Examples of Successful Student Tech Fee Proposals

In 2018, 6 proposals were submitted. The Student Technology Fee Advisory Committee recommended funding for the following five projects:

Nyumburu Cultural Center - The Nyumburu Cultural Center is interested in expanding its student technology of two recently upgraded computer labs to also include a comprehensive Information Technology (IT) platform that will produce a robust leadership and learning environment for students, staff, faculty, stakeholders, and visitors. The new environment will include the following: Interactive Smart Board Technology, Mobile Digital Podium, Live Streaming Camera for audio and video documentation, and Lap Top Technology for student organizational use. It is hoped that this new technology will benefit our student organizations, individual students, faculty, and staff members who meet regularly in the Nyumburu Multipurpose Room and Conference Rooms for undergraduate courses, special programs, weekly and bi-weekly meetings, and conferences. The Multipurpose Room seats 225 people, and the two conference rooms have capacities for forty-five and fifteen people respectively. The possibility of enhanced student programming and new scholarly initiatives are greatly advanced by this new technology which will replace obsolete Twentieth Century equipment.

Upgraded Hardware for the University's Linux Mirror Server - We propose to upgrade the server hardware that powers the university's Linux Mirror server. Linux runs on a large percentage of campus servers, as well as on many students' desktop and laptop computers (as an alternative to Windows or MacOS). A Linux Mirror server provides access to download software, including operating systems, upgrades, and additional software, from a location that is fast and reliable because of its proximity to the user. Our current hardware is more than 12 years old, and is no longer sufficient to handle the load expected from it by the campus. New hardware will allow us to keep providing this valuable resource to the campus community, as well as to expand to provide additional applications that we currently have insufficient storage space to provide.

School of Music Technology Lab iMac Replacement Computers - The Music Technology Lab in CSPAC room 1108 is in critical need of new replacement computers. The current iMac computers are 7 years old. Currently, we have several computers that are failing and in need of expensive repairs if parts can be found. Funding this effort would benefit not only School of Music students, but also non-majors enrolled in music classes and students who enroll each summer in School of Music Summer Camps. Two Honors seminars in music composition, as well as several music courses, are taught each semester in the lab. The lab is staffed by School of Music teaching assistants 20 hours a week and can be used by any student at the university during these hours. The Music Technology Lab houses 20 computer workstations complete with piano keyboards, digital audio interfaces, and specialized music software. This hardware and software will be installed on the new computers. In a typical academic year, the lab is used by nearly 800 UMD students and by many others from outside the university at other times. It is the only computer lab in the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. The timeline for replacement of these computers would be the end of spring semester 2018.

Muslim Student Association Technology for Prayer Space - Since 2004, Cole Field House has been the location of the University of Maryland Muslim prayer space. The space was acquired by UMD Division

of Student Affairs to work in conjunction with the Memorial Chapel and the UMD Muslim Student Association to expand the UMD community's growing spiritual needs. Utilization of the space has increased significantly throughout the years and is estimated to be one most visited college religious spaces in the state of Maryland. It is currently used by various UMD students, faculty, staff, alumni, and visitors and is seen as a prime example of facilitating a "welcoming and diverse community" as stated in the UMD core values. It is a student center, has hosted multiple lectures and interfaith events, and holds a large collection of multi-faith religious texts. However, the space, a former women's swimming pool locker room, was never equipped with any technological services, resources, or network infrastructure. We would like to add various technology that will "provide and support plentiful information technology resources" that will enhance the spiritual wellness and simplify management of the space.

In 2017, five proposals were submitted. The Student Technology Fee Advisory Committee recommended funding for the following five projects:

The Nyumburu Cultural Center - Increasing Diversity through Intercultural Communications & Technological Innovations Project - Rebuild information technology resources for our department, Nyumburu Cultural Center, so that students, faculty, and staff who enroll in courses (e.g., ENGL 274, EDCP 108N, AASP 298Z, AASP 298V, MUSC 329E) that are taught in the Nyumburu Building or have administrative assignments where students need computer access will have a robust technological environment available for their use. Our Nyumburu ENGL 274 Creative Writing Course (3cr.) is approved as a General Education Requirement and students are in need of an accessible location to complete their assignments. Develop a robust computer environment will attract new populations of undergraduates.

