

Central Student Technology Committee (CSTC)

Meeting: Monday, November 22, 2021

Location: Zoom

Attendees: Jesse Ballard, Victor Bershinsky, Lori Dockter, Tom Foulke, Brandon Gellis, Gisele Girones, Edward Havugimana, Melissa Hunter, Jenn Koza, Jeff Miller, Pat Moran, Sally Quade, Spencer Travis

1. Introductions

Everyone present introduced themselves.

2. CSTC History and plans going forward

In the past student technology fees were collected centrally. This committee was established as an oversight committee for technology fee spending by college committees. The fee structure on campus has since changed and technology fees are now part of program fees. This change has eliminated individual college technology fee committees and as a result this committee's guidelines are out of date. A draft of the new guidelines will be available for review this spring or summer and will still focus on the committee's main guideline, any funding from this committee should directly benefit students.

With the fee structure change, IT has established a budget line for the funds allocated to this committee. The committee receives about \$425,000 annually, which can fluctuate with enrollment. The CSTC's budget is considered a restricted operating fund which means funds can carry over and any funds that roll over from the previous fiscal year are again made available to us by January of the current fiscal year. This year we have a surplus of \$200,000 that has rolled over through the pandemic. Historically our surplus has been kept lower to avoid any possible loss between fiscal years.

Our surplus funds are made available to campus through our call for proposal process where we focus on funding one time needs. Colleges should try to maintain their specific lab needs, but could still apply for software or updated computers.

3. FY22 Budget review

Reviewed Budget

4. MatLab Site License – possible shared funding opportunity ~ \$16K

There has been an increase in MatLab use across campus, with the program being launched hundreds of times a day and with 70 different groups on campus using it outside of the lab system. With the demand increasing a site license is being looked at to replace our current licenses. The total cost for a site license is \$48,000 and it is being proposed that the CSTC fund a third or \$16,000 of the license.

The CSTC currently funds the MatLab classroom license but it is restricted to classroom use only. Anyone wanting to use MatLab for research has to purchase a different license. Colleges are currently paying \$15,000 in licensing with students purchasing personal licenses totaling \$10,000-12,000. The cost-sharing is being broken into thirds to hopefully find dedicated funding options, with the CSTC's portion covering that of the students. Not only would this funding cover the student portion of the license but it would also reduce overall costs for students, since they

would no longer need to purchase licenses for personal machines. Each user is allowed two personal downloads and access to several toolboxes.

Since the topic of site licenses has been brought up it may be beneficial to look at an Adobe site license with future funds. The price of an Adobe site license, even though discounted, is not feasible for the use we see on campus. Maybe looking at funding additional licenses for campus would be a better approach.

Victor Bershinsky moved to approve the allocation of up to \$16,000 for a MatLab site license for classroom and research use if funding is secured from other entities.
Jeff Miller seconded the motion.

Approved: all
Opposed: none
Abstain: none

5. Campus Charging Station replacements - \$4,370

The original charging units we purchased in 2015 and it would be good to upgrade units to have newer charging compatibility (Wireless, Thunderbolt, USB-C)

Phone Charging Table: <https://chargetech.com/product/power-table-charging-station-tcs6/>

Desktop Charging Station: <https://chargetech.com/product/desktop-charging-station-power-station-pro/>

Replace damaged units:

Coe Library 6 units (Desktop) - \$1,410

ITC – 2 units (Desktop) - \$470

Knight Hall – 1 Unit (Charging Table) - \$595

Student Union 3 Units (Desktop) - \$705

STEM Atrium 2 units (Charging Tables) - \$1,190

There are other places around campus that could also utilize the chargers like Half Acre or the Classroom Building.

Tom Foulke moved to approve up to \$6,000 to fund wireless charging stations across campus
Edward Havugimana seconded the motion.

Approved: all
Opposed: none
Abstain: none

6. Call for proposals

The CSTC has about \$200,000 in rolled over funds to use towards technology proposals this year. As always we encourage proposals that focus on student technology.

Proposed Timeline:

November 23, 2021 – Call for proposals released

January 24, 2022 – Proposals Due

February 11, 2022 – Announcements of proposal funding

In the past the committee has supported computer lab expansion, VR, 3D printing, and proposals for the CoeSIC, and Wyrkshop. We really want to encourage and see proposals that will get technology into the hands of students. Professors requesting specific software for specific classes or research aren't favored as we want to see the technology widely available to the students. We have supported one time software purchases, and pilot programs knowing that future funding would have to be secured within the department or elsewhere.

The call for proposals will be disseminated through several conduits including, individual colleges, dean's offices, internal email lists, and of course committee members.