

**UW-Superior
Technology Enhancement
Student Differential Tuition Proposal – November 2009**

Request:

UW-Superior Student Government Association is asked to approve a differential tuition for undergraduate students at UW-Superior beginning the 2010-11 year. Undergraduate tuition will increase \$72.50 per semester (\$145 per year). The differential fee will be prorated for part-time students. The estimated annual income is projected at \$300,000. This differential tuition is proposed to be in addition to tuition cap amounts being considered by the legislature or UW System Administration.

Technology Support: Efficiency and Effectiveness:

The Technology Services unit delivers a broad set of infrastructure, applications and services that are vital to the operation and mission of UW-Superior. An overview of the areas of support provided include:

- Student Life, Learning and Administration: My-Ehive website, registration, degree progress, records, student services, computing labs, email and web space, technology equipment loan, etc.
- Instructional Support: faculty support, computer labs, classroom presentation systems, web resources, video and media support, etc.
- Administrative Support: phone, internet, email, desktop support, PeopleSoft system, and support for multiple other administrative services.

Additional technology and support is provided through ResNet for residential students and through the UW-System Learn@UW-Superior utility in Madison/Milwaukee for all students utilizing Desire to Learn in their courses.

Refreshing Technology: computer labs and classrooms

A continuing need in providing a quality, competitive university education is to provide for the increasing use of information technology by all academic disciplines and the upcoming technology needs in Swenson Hall.

Increasing student technology needs include:

- Swenson Hall: Two new general computer classrooms; Two new writing labs/classrooms; Additional language computer laboratory; and a new Math/Computer Science computer classroom (over 150 new computers in 6 locations serving up to 50 to 60 course sections per semester)
- Expanded general access computer lab (OM 130 moving to Swenson and growing from 37 to 55 stations)
- Adequate life-cycle replacement to departmental computer lab spaces in other buildings and academic disciplines

Current technology funding

The UW System base tuition structure includes a 2% student technology fee that is expected to generate approximately \$225,000 in FY2009-10. This fee is used to support life-cycle funding of general-access student computers in various lab locations including the library. This funding also is the only source of funding for other basic computing infrastructure needs including email, internet, virus protection, network and wireless services, etc.

The campus also receives an allocation for classroom/lab modernization for funding equipment and infrastructure upgrades to classrooms and labs. The 2009-10 classroom/lab mod funding is just over \$98,000. Academic departments prepare grant proposals annually competing for these funds to address instructional needs.

Quality instruction for the 21st Century adds new demands, requiring both faculty and student presentations to display multi-media materials from either the web or from software applications. The effectiveness of the learning environment would be enhanced by funding for both newer teaching station computers and life-cycle replacement of video-projectors in the current 43 general access classrooms. The current practice for upgrading teaching station computers has been to redeploy four-year old, hand-me-down lab computers into classroom teaching station computers. This leaves instruction in all general access classrooms far behind current technology standards (57% percent of the teaching computers are 4 or more years old). Discipline-specific needs in the sciences, Math and Computer Science, as well as the Arts require the same type of attention to enhance quality teaching and learning.

For 2008-09 departments requested \$970,108 from the student technology fee and classroom/lab modernization funding. The campus was able to fund \$264,890 of these requests through capital construction budgets for the library and new student union. This left \$705,218 in requests for the student tech fee and classroom/lab modernization funding. The campus' allocation for these two funding sources of \$316,486 was used for computer lab student assistants, software, equipment replacement, and operations, Thorpe-Langley sound system replacement, biology equipment replacements, and classroom audio visual maintenance and replacements. This leaves almost \$390,000 in unfunded requests from student tech fee and classroom/lab modernization monies. This level of unfunded requests occurs every year.

This means there is no funding for emerging academic technologies to which UW-Superior students should be exposed. The annual Educause Student Technology Use Survey regularly shows that students at Superior are behind their peers at UW campuses and nationwide in exposure and use of emerging technologies. Additionally, UW-Superior participates in the ECAR Core Data Service which benchmarks us against 960 other institutions further validating the disadvantage UW-Superior students have when compared to other college students. To support these technologies, a combination of infrastructure, technology support, and state of the art classroom presentation technology is needed.

Swenson Hall Project Funding does not include student computers

Swenson Hall provides 26 new classrooms and creates an enlarged general access lab, replaces the current writing center, and adds two new general computer classrooms, two new writing labs/classrooms, one additional language computer laboratory; and one new Math/Computer Science computer classroom. Over 160 new computers will be required in these locations that will serve an estimated 50 to 60 course sections per semester. Computers are not classified as building equipment and are not funded in the building's construction budget.

Staffing Challenges:

Upgrades to all software systems are a continuous process – requiring continuous efforts to stay current. PeopleSoft provides a basic infrastructure with a tool set called PeopleTools for developing additional campus services. Enhanced student services related to advising, student support, early alert, assessments, etc. require additional technological training to provide on-line or technology-enhanced services to meet student demand and increase student success. Current staffing levels do not stretch to meet these needs. This request includes the addition of permanent full-time technology/systems staff member to support technology communications systems and software (web, social media, and e-newsletters) and the optimization of the learning tools already available such as, Desire2Learn, Chalk & Wire, Turnitin, etc. Other types of communications projects will include improvements to emergency communications and the student digest.

Projected Use of Student Differential Tuition Annually

Academic computing lab and classroom equipment improvements/life-cycle replacements	\$ 120,000
Infrastructure Renewal (email, network, wireless, collaborative software tools, information security, etc.)	55,000
Technology enhancement for student success in advising, early alert, support services, ecommerce, assessments, My-Ehive, Peoplesoft, specialized software, etc.	53,000
Increased Staffing 1.00 FTE	48,000
Fringe Benefits	24,000
TOTAL	\$300,000

Each year, the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs/Provost will prepare a progress report of the previous years' activities and plans for changes or enhancement to the program. The Provost will present the report to the Student Government Association for their review.