FY 2007 Student Technology Fee

Submitting Organization: University Educational Technology Services (UETS)
Major Unit: Information Systems and Technology
Department: Digital Media Services

Contact Person: Karen Oates or Julian Allen or Nathan Reetz
E-Mail: USGKDO@langate.gsu.edu or joallen@gsu.edu or nreetz@gsu.edu
Telephone: 404-463-9174 or 404-651-3595 or 404-463-9800

1. Project Short Title
   Digital Aquarium Student Assistants & Workstation Replacements

2. Total Requested
   Fiscal Year 2007
   $ 387,728

3. Executive Summary
   Project Description (three or four sentences)
   The Digital Aquarium, Georgia State's innovative and extremely successful open
   access multimedia laboratory, is requesting continuing funding for fifteen part-time
   student assistants. This proposal also includes funding to replace seventeen obsolete
   multimedia workstations and ten four-year old video cameras. Lastly, this proposal
   includes a request for 24 data ports to be upgraded from 10/100 to Gigabit.

4. Project Description
   The Digital Aquarium, Georgia State's innovative, open access, multimedia laboratory is
   a huge success (Please refer to Attachment 8 “Acknowledgements”). In order for the Digital
   Aquarium to fulfill its mission and to continue to set the standard for multimedia resources
   and support, the Digital Aquarium must complete the replacement of its aging workstations
   with new Apple workstations. Last year, the TechFee replaced ten workstations. This
   proposal calls for the replacement of the remaining seventeen four-year old workstations.
   These workstations no longer meet the minimum standards for campus computers, much
   less the high demands of today's multimedia software.

   In order to continue offering its current resources and services, the Digital Aquarium
   must employ a team of Student Multimedia Specialists. These Student employees permit the
   Digital Aquarium to operate seven days a week. The Aquarium sets a high standard for
   customer support and patron satisfaction. It is vital that the Digital Aquarium receive
   continued funding for its Student Assistant staff.

   An integral part of the Digital Aquarium is our equipment checkout program. Our digital
   video and photo cameras allow students to add multimedia content to their class work. In
   order to meet the demands of our booming equipment checkout services, and to train
   students on current technologies, the Digital Aquarium must replace its four-year old video
   cameras with new high def video cameras. The current cameras have exceeded their life
   expectancy and are breaking down as a result of constant use by students.

   With the successful rollout of a local storage area network, for students' digital video
   projects, the Digital Aquarium is requesting network upgrades for 24 data ports; from 10/100
   to Gigabit.
5. **Record the review numbers assigned by IS&T and Facilities. Their assessments must be included in Sections 16 and 17.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IS&amp;T Review #</th>
<th>IST07-073</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facilities:</td>
<td>CBSAC and Planning &amp; Facilities Review # 14255-06</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. **Relevance to Regents Guidelines**

*Identify specific Regents guidelines that justify this proposal’s funding:*

[1] Technology fee revenues should be used primarily for the direct benefit of students to assist them in meeting the educational objectives of their academic programs.

[3] Technology fee revenues should be used for hardware and Network related expenditures that include support of general purpose or special purpose laboratories used by students for body productivity and more discipline related activities.

[4] Technology fee revenues may be used for training of students and, to a lesser extent, staff and faculty.

7. **Relevance to Strategic Plan(s)**

The “Georgia State University Information Technology Strategic Plan” based on the “University Strategic Plan” has many direct references to the need for computer facilities for students.

> As part of the planning process, a Vision for Information Technology Effectiveness at Georgia State University has evolved. The major goals and initiatives presented later in this plan reflect this vision. The vision is that: Technology-enhanced education will be noticeably enhanced because both the appropriate classroom facilities and other instructional technologies and support are available to faculty and students;

Two of four University Goals are:

- **5.2 A University Goal: Technology-enabled Faculty, Staff and Students**
  - 5.2.4 Provide Effective Information Technology Services for Students:

- **5.3 A University Goal: Technology-enhanced Education**
  - 5.3.1 Establish Appropriate Levels of Technology in Classrooms:

If the University is to achieve the goal of technology-enhanced education, along with faculty training and development, it must equip its classrooms and laboratories appropriately.

