

Information Technology Vision Plan

AY 2009 – 2010

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

QuickTime™ and a
decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

Submitted December 5, 2008

Summary of Requests for AY 2009 – 2010

Programs

1. Upgrade Videoconferencing equipment to HD\$90,000
Convert PHR 3.106 to an HD videoconference classroom and upgrade Control Room (PHR 4.121) to handle the HD signal. Deploy a portable HD videoconference system for small group use in meeting spaces.
 2. Life Cycle replacement of computers in Teaching Classroom (PHR 2.116)\$24,000
Replace the 23 Dell Optiplex SX 270s with Optiplex 760s or better.
 3. Classroom technology maintenance and upgrades\$30,000
Recurring request for maintenance and upgrades of General Purpose & Departmental classrooms.
- Total ITAC requests for AY 2009 – 2010\$144,000

Needs and Proposed Use of Funds

Converting the videoconferencing equipment to HD in the PHR 3.106 classroom includes replacing our current Polycom video codec with an HD Polycom codec, and upgrading any equipment as needed to support this HD system (e.g. cameras and projectors). It also requires upgrading our current video and audio switcher to a digital one in the Control Room (PHR 4.121), as well as additional equipment related to the video/audio chain (e.g. digital video/audio router, and new hard drive recording devices with redundancy to phase out live DVD recording). Projected cost of these infrastructure upgrades for PHR 3.106 and the Control Room is \$65,000.

The estimated cost to deploy a portable HD videoconference system for other Pharmacy rooms is \$25,000. The unit would help reduce the demand from our installed videoconference facilities, allowing small groups to utilize the technology in supplementary meeting spaces.

Various University courses and Administrative Computing training classes as well as the College of Pharmacy courses use the Dell Optiplex computers in PHR 2.116. The current computers are five years old and we have replaced 6 monitors and 4 logic boards within the last semester alone due to failure. Life cycle replacement for the 23 computers would cost \$24,000.

The College continues to maintain and upgrade equipment and software in the General Purpose (PHR 2.108, 2.110, 2.114 and 2.116) and Departmental classrooms (PHR 2.208, 2.214, 3.106, 3.108, 3.110, 3.114, and 4.114). This commitment includes replacing aging or failing components as well as introducing new technology. Recurring costs, such as the JMP license for the Teaching Classroom, are incorporated into the request of \$30,000.

Overview of Current IT Programs and Infrastructure

Vision/Mission/Goals of the Unit

The Learning Resource Center (LRC) is responsible for the information technology support within the College of Pharmacy.

The mission of the LRC of the College of Pharmacy is:

- to support and maintain a reliable and modern instructional technology

infrastructure;

- to offer dependable, outstanding service to faculty, students and staff in specific, identified priority areas; and
- to provide professional training and consulting on using technology for productivity and education.

The LRC makes its mission operational by supporting:

- live two-way and multi-point interactive video conferencing
- digital delivery of recorded Pharmacy classes
- computer, audio/visual and educational technology support for classes
- a student computer laboratory (PHR 3.116)
- an instructional materials development facility (PHR 3.112)
- a student audiovisual library (PHR 3.114)
- a computer teaching classroom (PHR 2.116)
- the College website (www.utexas.edu/pharmacy)
- training and consulting in a variety of technical areas
- faculty and staff desktop and laptop computers

IT Organization

The LRC staff is comprised of the following:

Director – manages the Learning Resource Center

Sr. Systems Analyst – administers network and supports desktop computers

Sr. Systems Analyst – develops the Pharmacy website and manages multimedia lab

Sr. Systems Analyst – manages the Pharmacy servers and supports desktop computers

Development Researcher – supports computerized A/V classroom systems

RTV V – coordinates Pharmacy videoconferences

Administrative Associate – manages audiovisual library and LRC office

They report to the Academic Support Committee, chaired by Senior Associate Dean, Patrick Davis.

Infrastructure

Computing Facilities

The College of Pharmacy operates a student computer lab (PHR 3.116), a computer teaching classroom (PHR 2.116), and an audiovisual library (PHR 3.114) that houses computers used for streaming video and general use as well as VCRs and DVD players:

<u>Room</u>	<u>OS</u>	<u>No. of Computers</u>
PHR 3.116	Win XP	32
PHR 2.116	Win XP	23
PHR 3.114	Mac OS X	8

The standard set of software on the computers includes the Microsoft Office suite, web browsers (including specialized plug-ins for media types requested by faculty), and other utilities such as Quicktime. Keyserved software includes Adobe Creative Suite 2 (PHR 3.116) and JMP (PHR 2.116). LabMan is used to manage the computers remotely for all three facilities.

Technology Auditoriums and Classrooms

The College of Pharmacy maintains three videoconferencing classrooms, one auditorium-style large room (seats 136), one auditorium-style medium room (seats 45), and a compact boardroom-style facility (seats 20).

The College placed Liberal Arts Technology Classroom Consoles in three General Purpose Classrooms on the second floor and has installed ceiling mounted projectors, computers, and A/V equipment in all other instructional spaces (denoted as PHR Standard in the table below).

