

# The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Student Technology Fee Funding Request

## Proposal

*Beginning 2005-2006*

**Title:** Holt Hall Statistics Laboratory and General Student Computer Use Facility

**Unit Submitting Proposal:** Psychology Department

### **Briefly summarize the proposed project.**

This proposal requests funds that would allow Holt Hall 302 to continue as a critical instructional and general student computer use facility. The Psychology statistics lab (PSY 204) is required of Psychology majors, and the department uses the Holt 302 computers to teach those labs. Holt Hall 302 also serves as an open facility for general student use. When statistic labs are not in session, which is a majority of the time, all UTC students have open access to the computer and printer facilities of this room. Our experience has been that this open lab situation leads to increased interaction among students and enhances the quality of their collegiate experience.

Numerous needs increasingly challenge the usefulness of Holt 302. The first and most important need is for computers. These machines were state-of-the-art when purchased, but are now barely adequate for the laboratory. Specifically, CPU speeds are only about 20% of current computers, limiting their ability to display complex graphic images quickly. Screens are 17" when 19" screens are becoming standard. They do not have the ability to write to CDs at a time when CDs are replacing floppy discs as the medium for transport of data from one computer to the next. They do not have USB ports, preventing the connection of "flash memory" chips for transport of data. Most importantly, however, these computers are in an increasing state of disrepair, and the overall number is less than is needed for optimal use of this room. For all of these reasons, the computers in Holt 302 are becoming an impediment rather than a facilitator of learning.

A second pressing need is for a printer. The Holt 302 printer is approximately 10 years old. This printer breaks down with increasing frequency and is missing the tray that enables printing with legal-sized paper. A modern laser printer is an obvious current need, and this need can only become more severe as the aging printer experiences more and more problems.

Finally, a "Lupton" podium and associated equipment would enhance the instructional objectives of the Psychology statistics labs in Holt 302. Holt 302 has proven to be invaluable for teaching the statistics labs, but instructors have had to use a fairly antiquated video projector on a cart that must be moved into the room and then returned to a storage closet. No podium is available, nor is there other multi-media equipment in the room. Installation of a "Lupton" podium and equipment would bring this room into full standing as an instructional vehicle.

**Identify the project goals and objectives.** Briefly describe your goals and objectives. Include in the description how the outcomes of the project will improve teaching and learning. Indicate also the anticipated reach of your project. In other words, how many and what type of students will benefit from the successful execution of the proposed funding? How will they benefit?

Funding this proposal would result in technology enhancements for Holt Hall 302, which is the objective of the project. The impact would be significant and wide-ranging. All Psychology majors satisfying their degree requirements for the statistics lab would benefit. Students from other departments

who take the Psychology statistics class to satisfy their general education requirements would benefit. All UTC students would have access to Holt Hall 302 when the room is not in use for the statistics labs, and they would benefit. Another important implication of funding would involve the possibility of making printing facilities in this room available to UTC students. Some discussions have suggested that a student “pay-as-you-print” system might be installed in Holt 302, and the proposed technology improvements would promote that objective. Clearly, enhanced printing capacities in Holt 302 would potentially benefit all UTC students. This would be true not just for those students who use Holt 302, but also for those using printing facilities elsewhere on campus that would be less crowded because of the availability of Holt 302 for that purpose.

**Describe the method with which you will achieve your goals.** Briefly describe your methodology. Include a calendar of target project dates. That is, when will the major steps in the project begin and end?

Immediately upon receiving funding, the Psychology Department would initiate purchase of all requested equipment. Tables in Holt 302 already are designed to accommodate computer systems. Installation of all equipment would be accomplished with the assistance of relevant technology support departments on campus. Accomplishment of these objects would be achieved within a limited number of months. Four months might be a reasonable expectation. The enhanced facilities would receive immediate use once installed.

**How will you evaluate the success of the project?** Describe your evaluation criteria clearly. How will you determine whether the project is successful?

With regard to the statistics labs, successful implementation of the project would be obvious when the new equipment is integrated into the instructional activities of the class. Longer-term, increasing the number of functional computers in Holt 302 may make it possible to offer fewer sections of the lab during the week, making the room available to other students for greater amounts of time. Alternatively, the availability of such an up-to-date lab might make it possible to respond to increased enrollments at UTC by offering more sections of Psychology statistics for general education students. The increased number of functional computers would make it possible to absorb the increased enrollments without so severely reducing the availability of Holt 302 for other students. Empirical evidence of success therefore would be obvious in the number of lab sections offered and/or by the total number of students enrolled in those sections. Finally, evaluation of the successful use of Holt 302 printing equipment would be obvious in student printing use statistics.

**Previous grant(s):** If you received a Student Technology Fee grant last year, have you submitted your final report?

The Psychology Department did not receive a grant last year.

**Proposed location:** Describe the proposed location of the equipment, software, etc.

Again, Holt Hall 302 would be the location for this technology enhancement. Software already available on campus and in use by the Psychology Department would be installed in the new computers and would not represent any additional expense.

**Requested Budget:** Clearly identify one-time costs, such as equipment, shipping, and installation. Clearly identify recurring costs, such as maintenance and support, and the source of the funds to cover the recurring costs.

All cost will be one-time expenditures. Recurring expenses associated with the Holt Hall 302 facility will be integrated within current departmental budgeting mechanisms. The “pay-as-you-print” program, if initiated, would cover increased expenses associated with student printing activities. The request is for 24 computers (3MHZ, 80 GB, CD/DVD-RW, 19” Monitor) at approximately \$2000 each, for a total of \$48,000. The estimated cost for a replacement printer sufficient to meet the high volume demands likely for Holt 302 is \$3000. Purchase and installation of a Lupton podium will be approximately \$15,000.

**Summary** of projected costs

Salaries (if any)	\$ 0
Equipment (hardware and software)	
Computers	\$ 48,000
Printer	\$ 3,000
Lupton Podium	\$ 15,000
Complete the following items as appropriate	
Installation (estimated)	\$ 1,000
Construction/renovation costs	\$ 0
Annual maintenance/support costs (new costs)	\$ 0
Training	\$ 0
Recurring costs per year (new costs)	\$ 0
<b>Total</b> project one-time costs	<b>\$ 67,000</b>
<b>Estimated</b> recurring costs per year (new costs)	<b>\$ 0</b>

Identify the area(s) responsible for operating and maintaining the equipment.

The Department of Psychology will be responsible for maintaining and operating the equipment.

**Approval** by Dean or Vice Chancellor: \_\_\_\_\_

**Individual** responsible to complete proposal if funded: Paul J. Watson, Acting Head of Psychology

**Priority** established by Dean or Vice Chancellor: \_\_\_\_\_

**Deans and Vice Chancellors should return** completed forms (along with 25 copies) to Provost John Friedl, Chair of the University Technology Committee, prior to **December 13, 2004**.