5.3.2 Ensure Availability of Information Technology Resources for Students:

> Current policy is to provide open-access computer laboratories for students…The second problem is the absence of an established plan for systematically replacing the technology in these classrooms and laboratories. A replacement funding system based on a reasonable lifetime should be established for the near future.

Excerpts from the “University Strategic Plan”

- **f. Technology**

> A goal is to become and remain current in the application of computing and information technologies. All students should have ready access to computing resources and an opportunity to develop information management skills for lifelong learning.
8. Impact on Students Served

The Digital Aquarium is an open-access, multimedia laboratory; accessible to all students at Georgia State, regardless of academic major or technology skill levels. The services and equipment offered at the Digital Aquarium directly support the academic requirements of many diverse departments and support a large number of students studying under those departments. There are currently no other open-access facilities available on campus providing the high-end multimedia computing equipment necessary to meet these demands. The Digital Aquarium is open to assist students during the business hours of the Student Center.

During the past year, the Digital Aquarium has continued to increase its services to the student body. This is shown in constantly increasing numbers of student sign-ins, equipment checkouts and workshop attendance at the lab over the past four and a half years. (Attachment 6) The Digital Aquarium has become a valuable asset to the campus not only for its unique software and hardware offerings, but also for the learning opportunities available to all Georgia State students. (Attachment 7)

The Digital Aquarium sponsors, advises, and on occasion, hosts campus activities for many diverse student organizations on campus. These include Cinefest, SpotLight, the Student Government Association (SGA), Women’s Resource Center, Latin American Student Association, African Students Association, Black Student Alliance, Breakdancing Sports Club, Conscious Collective, Team Handball, technology focused groups, student film projects, student television pilots, cultural groups and events, athletic teams, fraternities, sororities and Home Coming. (Attachment 8)

The Digital Aquarium is now featured on most campus tours, such as INCEPT tours, providing opportunities to recruit top-tier students to Georgia State. The Digital Aquarium has also hosted many prestigious guests from the local and national press, including: US New and World Report, CNN, the Atlanta Journal Constitution, the Signal, GSTV, Album 88.9, PeopleTV and GPTV. Our open access policy is what sets us apart from other multimedia laboratories. We can continue to raise the bar of excellence in services and support with the items requested in this proposal.

Please review Attachment 6, “Digital Aquarium Metrics” for thorough outcomes and results of last year’s Tech Fee award.

Please review Attachment 7, “Classes Enhanced by the Digital Aquarium” for a list of departments, and their classes, that will be directly enhanced by the continuation of an open access multimedia production laboratory:

Please review Attachment 8, “Acknowledgements” for comments and letters from students, staff and faculty regarding the role of the Digital Aquarium on campus.
### 9. Justification of Funding Requirements for Fiscal Year 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object of Expense</th>
<th>Itemized Descriptions</th>
<th>Per unit price</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>SubTotal</th>
<th>Extended Total</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Equipment and Supplies</strong></td>
<td><strong>Multimedia Workstations</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Apple G5 workstation with 2.5GHz Quad-core PowerPC, 4GB memory, 250GB hard drive, 16x DVD/CD burner, NVIDIA GeForce 7800 GT video card, Apple 30” Cinema HD Display, 3-year Apple Protection Plan with Display</td>
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<td>Apple iMac workstation with 2GHz Intel Core Duo, 2GB memory, 500GB hard drive, 8x DVD/CD burner, ATI Radeon X1600 video card, 20-inch widescreen LCD, AppleCare Protection Plan</td>
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<td>$23,260</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Workstation Peripherals</strong></td>
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<td>$31,450</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SONY HVR-M10U - video deck supports multiple digital video formats: HDV, DVCAM, Mini-DV</td>
<td>$3,200</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$22,400</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Studio Headphones</td>
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<td>Epson Perfection 4490 PHOTO Scanner</td>
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<td>Canon ELURA MiniDV Camcorder, 20x Optical/400x Digital Zoom, 2.5” LCD Screen, built in Light and Mic</td>
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<td>SONY Cybershot 7-mega-pixel, Case, Battery, Charger</td>
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<td>Apple iLife (upgrade)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Apple Aperture (new)</td>
<td>$129</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>$3,870</td>
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</table>
### Adobe Creative Suite (upgrade) $170 30 $5,100
### Macromedia (Adobe) Web Studio (upgrade) $170 30 $5,100
### Roxio Toast (upgrade) $100 30 $3,000
### Reason (upgrade) $150 30 $4,500
### QuickTime Pro/MPEG-2 (renew) $28 30 $840
### Maya 3D Complete (renew) $300 20 $6,000
### Apple Video Production Pkg (upgrade) $399 20 $7,980

