

University Libraries
Technology Fee - Systemic Project Proposal
FY 2011/2012

This systemic proposal is to purchase a second generation Microsoft Surface interactive table built by Samsung for student use at the John C. Pace Library. **The total one-time cost of this proposal is \$13,500** and includes the hardware, software, stand and electrical/network installation.

1. Description of initiative/investment to enhance instructional technology:

Microsoft has developed the second generation Surface, an interactive screen which supports 50 interactive contact points simultaneously (e.g., five people using all of their fingers on both hands). We plan to install the Surface near the entrance at the front of the Pace Library. It can be used as a table, hung on a wall, or embedded into furniture (see images at the end of this text). We hope to embed it into a floor stand, tilted at about 60 degrees to enhance its visibility.

We envision three uses of the Surface:

- to encourage students to engage interactively with digital content. Two or more students could efficiently and interactively engage with the same piece of digital content (photos, videos, documents, maps, and specific custom applications) facilitating collaboration.
- to encourage students to design and develop creative applications to display and use on the Surface. The library would encourage students to develop applications to mount on the Surface for other students and campus visitors to use. Custom applications may be created by using the Surface 2.0 software developer kit (SDK). The SDK enables developers to write Surface applications on any Windows 7 PC (best if it is a touch-enabled workstation). An application can be developed on a workstation away from the Surface and then, once tested and accepted by the library, mounted on the Surface to introduce or enhance a service or resource. Touch applications at this large viewing scale are fairly new, encouraging students to create apps that are innovative and creative.
- to demonstrate to prospective students and their families the innovative technologies deployed at UWF. We expect that the Surface would attract the attention of those visiting the Pace Library while on a campus tour. Visitors would either observe student use of the Surface, or may approach it when in the library.

The second generation Surface (the Samsung SUR40) has a scratchproof, high definition 40" screen that is four inches thick (1080p; 16:9; 1920 x 1080 resolution and contrast ratio of 2000:1). It uses PixelSense, a technology that lets LCD panels "see" without the use of cameras that were installed in the first generation of the Surface that caused it to be bulky and slow. PixelSense recognizes fingers and objects, devices attached through USB ports, and can sense and connect to various devices such as digital cameras and smart phones placed on the screen through Bluetooth.

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

The Surface would be placed near the entrance of the Pace Library. We expect students will stop and use the Surface to explore its interactive capabilities. Because of its simultaneous user capabilities, we further expect two or more users to interactively engage in a variety of information formats including documents, photos and maps.

The Surface would include one or more applications that highlight library resources to prospective students and family members on campus tours in an interactive, interesting and maybe unique presentation such as our videos about the Pace Library and Special Collections. Additionally, this project would be an example for visitors of the innovative technology we provide at the University, such as the U.S.S. Argo in Building 77 and the Skylab on the Pace Library’s top floor.

3. Description of alignment with UWF Strategic Plan:

This proposal aligns with the UWF strategic plan’s Purposeful Enrollment Growth to enhance marketing, recruitment and retention efforts to achieve enrollment growth. The Surface would provide students with an innovative opportunity to work simultaneously with digital resources, increasing the quality of student campus life and support services (Academic & Student Support Services). Second, we want to challenge students to be creative by planning, designing, and testing touch applications for their colleagues to use on the Surface. These activities are intended to retain students. Lastly, the Surface could serve as a recruitment tool; it would be a “front-door” visible and unique example of the technologies that are deployed by the University.

4. Description of benefits provided:

This proposal directly benefits students paying the technology fees. We expect that the opportunity for students to use the Surface will be popular and, as the number of touch applications installed expands, we expect repeat users. It would also encourage active learning. Second, we anticipate that several students will want to develop applications to install and to use on the Surface as a learning experience to refer to when searching for employment. Third, visitors on library tours will be interested in seeing technology that they do not encounter daily, providing a positive perception of UWF as an innovative technology provider.

5. Description of how success/impact will be measured:

We expect to gather information concerning impact and success from several sources. First, we will measure student satisfaction through the library’s continuous survey tool (Counting Opinions). Second, we will pose a question about the Surface on the library’s Sounding Board for student responses. Third, we will informally observe student use of the Surface because it will be visible at the front of the library. We also expect to hear about the Surface from visitors either directly when in the library or indirectly from comments about the campus tour.

6. Detailed description of resources required including hardware and software requirements and personnel costs (faculty compensation is not an allowed cost):

Item	Cost
Samsung SUR40 Surface (includes shipping)	\$9,700.00
installation of electricity and network	\$2,000.00
fixed tilt stand or table	\$1,800.00
Software Development Kit (Surface 2.0 SDK)	0.00
TOTAL REQUEST	\$13,500.00

7. Proposed timeline:

Preorders are being accepted for the new Surface with an expected delivery in January 2012. The library plans to install the Surface during the 2012 Spring academic year

depending upon the notification of funds being approved and available, and arranging for the necessary electrical and network jacks to be installed.

8. Plan for sustainability beyond conclusion of funding from technology fee, if applicable:
The Surface 2.0's lifespan should be three years. At this time we do not know about the availability of a warranty from Samsung (which is why there is no requested cost). If a warranty is offered, we will pursue it using Pace Library funds. If the Surface proves to be popular, the Pace Library will seek to purchase a successor at the end of this Surface's lifespan. Source of funding is unknown at this time, but would likely come from annual operational funds.
9. Resource matching commitments from other organizations/sources (identify organization and amounts), if applicable:
If an equipment warranty becomes available, the Pace Library will purchase it out of its operational funds if feasible.
10. Individual responsible for reporting and accountability, along with contact information:
Bob Dugan, Dean of Libraries, John C. Pace Library - Bldg 32/150, extension 2446.



The Surface as a table (typical configuration); we plan to tilt-mount it onto a stand or into a cabinet.



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A digital resource being shared on the Surface.