

Division of Academic Affairs  
**Technology Fee - Systemic Project Proposal**  
FY 2012/2013

*Proposal Deadline: Monday, December 3, 2012*

This is a proposal for the purchase of **22 Dell Latitude E6430 laptops**. These laptops would be available at the John C. Pace Library for all students to check out for either a 6 hour daytime loan or an overnight loan. The total one-time cost of this proposal (including 3 year warranty) is \$28,900.

### **1. Project Description**

*Description of initiative/investment to enhance instructional technology*

The John C. Pace Library currently maintains a circulating collection of 51 laptops. These laptops are loaned out to students for use both inside and outside the libraries. Students may check out the laptops for a period of six hours during the day, and after 7 PM they are able to check the laptops out overnight, with a return time of 10 AM the next morning. These laptops provide mobile computing power to students who might not otherwise have access to it. Students are able to utilize these laptops in the library, in the classroom, or in any other location on or off campus. The overnight program provides students with computer access even when the library is closed. 22 of the current 51 laptops are about to go out of warranty. The damage accumulated from regular wear and tear on these machines due to the high-volume usage is significant, and having machines out of warranty puts the program in a perilous position. This project would replace the oldest 22 laptops with newer, warrantied machines. Due to the heavy demand upon these laptops, replacing these 22 older laptops will allow the program to continue to enhance student experience and meet their needs for flexible, portable technology.

### **2. Project Scope**

*Description of how initiative has a college/unit-wide or university-wide scope*

The John C. Pace Library serves all of the students in the University, and this program in particular will benefit all those students who physically visit the library by allowing for a continuation of current levels of computing power both inside and outside of the physical building. The John C. Pace Library was visited by 419,959 individuals in the 2011-2012 fiscal year. The number of visitors has increased significantly in fall semester 2012, increasing by 21,055 visitors in a single month (October 2012 compared to October 2011).

This program makes hardware and software available to students where they need it, by allowing them the use of laptops anywhere on or off campus, which are loaded with the full Microsoft Office 2010 suite and a host of additional software, including Hawkes Learning Systems Statistics and SPSS PASW Statistics 18. This comprehensive base of software enables students from all disciplines to utilize the laptop program. By replacing the 22 oldest machines, this project will allow the laptop lending program to remain a vital and viable part of the technology ecosystem on campus.

### **3. UWF Strategic Plan**

#### *Description of alignment with UWF Strategic Plan*

The University of West Florida's current mission statement (2012-2017) establishes a commitment "to provide students with access to high-quality, relevant, and affordable undergraduate and graduate learning experiences; to transmit, apply, and discover knowledge through teaching, scholarship, research, and public service." This project is directly focused on increasing the availability of high-quality technology to our students who may not otherwise be able to afford access to it, and providing mobile technology that allows students to take full advantage of the opportunities for discovering knowledge through scholarship, research and public service in a variety of venues.

In addition, the UWF Libraries Laptop Program is in direct alignment with several specific portions of the University of West Florida Strategic Plan (2012-2017), including:

- **UWF Priority 1.1**

The UWF Libraries Laptop Program will provide students with a flexible and mobile computing option that can assist them in fostering learning and growing skills that will optimize their prospects for success, as per the UWF Strategic Priority.

- **UWF Priority 1.2**

The UWF Libraries Laptop Program will maintain the accessibility of high quality technology to students who might not otherwise be able to afford access to laptop computers, helping to meet their education needs.

- **UWF Priority 4.1**

The UWF Libraries Laptop Program will allow for updated technology that will "support and sustain the high quality services and infrastructure needed to achieve identified UWF priorities."

### **4. Project Benefits**

#### *Description of benefits provided*

The UWF Libraries Laptop Program is an extraordinarily well-used and popular service of the Libraries. The program originally began loaning laptops to students in 2006, and expanded to overnight checkouts in the summer of 2010. Over the past six years, it has seen exponential

growth. During the 2011-2012 fiscal year, there were 9,054 6-hour laptop loans and 2,838 overnight loans. Numbers for 2011-2012 are set to outpace previous years, with October 2012 posting the most laptop loans ever in a single month, with 1,505 6-hour loans and 384 overnight loans. Please see Appendix A for a chart showing the growth in laptop loans since 2008, and a second chart detailing overnight loans since that program began in 2010.