Subsidize the Cost of Turning Technologies Subscriptions for All Students at the University of Maryland - For many years, clickers have played a critical role in university classrooms. They allow for easy and paperless interactions between students and professors that can be seamlessly integrated into lecture time without causing distractions. They promote engagement and attendance to large lectures by allowing professors to conduct in-class assignments designed to reinforce the material thus preparing students for midterm and final exams. Clickers can also be used effectively in virtually every discipline due to the many resources available through Turning Technologies. Unfortunately, the price for clickers is so substantial that many professors hesitate to take advantage of the technology, and many students are unable to afford subscriptions. Therefore, this proposal seeks to fully fund a one-year subscription to Turning Technologies for every student at the University of Maryland while also outlining a strategy to sustain this practice in the future. More specifically, the proposal aims to allocate a maximum of $109,800 of the Student Technology Fund to purchase one-year subscriptions to Turning Technologies for 20,000 students at a cost of $5.49 per student.

The Writing Center, Department of English Language and Literature - Our nationally recognized Writing Center serves more than 4,000 undergraduate students a semester, employs 70 tutors and reception staff, and trains more than 40 undergraduate students a year through its intensive and prominent internship course. The Center is a national peer-tutoring pioneer, whose model has been emulated and praised internationally. This summer the Writing Center will pilot asynchronous online tutoring, an advancement needed to meet the needs of the increasing number of students taking blended and wholly online classes. While the importance to campus of The Writing Center and this advancement cannot be overstated, the Writing Center has a very limited budget that challenges a successful implementation of this pilot. The computers used by our tutors are 7-8 years old and well beyond their

useful life. New computers and peripherals are urgently needed to facilitate a successful pilot of asynchronous tutoring.

In 2016, four proposals were submitted. However, the Student Technology Fee Committee did not find that the scope of these projects had the expected campus-wide impact. Therefore, none of these proposals were funded.

In 2015, nine proposals were submitted. The Student Technology Fee Advisory Committee recommended funding for the following five projects:

VoiceThread Institutional License - I am proposing an enterprise-level implementation of VoiceThread for the University of Maryland. VoiceThread (www.voicethread.com) is an interactive, asynchronous, media-rich slide-sharing platform. It allows an instructor to upload and annotate their lecture slides using text, voice, video and drawing, and allows students to comment back with the same tools. It also allows for student-created projects, which can be similarly commented on by their peers and instructors. This technology deepens and enhances distance-learning initiatives for both the teacher and the students. Submitted by ARHU - English Department in 2015

Equip Non-Tech Rooms in Jimenez Hall - Jimenez Hall - We would like to request funds to provide technology to the 16 Jimenez Classrooms (used for teaching as well as for after-hours student group meetings) that have zero technology at the present time. Jimenez is centrally located on campus, next to McKeldin and the closest academic building to the Stamp Student Union. We propose outfitting these rooms with 70" flat screen monitors and a PC with a DVD drive. This will meet the basic needs of the instructors teaching in those rooms and the students who are trying to learn in the 21st century while stuck in mid-20th century rooms. Submitted by ARHU-School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures in 2015

Add Technology to Classrooms in the Math Building - We would like to add technology to the 30 general purpose classrooms in the Math Building. Specifically, we would like to add a way to display input from a computer to allow professors to use additional teaching resources in the classroom. Submitted by ENGR-Electrical & Computer Engineering in 2015

Terp Learning Cybernest Collaboratory - Based on feedback from students at the School of Public Health (SPH) regarding the limited accessibility of computing facilities for instructional purposes and open lab use on the north side of campus, we propose development of the Terp Learning Cybernest Collaboratory. Leveraging resources and a renovated space at the SPH, additional funding will enable us to provide students, staff and faculty with the latest classroom technologies for a state-of-the-art instructional multi-use collaboratory. Submitted by SPHL - Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health in 2015

Technology Upgrades for Ulrich Recital Hall in Tawes - The Ulrich Recital Hall is a flexible space in Tawes, used for performances by the School of Music and for lectures by the Department of English. The two divisions, along with ARHU, jointly manage the use of this facility, as it provides an ideal small space for music and other live performances, while being suitable for classes and lectures. It seats 172 people and features superior acoustics and a concert grand piano on stage. Submitted by ARHU-School of Music in 2015