

2003-04 Technology Fee Project Report

Media Resources Audiovisual Equipment

Project Manager: Rodger Ling, Director of Technology Support Services, Information Technology Division

Brief Description of the Project

The project was intended to purchase and maintain portable classroom equipment to supplement permanent audiovisual installations on the UTC campus. As a critical need for equipment in the newly renovated University Center became apparent during the year, some of the funding was used to help make permanent installations possible there, which in turn freed up portable equipment for use elsewhere.

Project Status

Purchases were initiated for \$22,826 of the \$23,000 in funding available, and \$19,722 of these were completed successfully. While some items could not be purchased due to problems with the vendor or in the internal ordering process, all of the most critical purchases were made. The equipment purchased included three video/data projectors, three televisions, wireless microphone systems, portable audio systems, portable screens, amplifiers, and various components for the podium installations in the Signal Mountain, Lookout, and Raccoon Mountain Rooms of the University Center.

Goals

- Make audiovisual technology a source of enhanced learning rather than frustration for faculty, staff, and students.
- Purchase crucial portable equipment that is not included in the Lupton grant funding
- Provide needed supplies and regularly scheduled maintenance on new and existing classroom technology

Methodology

- Assessed needs and analyzed patterns of equipment use.
- Purchased portable equipment to meet priority needs
- Use of equipment as well as repair and maintenance history was documented in a standard database

Evaluation

The new equipment has been well-used as documented by Media Resources pickups, deliveries, and setups. Having permanently-installed AV podiums in the University Center has freed Media Resources staff from some of the heavy demand for services in that building.

Expenditures (E04-0156-008)

Original Allocation: \$23,000

Equipment Purchased: \$19,722

Conclusion

Permanent classroom installations such as those funded through Lupton grants are essential in meeting campus needs, but there will always be a requirement for some portable equipment and an increasing demand for maintenance and troubleshooting. This project was successful in helping Media Resources meet the growing demand for technology, but the future looks even more challenging. The state provides zero dollars for equipment for Media Resources. For the current fiscal year (2004-05), we also lack any Technology Fee funding for this purpose. Unless additional sources of funding are found, faculty, staff, and students using technology to help present their ideas can expect some outages and delays in service as a result.