Division of Academic Affairs
Technology Fee – Systemic Project Proposal
2016

Proposal Deadline: Friday, January 22, 2016 @ 5:00 pm

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.

All Systemic Project proposals must be acknowledged (signed) by the operational unit head (e.g. Dean, Chair, Director, etc.).

Project Title

Clinical Enhancement for Undergraduate Nursing Students

Total Amount of Funding Requested

$108,143.41

Primary Project Coordinator

Brandy E. Strahan, PhD, RN

Unit Head Acknowledgment

Unit Head Signature: [Signature]
Date: 02/26/16
This is a proposal for the purchase of **100 Tablets and lab equipment**. These tablets would be available at the Nursing Department for all undergraduate students and clinical faculty in the pre-licensure program to check out and use during clinical experiences in area hospitals and community health agencies. Lab equipment would be for the Nursing Skills and Simulation Learning (NSSL) Center for students to use during lab instructional time to prepare for clinical experiences. The total one-time cost of this proposal (including tablets, warranty, and lab equipment) is $94,172.62

1. **Description of initiative/investment to enhance instructional technology.**
   The Department has the Nursing Skills and Simulation Learning (NSSL) Center which is located within the Nursing Building on campus. The NSSL Center is utilized to provide experiential learning experiences in primary and acute care settings, including medical-surgical nursing, obstetric nursing, mental health nursing, pediatric nursing, home health nursing, and primary care nursing for the undergraduate students. The NSSL Center has six patient rooms, high fidelity audio-video digital recording, projection, and remote-viewing capability. Six rooms have high-fidelity simulation equipment. Specific patient care areas include a comprehensive care unit with a control room; a pediatric specialty room; and perinatal room for care of mothers during and after birth and immediate care of her newborn; three skills laboratories; and six primary care suites. A two section debriefing room, and control room, from which the recording system is operated, is built into the space, as well as adequate storage space. The NSSL Center allows students an opportunity to practice nursing skills in a safe and therapeutic environment that promotes reflection, critical thinking, and communication prior to hospital and community agencies clinical experiences. Faculty can ensure high quality, safe, and effective delivery of care through skills practice and check offs using the NSSL Center prior to patient exposure.

The NSSL Center also includes a Department Of Nursing Informatics (DONi) Computer Laboratory which is critical both formatively in teaching and summatively in assessment of student competence. The free standing laboratory houses 49 computers. The space is designed for student and faculty training and development of knowledge and skills necessary to implement clinical informatics, such as electronic health records. The lab provides the computer availability for specific course online testing and NCLEX style practice questions. This laboratory is also used for student education through various interactive offerings such as ShadowHealth, Open EMR, and DocuCare.

This project would provide additional lab equipment for students to prepare for clinical experiences and ensure that students can safely and effectively care for patients in the hospital and community agencies. The lab equipment would provide additional materials for clinical instructional activities that simulate clinical environments and supplant worn out materials that can no longer be used for practice due to regular wear and tear. Additionally, the lab equipment will enhance the availability of materials to meet student
needs as the pre-licensure program has expanded and will now admit two cohorts a year for a total of 100 students per year.

In order to adequately prepare students for the nursing workforce, students need exposure and practice to electronic health charting. Clinical agencies will not allow students to document in the legal electronic medical record. Currently, interactive offerings of electronic health records (EHRs), such as ShadowHealth, Open EMR, and DocuCare that are available in the DONi Computer Lab, are not available during clinical experiences in hospitals and community health agencies due to lack of computer accessibility and availability. This project would provide students and clinical faculty tablets to document assessments, skills, procedures, medications, etc. in real-time with immediate faculty feedback. Tablets will be tracked and checked out prior to clinical experiences and returned at the end of clinical time. These tablets and lab equipment will allow the pre-licensure nursing program to continue to enhance student experiences, meet their needs for learning, prepare students to be successful upon graduation for transition to novice nurse, and meet the needs of the community stakeholders through the preparation of high quality, safe, and effective BSN nurses.

2. **Description of how initiative has a college/unit-wide or university–wide scope.**
   The University has approximately 400 pre-BSN majors and has 160 BSN majors, soon to be 200 with the added second cohort. This project will benefit the students and faculty of Nursing threefold by: (1) expanding equipment availability to optimize the learning environment to accommodate the volume of students; (2) replacing worn out equipment that can no longer be used; and (3) preparing students to meet the nursing workforce demands. This project will provide clinical resources that will enrich student learning and create an ideal learning environment that adequately prepares students to meet the needs of community partners.

3. **Description of project 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 high-quality, relevant, and affordable undergraduate learning experiences by providing the most up-to-date clinical equipment and tablets for electronic health record documentation. This project would provide student access to equipment and technology that may not be affordable for all students to individually purchase and allows students to take full advantage of a simulated clinical environment and EHR. Since all clinical agencies are required by law to utilize EHRs, electronic documentation is a necessary skillset for students to possess.

Additionally, the Clinical Enhancement for Undergraduate Nursing Students project is in direct alignment with several specific components of the University of West Florida Strategic Plan (2012-2017), including:
**UWF Priority 1.1:** Foster student learning and development to include the knowledge, skills, and dispositions that optimize students' prospects for personal and professional success.