Classroom Inventory

Room Number	Capacity	Installed Equipment	General Purpose
2.108	127	Liberal Arts standard	Yes
2.110	133	Liberal Arts standard	Yes
2.114	60	Liberal Arts standard	Yes
2.116	45	PHR standard	~75%
2.208	20	PHR standard*	No
2.214	20	Data projector, dual-platform computer	No
3.106	136	Full tech. classroom, not LA standard*	No
3.108	30	PHR standard (teaching lab)	No
3.110	30	PHR standard (multipurpose lab)	No
3.114A	10	PHR standard	No
3.114B	10	PHR standard	No
3.114C	6	Plasma screen only	No
3.114D	10	PHR standard	No
4.114	52	PHR standard*	No

* Classrooms equipped for videoconferencing.

Networking

The College of Pharmacy's network expanded to include the sixth floor of BME when our Medicinal Chemistry Division and their labs moved in August 2008.

Total number of Ethernet ports maintained by the College	1282
Number of static and dynamic IP addresses	650
Number of 100baseT switched ports	1091

Departmental Servers

The College operates three servers for primarily administrative uses:

- Mac Mini, OS X (FileMaker Pro Server)
- Mac Mini, OS X (FileMaker Pro Unlimited - Instant Publishing)
- Mac Mini, OS X (Sassafras Keyserver, Now-Up-To-Date)

In addition, two video servers and a large RAID array are used to publish streaming video to our audiovisual library and feed the video caches installed in our San Antonio and El Paso sites:

- Mac Xserve, OS X Server (QuickTime/MPEG4 Streaming Server, Apache Web server)
- Dell PowerEdge 2850, Windows 2003 Server (Flash Communication Server, Flash video streaming)
- Mac Xserve, OS X Server (Netinfo/WINS Server, Retrospect backup server using Xserve RAID)

Finally, three servers are used for file storage and student lab management:

- Mac Xserve, OS X Server (LRC Fileserver, AFP/ FTP fileserver)
- Dell PowerEdge 2400, Windows 2000 Server (Labman and Application server)
- Dell PowerEdge 2650, Windows 2003 Server (Ghost, RevrDist, and file server)

Portable Projectors and Notebook Computers

Although the College has installed instructional technology in every dedicated classroom, we still maintain a complement of portable equipment for checkout by faculty, staff, and students.

Current and Proposed Funding Sources

The LRC's funding is derived from two student fee income sources, the College's Instructional Technology Fee and ITAC funds. Although the Instructional Technology fee has been combined with the flat-fee tuition, the level of support has not changed. The majority of it is used to finance four staff salaries, workstudy wages and office supplies.

The ITAC funds are used for infrastructure and IT expenditures such as computers, software, videoconferencing equipment, classroom audiovisual equipment, and our network.

The LRC also receives funding from the Dean's Office for three staff salaries, the Director, RTV V and one Sr. Systems Analyst.

Best Practices

This year we installed Murantz digital recorders in two of the General Purpose classrooms (PHR 2.108 and 2.210) in order to streamline the process of capturing podcast data. These units utilize our current audio system and are accessible by IP. There is no offline processing of the captured files, and it requires minimal effort from the professor or LRC staff. The professor starts and stops the recording, and the staff upload the file to Blackboard. Next fall, we intend to train the class' TAs to upload the files for their instructors.

The College of Pharmacy faculty continues to expand their use of Turning Point (TP), a classroom response system, across multiple campuses. The LRC installed TP receivers in the remote site classrooms' computer (San Antonio, UTEP and UTPA) to allow full student participation. Using remote polling software that dials in over IP to the instructor's computer, all responses are collected as if the students were located in Austin. The remote polling software is currently available for the PC only.

Use of Previous Academic Year Allocations

The AY 2007 – 2008 ITAC funds were used for infrastructure, classroom maintenance and upgrades, and partially fund a one-time project, three digital directories for the main College of Pharmacy hallways.

Infrastructure

Network.....\$3,400

Two Catalyst switches were replaced due to failure. New switches for the BME network were line items of the original project budget.

Recurring hardware and software commitments\$52,600

Computers and a printer in Austin and San Antonio were replaced as part of life cycle funding. Software license renewals (e.g. JMP) and upgrades for utility packages, such as Quicktime, were purchased.

Programs

Renovation of PHR 2.208.....\$20,000

This videoconferencing facility received a major upgrade including dedicated flat-panel screens to display the remote site and outgoing video, Creston control panel and Extron switcher.

Other classroom maintenance and upgrades.....\$27,000

Pharmacy classrooms on the third floor received new ceiling mounted projectors and computers for their consoles. Computers within the Liberal Arts consoles were also replaced. Two Murantz digital recorders were added to the Liberal Arts consoles in PHR 2.108 and 2.110 for capturing podcast data.

One Time Project\$800

Digital Directories were installed on the main floors of the College of Pharmacy. A grant from the University Coop funded the majority of the equipment and installation of the directories. ITAC funds were used to complete the project.

Use of remaining ITAC funds.....\$24,000

We have ordered eight iMacs to replace the computers in the audiovisual library (\$11,000) and two Mac Xserve servers (\$13,000) with the remaining funds from AY 2007 – 2008.

Joint ITAC Proposal

The College of Pharmacy is participating in the “Automated Instructional Video Podcasting and Blogging” joint proposal, submitted for AY 2008-2009. We have installed the required Ethernet ports and anticipate receiving the equipment from the College of Communications in December 2008.

Appendix

College of Pharmacy ITAC Expenses 2007-2008

