

**Division of Academic Affairs
Technology Fee – Project Proposal
2014**

Proposal Deadline: Tuesday, January 21, 2014

Project Proposal Type

Systemic Project

Projects proposed by operational units of the university (e.g., colleges, academic departments, Library, etc.) for instructional technology enhancements of unit-wide or university-wide scope.

Project Title

Student iPad Proposal

Total Amount of Funding Requested

\$23,598.90

Primary Project Coordinator

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Systemic Project Proposal
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This is a proposal for the purchase of **30 Apple iPads**. These iPads would be available at the John C. Pace Library for all students to check out for a 4-day loan. The total one-time cost of this proposal (including iPads, warranty, and additional equipment for maintenance and storage) is \$23,598.90.

1. Project Description

Description of initiative/investment to enhance instructional technology

The John C. Pace Library currently maintains a circulating collection of sixty iPads. These iPads are loaned out to students for use both inside and outside the libraries. Students may check out the iPads for a period of four days. The iPads provide tablet computing power to students who might not otherwise have access to it. The flexibility and usability of tablets is a boon to students in today's mobile and interactive educational environment. Students are able to utilize these iPads in the library, the classroom, or any other location on or off campus. 30 of the current 60 iPads are about to go out of warranty and are a number of generations behind current tablet technology. The damage accumulated from regular wear and tear on these tablets due to the high-volume usage is significant, and having tablets out of warranty puts the program in a perilous position. This project would replace the oldest 30 iPads with newer, warranted machines. Due to the heavy demand upon these iPads, replacing these 30 older iPads will allow the program to continue to enhance student experience and meet their needs for flexible, portable tablet technology.

2. Project Scope

Description of how initiative has a college/unit-wide or university-wide scope

The John C. Pace Library serves all of the students in the University, and this program in particular will benefit all those students who physically visit the library by allowing for a continuation of current levels of computing power both inside and outside of the physical building. The John C. Pace Library was visited by 508,876 individuals in the 2012-2013 fiscal year. The increase in library hours, including the implementation of 3 weeks of 24/5 operations during the finals period in Fall 2012 and 2 weeks in Spring 2013, increased the availability of library resources for student, including iPads. Expanding this program would make hardware, software, and a variety of educational apps available to more students where they need it most: educational experiences both inside and outside of the classroom.

While maintaining the warranties necessary to safely loan the equipment, these 30 iPads would also allow for the 30 older iPads to be moved into the long-term loan equipment, which is utilized by faculty and graduate students for teaching, research, and conference attendance.

3. UWF Strategic Plan

Description of alignment with UWF Strategic Plan

The University of West Florida's current mission statement (2012-2017) establishes a commitment "to provide students with access to high-quality, relevant, and affordable undergraduate and graduate learning experiences; to transmit, apply, and discover knowledge through teaching, scholarship, research, and public service." This project is directly focused on increasing the availability of high-quality, mobile tablet technology to our students who may not otherwise be able to afford access to it and providing mobile technology that allows students to take full advantage of the opportunities for discovering knowledge through scholarship, research and public service in a variety of venues. As the use of tablets grows and becomes more integrated in the workforce, knowledge of tablet computing will become an increasingly relevant skill set for students to possess.

In addition, the UWF Libraries iPad proposal is in direct alignment with several specific portions of the University of West Florida Strategic Plan (2012-2017), including:

- **UWF Priority 1.1**

The UWF Libraries iPad proposal will provide students with increased flexible and mobile tablet computing options that can assist them in fostering student learning and growing skills that will optimize their prospects for success, as per the UWF Strategic Priority.

- **UWF Priority 1.2**

The UWF Libraries iPad proposal will increase the accessibility of high quality technology to students who might not otherwise be able to afford access to iPads or other tablets, helping to meet their educational needs.

- **UWF Priority 4.1**

The UWF Libraries iPad proposal will allow for updated technology that will "support and sustain the high quality services and infrastructure needed to achieve identified UWF priorities."

