UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA
AT LAFAYETTE

STEP Committee

Technology Fee Application

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Wireless Network Legacy Replacement – Phase II

Title

Vickie Y. Bailey
Name of Submitter
(Staff or Faculty only)

Signature of Dean
(REQUIRED)
Title: Wireless Network Legacy Replacement – Phase II

Date: __________

Name (Contact Person): __Vickie Y. Bailey_____________________

Address:_PO Drawer 42850 Lafayette, LA 0504-2850________________

Phone Number:_482-6418__________ Email: _vickie.bailey@louisiana.edu

Department/College/Org : _Information and Media Networks_________

ABSTRACT (250 words or less):

The University wireless was originally installed seven years ago. Since that time, there have been advancements in wireless technology. Additionally, students are relying on wireless connectivity more and more in their daily life; it has become the preferred type of connectivity. To meet the increased demands, Information and Media Networks is proposing replacing existing legacy wireless access points with new wireless devices.

In July 2011, IMN submitted the Phase I proposal and achieved our goal of replacing legacy APs. This proposal represents the second phase and will allow us to remove all legacy wireless access points.

The purpose of this STEP grant proposal is to improve our wireless network to address the University’s wireless computing needs. The replacement of legacy wireless access points with new wireless access points loaded with improved technology will assist to support the University information technology mission.

This STEP grant would complement the Wireless Enhancement Project which was previously funded last spring. This proposal is an “additional” component to the overall University wireless expansion and will provide increased wireless coverage in a variety of locations across campus with the goal to positively address students’ wireless needs.
Proposal:

a. Purpose of grant and its impact:
   The purpose of this grant is to create a wireless network system which can perform at a high availability rate. Information and Median Networks has seen a marked increase in wireless computing by students. The majority of wireless devices generally function in the 2.4 GHz, newer wireless devices have the ability to operate in either the 2.4 or the 5 GHz range. The best wireless solution has the ability to provide wireless access in both ranges. By providing these dual channels, the access points give wireless users the option of which range in which to operate. Additionally, having dual channels provides additional bandwidth to be shared by all wireless users.

   Students do not want to be tied to a cable to be productive; yet they live their lives “connected”. Research is done online, communication, schoolwork, free time – all online. With this connectivity, students want to be free to roam, not limited to specific locations during specific times.

b. Projected Lifetime
   The wireless equipment will have an estimated useful lifespan of 5 to 7 years

c. Person(s) responsible for:
   i. Implementation: Existing IMN staff will be responsible for the implementation and configuration for the required interconnects.
   ii. Installation: Existing IMN staff will be responsible for the installation of the new cable plant and all electronic components.
   iii. Maintenance: Existing IMN staff will maintain and effect required repairs.
   iv. Operation: IMN will train department staff to operate this installation properly.
   v. Training (with qualifications): Existing IMN staff will be responsible for any training of department personnel. No technical qualifications are necessary.

d. The budget proposal covers the cost of the wireless access points, the software required to configure and manage the access points, as well as the support contract in the case of faulty equipment and software updates.
# Budget Proposal

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Equipment</td>
<td>$77,552.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Software</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Supplies</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Maintenance</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Personnel</td>
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<td>6. Other</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$80,028.80</strong></td>
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