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Storage Server</th>
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<th>$16,073</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>GigE switch - to upgrade 24 data ports</td>
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<td>500GB Serial ATA Hard Drives for XRAID Storage</td>
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**Sub-total** $231,278

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<tr>
<th>Student Assistants</th>
<th>Hours/wk</th>
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<th>Hourly Rate</th>
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<tr>
<td>Student Assistant Multimedia Managers</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Assistant Multimedia Leads</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>$10</td>
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</table>

**TOTAL** $387,278
9. Consequences of Partial Funding

**Only 75% funded**

Funding for Student Assistants has not been reduced. A support staff is required for the continued operation of the Digital Aquarium. The Digital Aquarium Student Assistants are exceptional multimedia instructors, and set the highest standard for customer support.

The remaining Equipment and Supplies in this proposal are still viable at 75%. Though the following changes have been made:

- Slower workstations
- Smaller flat panel monitors for the workstations
- Lower quality headphones
- No graphics tablets
- Consumer HDV video cameras rather than professional HDV cameras
- No additional tripods
- Fewer Light Kits
- Fewer LCD Projectors
- Some software will not be available on every workstation

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<td><strong>QuickTime Pro/MPEG-2 (renew)</strong></td>
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<td>Hourly Rate</td>
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<td>$20</td>
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<td><strong>Student Assistant Multimedia Leads</strong></td>
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Only 50% funded:

Funding for Student Assistants has not been reduced. A support staff is required for the continued operation of the Digital Aquarium. The Digital Aquarium Student Assistants are exceptional multimedia instructors, and set the highest standard for customer support.

The remaining Equipment and Supplies in this proposal are still viable at 50%.

At 50% funding the Digital Aquarium will not be able to provide students with enough video cameras, photo cameras, and lighting kits to meet our current demands. The Digital Aquarium’s equipment checkout program is very successful with both students and faculty. Our digital video and photo cameras allow students to add multimedia content to their class work. Currently we do not have enough video cameras, photo cameras and light kits to meet the demands of our students.

Furthermore, digital video cameras have evolved much in the past four years. At 50% funding, the Digital Aquarium will not be able to provide as many SONY HDV high-definition cameras to students.

Other consequences of 50% funding include:

- Slower workstations with older video cards
- Smaller flat panel monitors for the workstations
- Lower quality headphones
- Fewer scanners
- No graphics tablets
- Consumer HDV video cameras rather than professional HDV cameras
- No additional tripods
- Fewer Light Kits
- Fewer Basic Video Kits
- Fewer Basic Photo Kits
- No LCD Projectors
- Some software will not be available on every workstation
- We will not be able to purchase Maya 3D
- No Royalty-free stock libraries
- Fewer and smaller size hard drives for our storage server

Object of Expense | Itemized Descriptions | Per unit price | Quantity | SubTotal | Extended Total
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Equipment and Supplies | Multimedia Workstations |  |  |  | $47,144
  Apple G5 workstation with 2GHz Dual-core PowerPC, 2GB memory, 160GB hard drive, 16x DVD/CD burner, NVIDIA GeForce 6600 video card, Apple 23” Cinema HD Display, 3-year Apple Protection Plan with Display | $3,412 | 7 | $23,884
  Apple iMac workstation with 2GHz Intel Core Duo, 2GB memory, 500GB hard drive, 8x DVD/CD burner, ATI Radeon X1600 video card, 20-inch widescreen LCD, AppleCare Protection Plan | $2,326 | 10 | $23,260
Workstation Peripherals | SONY HVR-M10U - video deck supports multiple digital video formats: HDV, DVCAM, Mini-DV | $3,200 | 5 | $16,000
  Studio Headphones | $35 | 30 | $1,050