4. Project Benefits

Description of benefits provided

The UWF Libraries iPad Loan Program began in October 2010 with 2 first-generation iPads. A third iPad was added as demand increased over the Fall 2010 semester. As a result of the 2011-2012 Tech Fee Proposal Process, the Libraries were able to add 33 new iPads to the program, 30 of which are circulated from the John C. Pace Library. After the 2012-2013 Tech Fee Proposal process, 30 additional iPads were added, for a total of 60 circulated at the John C. Pace Library.

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In FY2013, the iPads circulated 1,847 times. The demand for the devices has meant that all 60 iPads are nearly constantly checked out. Because of the heavy use, and the generally fragile nature of the tablets, a current warranty is essential to protect University property and to ensure that students are not overly penalized for accidental damage or simple wear and tear on frequently used tablets.

Students have the following to say when asked how checking out an iPad from the library helps them:

“The iPad helps me by being more portable; the notecard app makes studying fun...The battery life is much longer than any laptop!” – Britnee Murphy, UWF undergraduate student, Exercise Science

“Checking out an iPad makes it easier to use ebooks and to do homework anywhere on campus anytime.” – Sheneika Jackson, UWF undergraduate student, Biochemistry

“I use the iPad to aid in studying when I’m not near a computer and to take notes in class.” –Amanda Tonnaer, UWF undergraduate student, Chemistry

“[A library iPad] helps with my mobile studying. I love the iPad.”–Joseph Adelfosi, UWF undergraduate student, Public Health

“It helps to have a portable way to access educational content during classes.” –Mirsahi ‘Nia Moore, UWF undergraduate student, PreProfessional Biology

5. Project Success Metrics and Assessment Plan

Describe how success/impact will be measured

The library’s Circulation Department will continue to maintain statistics on the iPad Loan Program, as well as solicit feedback from students on the benefits of and any possible improvements to the program. This tracking allows the Libraries to gauge how many iPads are used and how often each iPad is used. This information is already recorded by the Libraries’ information management system with statistics collected on a monthly basis; feedback is solicited through the Library’s Sounding Board, located in the John C. Pace Library.

6. Detailed Description of Resources Required including Hardware/Software & Personnel Costs

This proposal is for 30 Apple iPads (wireless, 16 GB) with AC adapters and the additional equipment for maintenance and storage of the iPads: cases, screen covers, a two year warranty for each iPad that covers damage to the iPad which is a necessity for equipment as heavily used as the equipment in the library program, and a lockable PowerSync station that provides a secure and space efficient way to sync, charge, and store the iPads that would be housed at the John C.

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Pace Library. A Mac Mini is included with the proposal to handle the iTunes syncing function of the PowerSync cart. The 30 iPads that would be retired to the extended loan program will still require their PowerSync cart for maintenance; in addition, the chargers have changed since the original iPads were purchased, necessitating the purchase of a new cart.

This proposal also includes new, sturdier cases (The iPad Slim Tough Case G3) for all 60 of the circulating iPads. The original cases have seen significant wear and tear and the tablets will be better protected with these more robust cases.

Type of Material	Cost per item	Number of items	Total cost
iPad	\$499	30	\$14,970.00
Apple Care 2-year Protection plan	\$99	30	\$2,970.00
iPad case	\$36.00	60	\$2160.00
Bretford PowerSync Cart for iPad**	\$2,799.95	1	\$2,799.95
Mac Mini	\$599	1	\$599
Additional power adapters	\$19.99	5	\$99.95
TOTAL			\$23,598.90

The Bretford PowerSync Cart for iPad is pictured below.



There are no additional personnel costs associated with this proposal.

7. Proposed Timeline

Describe how implementation will proceed

The materials listed above will be ordered as soon as funds are available. When the equipment arrives, there will be no more than a two week turn around period in which the iPads will be cataloged and added to the circulating collection so that they can be loaned out to students.

8. Project Sustainability

Not applicable

9. Resource Matching Commitments

Not applicable

10. Individual Responsible for Reporting and Accountability

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