The high demand for these laptops makes it imperative that the Libraries circulate technology that is both up-to-date and protected by warranty. By replacing the 22 oldest machines with newer laptops and ensuring that all equipment in the program is under warranty, the Libraries will be able to continue to meet the demand for mobile computing technology on campus.

Students have the following to say when asked how checking out a laptop from the library helps them:

“Checking out laptops allows students that aren’t fortunate enough to have their own personal laptop the same access to work and the internet to ensure everyone can succeed in college. It is also very convenient when studying in the library. – Patrice Webster, UWF undergraduate student, Psychology

“I like the portability. It was useful to allow me to discreetly pull up research during my conference.” – Kelly Hill, UWF undergraduate student, International Studies

“I use laptops for Chem Tutoring in Building 58 and to keep up with online classes.” – Victoria Glass, UWF undergraduate student, Chemistry

“My laptop was stolen in early October. Without this laptop, I wouldn’t be able to do some of my homework and projects.” –Linda Bogs, UWF undergraduate student, Chemistry

Replacing the 22 oldest machines in the loan program will allow us to retire some of the extremely old machines in the extended loan program, which is used by faculty and staff to supplement classroom technology and provide laptop computing for research, travel, conferences and other campus activities.

## **5. Project Success Metrics and Assessment Plan**

*Description of how success/impact will be measured*

The library Circulation Department will continue to maintain statistics on the Libraries Laptop Program, as well as soliciting feedback from students on the benefits and possible improvements to the program. This information will allow the Libraries to gauge how many laptops are used and how often each laptop is used. This information is already recorded by the Libraries’ information management system, which is used to track the loans, and collected on a monthly basis.

## 6. Detailed Description of Resources Required including Hardware and Software and Personnel Costs

This proposal is for 22 Dell Latitude E6430 laptops, with AC adapters and cases (both included in the cost of the laptop). Also included in the cost per laptop is a three year warranty that covers damage to the laptops, a necessity for laptops that are as heavily used as the ones in the library program.

An additional cost for laptops that are loaned out in this fashion are additional AC adapters to protect against loss.

| Type of Material  | Cost per item | Number of items | Total cost      |
|---|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Dell Latitude E6430 Laptop (including AC adapters and case) | \$1,300       | 22              | \$28,600        |
| Additional AC adapters                                      | \$60          | 5               | \$300           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  |               |                 | <b>\$28,900</b> |

There are no additional personnel costs associated with this proposal.

## 7. Proposed Timeline

The materials listed above will be ordered as soon as funds are available. When the equipment arrives there will be no more than a two week delay in order to format the laptops and catalog them for circulation so that they can be loaned out to students.