The Clinical Enhancement for Undergraduate Nursing Students project will provide students with a clinical simulated environment that fosters the acquisition of knowledge and skills to become a well-educated, well-prepared, high-quality nursing professional.

**UWF Priority 1.2:** Facilitate students' access to and choice of the University of West Florida to meet their higher education needs.

The Clinical Enhancement for Undergraduate Nursing Students project will increase accessibility of high quality technology and equipment to students who may not be able to afford access to tablets and clinical equipment; thus, meeting their higher educational needs.

**UWF Priority 2.1:** Respond to the changing needs of the region, state, and nation by investing strategically to support innovative instruction and high-quality, relevant and distinctive academic and research programs.

The Clinical Enhancement for Undergraduate Nursing Students project will support innovative instruction through real-life simulated experiences of nursing and meet the needs of an ever-changing regional, state, and national health care environment by preparing BSN students to care for higher acuity, more complex patients. This project will also enhance interdisciplinary research projects that include nursing faculty, students, and other departments such as honors students’ theses, and interdisciplinary research including Using Scenarios to Examine Athletic Training, Nursing Students’ Attitudes toward Interprofessional Education, Physiologic and Cognitive Response in Nursing Students, Genetic Predisposition to Deep Vein Thrombosis as a Teaching Tool for Nursing and Clinical Laboratory Sciences Students.

**UWF Priority 4.1:** Support and sustain the high-quality services and infrastructure needed to achieve identified UWF priorities.

The Clinical Enhancement for Undergraduate Nursing Students project will provide updated and new technology that will “support and sustain the high-quality services and infrastructure needed to achieve identified UWF priorities.”

4. **Description of benefits provided.**

The Department of Nursing renovated Building 37 to expand and update the NSSL Center in the summer of 2014 to improve student learning and clinical experiences. Students are in the NSSL Center several days of the week and each cohort of students utilize the center for skills, simulation experiences, and clinical preparation each semester. The Clinical Enhancement of Undergraduate Nursing Students project would prepare and equip students with the skills and knowledge to enter the nursing workforce immediately and transition to the professional nurse role. The project will also benefit
students by allowing “real-time” charting with the tablets. Students would be able to assess, perform skills, procedures, and medication administration, and chart electronically while in the clinical environment just as nurses.

The Clinical Enhancement for Undergraduate Nursing Students project will also benefit Northwest Florida clinical agencies. Many of the area hospitals are seeking BSN prepared nurses for employment over associate degree due to research that demonstrates improved patient outcomes with BSN prepared nurses at the bedside. This project would help educate and prepare our nurses to meet the clinical agencies needs for well-educated, well-prepared, high-quality BSN prepared nurses to care for diverse populations.

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

The Department of Nursing will measure the success/impact of the project through clinical course evaluations and specific course work dedicated to the NSSL Center and electronic health record documentation during clinical experiences. The Department of Nursing will track and maintain statistics on tablets as they are checked out and used during clinical experiences, as well as solicit student feedback from students on benefits and any improvements needed for the project.

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

This proposal is for 100 tablets with AC adapters, additional equipment for maintenance and storage of the tablets and lab equipment including: cases, screen covers, a two year warranty for each tablet that covers damage to the tablet which is necessary since the tablet will be used heavily by students and faculty, space efficient way to sync, charge, and store the tablets that will be housed at the Department of Nursing. This proposal is also for lab equipment including: 4 patient transfer slides, 2 medical hampers, 3 tables for technology, 3 skills mannequins, 3 IV hand and arm combo packets, 3 Alaris 8000 Infusion Pump, 2 Dynamaps, and 1 infusion pump set.

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<th>Cost per Item</th>
<th>Number of Items</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
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The Bretford PowerSync Cart for iPad is pictured below.
7. **Proposed timeline.**
The materials listed above will be ordered as soon as funds are available. When the equipment arrive, there will be no more than a four to eight week turn around in which the iPads will be cataloged, software and books uploaded, and ready for use in the Fall 2016 by all nursing students.

8. **Plan for sustainability beyond conclusion of funding from technology fee, if applicable.**
The required funds will cover the one-time cost of the iPads and laboratory equipment. The College of Health and/or Department of Nursing will provide support for iPads if issues should arise while stored on campus and in use at clinical agencies.

9. **Resource matching commitments from other organizations/sources (identify organization and amounts), if applicable.**
Not applicable.

10. **Individual responsible for reporting and accountability, along with contact information.**
Brandy Strahan
Director, BSN Program
Department of Nursing
850.473.7763
bstrahan@uwf.edu
ITS Review Comments

GENERAL COMMENTS:

COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS:
No Comments.

INFRASTRUCTURE ISSUES:
No Comments.

PRICING/COST ISSUES:
No Comments.

OTHER SUPPORT ISSUES: Will the College of Health provide support for the iPads? We anticipate potential support issues where the iPads are stored on campus plus and while in use at the hospital.

SUGGESTIONS TO PROPOSER:
No Comments.

For questions regarding ITS comments, please contact:
Melanie Haveard, Executive Director and CTO
ext. 2540
mhaveard@uwf.edu