



Instructional Technology Funding Proposal

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Distance Education (DE) Phase II Upgrades – Standard Classroom Equipment

Proposal

\$50,000 for new standard equipment required in 9 classrooms for Phase II of DE upgrade project to be completed by end of Summer 2018.

History

During the past year, our legacy Interactive Television (ITV) system was retired and replaced with a new Cisco Telepresence-WebEx solution for distance education. In Phase I of the upgrade project, we upgraded 9 DE classrooms (2 Ellensburg, 3 Des Moines, 4 Lynnwood). In Phase II, we will upgrade 9 additional DE classroom (2 Des Moines, 3 Pierce, 4 Ellensburg).

Each upgraded classroom requires specialized DE equipment: auto-tracking cameras, telepresence codecs, flat-screen monitors, desktop touch-panels, microphones, and control room equipment. The costs for specialized DE equipment (approximately \$70,000 per classroom) is funded by Multimodal Learning.

Each upgraded classroom also requires new standard equipment regularly provided for each campus classroom: projector, screen, document camera, desktop computer, and monitor. The total cost for this standard equipment package is \$5,500 per classroom x 9 classrooms = \$50,000 requested funding from Instructional Technology fund.

Benefits

The new Cisco system provides next generation video-conferencing supporting high-definition audio and video, which was not supported in our old ITV system. When combined with upgrades to the DE classrooms for high definition video cameras and monitors, the quality of video, audio, digital content sharing, and communication will be greatly enhanced in DE classes and meetings. The replacement of outmoded and end-of-life equipment in the DE classrooms will require less staff time for maintenance and repairs.