Only 50% funded continued...
### Epson Perfection 4490 PHOTO Scanner
- **Price:** $250
- **Quantity:** 4
- **Total:** $1,000

### High-Definition Digital Video Kits
- **Total:** $14,693
  - **Sony HVR-A1U HDV Camcorder with professional Audio Inputs, 12 x Optical Zoom, 2.7" LCD Screen, Hard Case, Extra Battery, Charger, UV filter:** $2,499
  - **Lowel Digital Video Creator 3 Light Kit w/Hard Case:** $799
  - **Bescor Dimmer Light Kits with Batteries, Charger, Case:** $300

### Basic Digital Video Camera Kits
- **Total:** $3,725
  - **Canon ELURA MiniDV Camcorder, 20x Optical/400x Digital Zoom, 2.5" LCD Screen, built in Light and Mic:** $745

### Basic Digital Photo Camera Kits
- **Total:** $1,975
  - **SONY Cybershot 7-mega-pixel, Case, Battery, Charger:** $395

### Software Upgrades
- **Total:** $25,620
  - **Apple OSX (upgrade):** $55
  - **Apple iLife (upgrade):** $35
  - **Apple Aperture (new):** $129
  - **Adobe Creative Suite (upgrade):** $170
  - **Macromedia (Adobe) Web Studio (upgrade):** $170
  - **Roxio Toast (upgrade):** $100
  - **Reason (upgrade):** $150
  - **QuickTime Pro/MPEG-2 (renew):** $28
  - **Apple Video Production Pkg (upgrade):** $399

### Storage Server
- **Total:** $6,143
  - **GigE switch - to upgrade 24 data ports:** $3,000
  - **250GB Serial ATA Hard Drives for XRAID Storage:** $449

### Sub-total
- **Total:** $117,350

### Student Assistants
- **Total:** $156,000
  - **Student Assistant Multimedia Managers:** $20
  - **Student Assistant Multimedia Leads:** $20

### TOTAL
- **Total:** $273,350
10. Standard Dollar Amounts

*Apple Macintosh systems exceeding $1430 must be specifically justified:*

Students come to the Digital Aquarium to experience the highest standard in multimedia resources and support. Unfortunately, many other computer labs on campus currently offer faster workstations than those at the Digital Aquarium. The seventeen workstations to be replaced by this proposal are from 2001. Fast multimedia workstations cost more than standard configurations, because they are capable of producing high-end multimedia in shorter amounts of time.

Many of the software programs offered in the Digital Aquarium require the fastest workstations available. Programs such as Apple Final Cut Pro, Apple DVD Studio Pro, Adobe After Effects, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe InDesign, DigiDesign Pro Tools, and Maya 3D are all professional software titles that require the fastest workstations available.

Providing fast and reliable hardware makes the daily operation of the Digital Aquarium more efficient and productive, which in-turn improves the satisfaction of our student patrons. As multimedia software progresses and the creativity of students evolves, certain tasks demand processing power far exceeding normal requirements. For example, a typical Word document is less than 1MB. A typical video file is larger than 1GB, a factor of 1000! Working with such large files requires the latest software and the fastest workstations available.

Specifically, programs such as Apple Motion, Apple FinalCut, and Maya 3D require video cards that are several generations ahead of the video cards installed in the current workstations at the Digital Aquarium. Programs offering real-time previews (such as Photoshop, After Effects, Maya3D, and FinalCut) will be able to provide more real-time effects and better quality previews.

All professional multimedia applications require rendering, the process of compositing pixels or data. Examples include, applying an audio filter to a five-minute voice track, color correcting a ten-minute video clip, compressing a one-hour MPEG2 for DVD, or animating a 3D environment with multiple objects, textures and lighting. Rending is one of the most complicated tasks a workstation can provide. The Apple workstations requested in this proposal will be able to complete complex tasks, such as rendering, much faster than our current workstations from 2001, thus accelerating a one-hour render to only fifteen minutes.

