



Henry Ford Community College

Technology Investment Fund

Progress Summary

NAME OF PROJECT DIRECTOR		DEPARTMENT/DIVISION
Robert James		CIS / Business and Computer Technology
CURRENT DATE	SEMESTER GRANT AWARDED	PROGRESS REPORT STATUS [] Interim [x] Final
26 Sept. 2014	Winter 2012	
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: <i>A brief summary of the project.</i>		
The purpose of this request is to find the computers for a new course, CIS109, Apple Support. This new course is designed to fill the gap in the CIS curriculum and train CIS students/graduates in how to provide technical support to Apple products in the workplace, as well as any students seeking an in-depth knowledge of the Mac OS.		
ITEMS PURCHASED: <i>Please indicate how you spent the funds allocated to you. Where are items purchased currently being used? (Attach separate sheet if necessary.)</i>		
<p>Items purchased:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 MacBook Pro 15 inch monitors. 1 Mobile storage charging cart, holds 24 computers 12 MAC minis for the T194 Lab and the CIS295 work room <p>Subsequent purchases include KVM switches so the Minis can be dual purposed in the lab, with PC's</p> <p>Please see attachment 1</p>		
OUTCOMES EXPECTED: <i>What were the outcomes/goals expected from the project as listed in your original proposal?</i>		
Please see Attachment 2		

PROJECT EVALUATION: <i>Please summarize how the project was evaluated and the result of that evaluation. What evidence do you have that the outcomes/goals were or were not met? Please include data collected--questionnaire results, etc. Were there any benefits you may not have expected? Any liabilities? Please share any strength and weakness of the proposed project--your honesty will be of help to others.</i>
<p>Evaluation of the equipment was informally evaluated by the instructors that used the equipment. All instructors (100%) are impressed with the equipment, mobility and ease at which the equipment is available in the room where needed, versus hard mounting into one classroom. The equipment fulfilled the need at which the instructor utilized the equipment.</p> <p>Please see Attachment 3</p>

Attachment 1

On August 20, 2012, the Wall Street Journal reported that Apple, Inc. became the largest U.S. Company ever, as measured by stock-market value. They have gone from a company who made computers largely used by specialists in the graphic design and marketing professions to the maker of a wide assortment of devices (personal computers, laptops, tablets, smart phones) that have garnered cult-like demand and popularity. On March 29, 2012, CNN reported that half of all U.S. households contain at least one Apple product. On September 24, 2012, the Wall Street Journal reported that Apple iPhone 5 broke its previous record for phone sales selling five million iPhone 5's in the three days after its release.

The Computer Information Systems (CIS) Department currently has eight computer labs that it uses to teach courses for its three Associate degree programs and two certificate programs. These labs are currently all running either Microsoft Windows or Linux operating systems. The CIS department does not have an Apple computer lab.

Given the popularity of Apple products, and specifically the Apple MacBook Pro, the CIS department is seeking funding to purchase 24 MacBook Pro computers, along with a mobile storage/charging cart.

This equipment is essential for the CIS Department to offer its newly created course "CIS 109 Apple Support" which was created to fill the Apple gap in the CIS curriculum and train CIS students/graduates in how to provide technical support to Apple products in workplace, as well as any students seeking an in-depth knowledge of the Mac OS.

With these computers being mobile, this Mac lab will also be able to be integrated into the curriculum of numerous other CIS classes providing enormous benefits across the curriculum. These courses include:

- CIS 100 Introduction to Information Technology
- CIS 105 Desktop Operating Systems
- CIS 158 A+ Operating Systems
- CIS 221 / CIS 223 Instructional Technology for Elementary/Secondary Teachers
- CIS 280 Information Assurance
- CIS295 Network Design and Implementation
- CIS 299 Mobile Application Development

With the popularity of Apple products and computers, it is essential the CIS Department include Apple technology into its curriculum.

In addition, the Macbooks are used for the CIS cyber security Lab, a newly formed group to explore subjects in Information Assurance. Other clubs utilizing the Macbook include the programming club, Information Assurance club.

Attachment 2

The Apple Support course, CIS109 was expected to be popular, even in the first term of offering. Unfortunately the course did not fill to a level in which we could run the course. One problem was that the course was currently not listed in a program, so students were not eager to take the course. This has problem has subsequently change, which lists CIS109 in the general CIS degree, Network Admin and Information Assurance degree programs. The course will be offered in the spring of 2015, where smaller class sizes are more readily acceptable, in hopes of gaining interest.

For the other courses listed, Mobile app development, A+ software, and others, the Macbooks have worked out very well. Many courses utilize the computers in specific subject areas, with the Mobile app development course utilizing the computers for nearly half of the semester. For several other courses, such as CIS229, UINIX Administration, the computers can be utilized in the course since the underlying operating is UNIX.

Attachment 3

Evaluation of the equipment was informally completed by the instructors that used the equipment. All instructors (100%) are impressed with the equipment, mobility and ease at which the equipment is available in the room where needed, versus hard mounting into one classroom. The equipment fulfilled a classroom need for the instructor, and found that the students are excited to use the equipment.

Strengths

The computers filled a big hole in the instructional subjects, the use and support of the MacOS has become very favorable in the market place, as with mobile app development. Since many apps made for a phone can easily be adapted for the desktop, application developers are providing desktop users with the availability of those apps. The macbook has a impressive suite of development options, which were installed on the computers and utilized in several courses. The Macbooks can also be loaded with the Windows operating system. The newer Macbooks utilize the Intel architecture, which also makes it compatible with the installation of Windows 7.

Weakness

The computers came with a three year warranty. The original assumption was that the computers were to take a pounding thus the need for repair. That has not been the case. No equipment problems have been reported, nor any repair.

When the computers were requested, we were in the midst of activating the Service Learning program, where we could teach the repair of local computers to students, and students would get real world experience in repair, helpdesk, and customer service. That project never gained traction, but still active and my hope it will take off.