timely upgrades and replacement in order to properly serve our clients. We are implementing a four-year replacement cycle.

***Blackboard support, development, and training** **\$200,000**
Continuing funds are needed for two training specialists hired to provide support for faculty using Blackboard. In addition, Blackboard is built on a core system that can be expanded and customized. For custom modules that require in-house development, DIIA requests one-and-a-half FTE for new Java/JSP-skilled programmers.

Proposed New Ongoing Operations **\$512,000**

Gaming and simulation technology evaluation and development **\$188,000**
Continuing funds are needed to retain an existing GRA and systems analyst to research, evaluate, and assess gaming technologies for instructional uses. DIIA will hire one additional systems analyst, a graphics artist, and needed equipment to develop an instructional game development engine that will support research and instruction regarding the use of videogames to enhance student learning and instruction at UT Austin.

Course development for technology-integrated classes **\$95,000**
DIIA will hire an instructional designer and media specialist to work directly with faculty and graduate student instructors to develop learning objects that incorporate multimedia and interactive elements to enhance the effectiveness of the instructional process and improve learning environments.

Voice-recognition technology research and support for media **\$45,000**
DIIA will research the latest advances in voice-recognition technology for its application in video captioning and audio transcriptions, and will compare costs for outsourcing and in-house production. Accessibility-testing protocols will be applied to faculty projects, including ~FAST Tex, webcast and online teaching resources, and new multimedia instructional materials. Funds will purchase tools, compensate student testers, and bring the added benefit of introducing accessibility-testing techniques to students.

Citation software	\$43,000
Funding is needed to provide the University with citation-focused software. This software is designed to help students avoid plagiarism and improper citation. The software encourages original writing and proper documentation practices by cross-referencing submitted materials with an archived database of journals, essays, newspaper articles, books, and other published work.	
Improving student credit-by-exam web petitioning processes	\$70,000
Funding will be needed for one and a half systems analysts to streamline the process of petitioning for credit and grades for both students and the student advisors in each of the colleges. This Web interface will allow better integration with the Credit-by-Exam system and the student transcript.	
Scanning software upgrade for classroom tests	\$56,000
Upgrading and streamlining scanning software will help students receive their grades more quickly by processing classroom test sheets faster and more efficiently. This software will integrate with eGradebook and the Blackboard grade book to record scanned results in a more efficient manner.	
Mobile computing evaluation, assessment, and training	\$15,000
Faculty and students may use tablet PCs connected to classroom projection systems to enable presentation annotations, demonstrate explanations, draw graphs, make handwritten notes for later text conversion, and write math equations. New equipment is needed to effectively research and evaluate various mobile technologies for their usefulness for teaching and learning and to create related workshops for faculty and students.	
 <i>One-Time Capital Expense Projects</i>	 <i>\$160,000</i>
E-space learning and teaching lab	\$140,000
Inspired by Stanford's Wallenberg Hall experiment, DIIA desires to enhance the multimedia lab with a student media center for 3D media development, video, audio, gaming, and collaborative learning facilities. Video equipment kits will be made available for students to check out for projects. Workshops and activities for 3D modeling and animation, educational gaming development, video and audio production will be offered. Students will be hired for peer-to-peer mentoring and to support student-centered activities. With mobile and modular lab furniture to allow a flexible physical setting, the lab can be adapted to facilitate group work, peer-to-peer collaboration, presentations, training, or traditional lectures. All workshops, courses, activities and classes will be monitored to research and discover effective teaching and learning strategies to inform planning for purchases in the next 5–10 years.	
Server storage and memory upgrades	\$20,000
The ability to archive ongoing and completed projects requires purchase of tape media. Increased server use necessitates upgrading existing hardware with greater storage and memory.	