11. Standard Replacement Thresholds

Refer to Attachment 3: Itemization of Equipment to be Replaced

Digital Aquarium can recycle and continue to use eight (8) of the seventeen workstations to be replaced by this proposal. The obsolete Apple G4 workstations will be converted to touch-screen, wall-mounted kiosks to showcase student work created at the Digital Aquarium. The ten (10) obsolete DELL workstations, and nine (9) additional obsolete computers, will be sent to surplus.

The Digital Aquarium is not proposing to replace any workstations that are not already obsolete, as per the minimum requirements stated in the 2007 Stage2 Tech Fee proposal.

12. Prerequisite, Non-Technology Fee Funding: Not Applicable

13. Matching Funds: Not Applicable
14. Staffing and Other Support Availability
   Georgia State University, IS&T, and UETS rely solely on Tech Fee funding for all employees of the Digital Aquarium.
   This proposal includes $156,000.00 for Student Assistants. In order to continue offering its current resources and services, the Digital Aquarium must have Student Assistants. It is vital that the Digital Aquarium receive continued funding for its Student Assistant staff.
   The Digital Aquarium currently employees fifteen Student Assistants, that allow the lab to be open seven days a week. The Digital Aquarium provides opportunities for students to develop and refine their skills by assisting other students with their multimedia projects and teaching software workshops. Student Assistants at the Digital Aquarium also learn valuable Customer Service and Instructional Design skills. Working at the Digital Aquarium enriches students with valuable training and experiences outside of the classroom. Nine of our student employees have earned full-time positions in their desired career field, post graduation. Examples of careers former Digital Aquarium employees have gone into include: Event Production, Audio Engineering, Elementary Teaching, Graphic Design, Information Systems Support, Stop Motion Animation, Video Production, Web Design, and Computer Lab Management.
   This proposal does not include any staff positions. The Digital Aquarium has been pre-approved for one full time staff member, Nathan Reetz, an Educational Technology Specialist, who reports directly to the Manager of the UETS Digital Media Group, Julian Allen.

15. Space Availability and Impact on Facilities
   This project does not impact facilities.
   **CBSAC and Planning & Facilities Review # 14255-06**

   **IS&T Review # IST07-073**

   **Information Security Review (Tammy Clark):**
   Impact: Yes
   Assessment: Computers should have current AV and ISS Proventia desktop software installed and limit acct access whenever possible to “user” level

   **Wireless and Network Ports Review (Mark Roberson):**
   Impact: Yes/
   Assessment: Major impact expected – GigE switch required, Include cost of $3000 to upgrade 24 ports.

   **Server Connections (Charles Hollingsworth, Tammy Clark, Keith Campbell):**
   Impact: Yes/No (No-CH) (No-TC) (No-KC)
   Assessment:

   **External Connections (Charles Hollingsworth):**
   Impact: Yes/No (No-CH)
   Assessment:

   **DVR Installations (Mark Roberson, Tammy Clark, Charles Hollingsworth):**
   Impact: Yes/No (No-CH) (No-TC) (No-MR)
   Assessment:

   **Lab and Classroom Configurations (Joe Amador):**
   Impact: Yes/No YES - JA
   Assessment: Will improve lab services to students who depend on the Digital Aquarium to complete required
assignments that involves digital media development.

17. Physical Security Needs
   This project does not impact facilities.

18. Post-Project Assessment Criteria

19. Review and Acknowledgements:
   Please refer to Attachment 8 “Acknowledgements from Students, Staff and Faculty”

   Attachment 1  Technology Fee Guidelines – Not shown here

   Attachment 2  “Standard” PC Configuration – Not shown here

   Attachment 4  Equipment Replacement Exception Form – Not required

   Attachment 5  Final Project Report – To be submitted at a later date
GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY
Student Technology Fee FY 2007
Itemization of Equipment to be Replaced
Due to Obsolescence or Inadequacy

Unit: University Educational Technology Services (UETS)
Proposal Submitter: Karen Oates, Julian Allen and Nathan Reetz
Proposal Title: Digital Aquarium Student Assistants & Workstation Replacements

If this proposal includes a request to replace old equipment with newer equipment due to obsolescence or inadequate performance, please itemize the specific machines or software to be replaced.