## 8. Project Sustainability

*Not applicable*

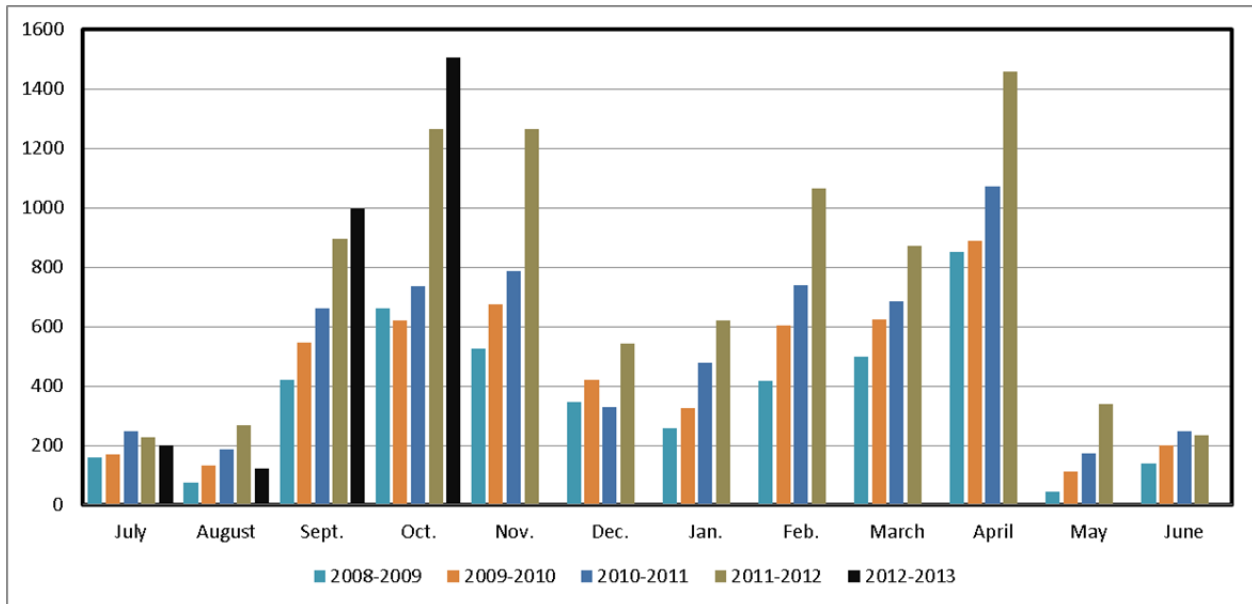
## 9. Resource Matching Commitments

*Not applicable*

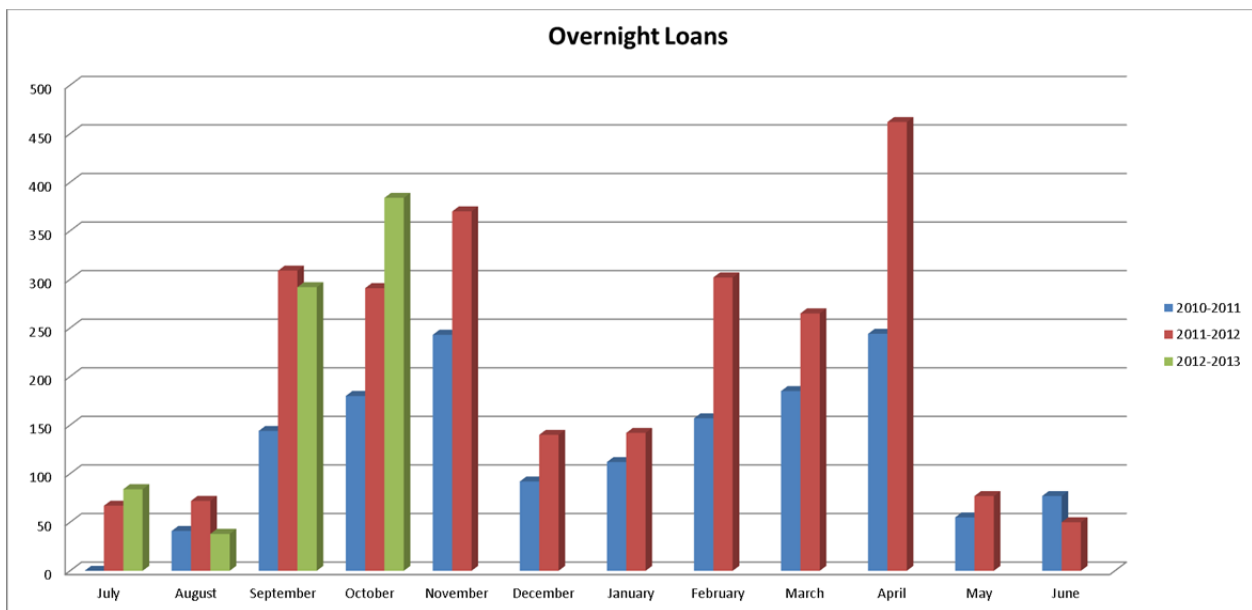
## 10. Individual Responsible for Reporting and Accountability

Amanda Ziegler  
 Head of Circulation  
 John C. Pace Library  
[aziegler@uwf.edu](mailto:aziegler@uwf.edu)  
 474-2413

Appendix A



6 Hour Laptop Loans by Fiscal Year



Overnight Laptop Loans by Fiscal Year