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DIGITAL AQUARIUM METRICS
FY 2005 Student Technology Fee Award

The following is a list of metrics for the Digital Aquarium:

**Number of students:**
The Aquarium measures the number of students using the unique resources of this lab over time to determine the utilization of the lab.
- On average, more than fifty (50) students come to the Aquarium for help every day.
- More than 1500 students have taken the Audio Suite workshop as of Dec 2005.
- More than 800 students have taken the Digital Video workshop as of Dec 2005.
- More than 3500 Audio Suite Check-Ins from February 2002 to Dec 2005.

**Equipment Usage**
Observing equipment reservation logs and documenting student use of equipment in the lab can track the amount of time equipment is in use. The following statistics are from the 2004-2005 fiscal year:
- 15,825 Student Visitors
- 1600 Workstation Reservations
- 1465 Digital Video and Photo Camera Check-Outs
- 454 Audio Suite Check-Ins
- 120 Conference Room Reservations

**Software Workshops**
Over 700 free workshops were given to Georgia State students in the 2004-2005 fiscal year. The Digital Aquarium works with faculty and departments on campus to develop free workshops for students on numerous multimedia software applications such as video editing, audio production, digital photography, graphic design, web design, 3D modeling and animation.

**Metrics**
- Over 60,000 student sign-ins since our grand opening in February 2002
- Seventy (70) free workshops every month for novice and advanced students
- Each year the Digital Aquarium offers 150 audio production workshops
- More than 1500 students have taken our Digital Audio workshop
- The Digital Aquarium’s Digital Audio Suite has a wait-list over two weeks long - making it the most popular workstation on campus.
- The Aquarium averages seventy (70) equipment checkouts per week.
- The Aquarium hosted more than three-dozen academic classes for multimedia software workshops in the 2005 Fall semester
- More than thirty faculty members assigned projects to their classes in 2004-2005 fiscal year that required resources only available through the Digital Aquarium.
- Every year the Digital Aquarium hosts more than two-thousand (2000) students and their parents on guided tours.
- Students from every college on campus use the resources and support of the Digital
Aquarium.
Classes Enhanced by the Digital Aquarium

The following is a list of departments, and their classes, that will be directly enhanced by the continuation of an open access multimedia production laboratory:

**Graphic Design**
- GRD 4310 Multimedia Design: 20 students/year
- GRD 4400 Design for Film and TV: 20 students/year
- GRD 4600 Senior Workshop: 20 students/year
- GRD 4950 Graphic Design Portfolio: 20 students/year
- GRD 4840 Offered in conjunction with computer science for 3D modeling: 2 students/year

**Photography**
- PHOT 3100 Alternative Process: 12 students/year
- PHOT 4100 Color Photography: 12 students/year
- PHOT 4200 Documentary Photography: 12 students/year
- PHOT 4300 Studio Photography: 12 students/year
- PHOT 4410 Creative Processes and Practice: 12 students/year
- PHOT 4420 Digital I: 12 students/year
- PHOT 4430 Digital II: 12 students/year
- PHOT 4500 Directed Study: 12 students/year
- PHOT 4950 Portfolio: 5 students/year
- PHOT 4980 Special Problems: 5 students/year
- PHOT 8000 Advanced Studio Problems: 16 students/year
- PHOT 8500 Directed Study: 8 students/year
- PHOT 8980 Special Problems: 7 students/year
- PHOT 8990 Thesis Research: 5 students/year

**Communications**
- Postproduction: for undergraduates who shoot in digital video and not film.
- Documentary Film: for undergraduates who make a documentary instead of writing a paper.
- Acting for the Camera: for graduates and undergraduates who want to edit their work.
- History of Animation: for undergraduates to make an animation instead of writing a paper.
- All acting classes: for students/faculty who want to videotape students’ performances.
- All speech classes: for students/faculty who want to videotape students’ performances.
- SPCH 3210, Business and Professional Communication, with about 150 students annually;
- JOUR 4610/COMM 6610 Desktop Editing and Publishing with annual enrollment of 100 students
- Interactive Video: for scanning and photographing still images.
- Digital Motion Imaging: for scanning and photographing still images and for dubbing.
- Digital Filmmaking: for dubbing.
- Special Effects: for scanning still images, for animation, for dubbing.
- Desktop Publishing
- Visual Communication
- New Media Research and Production
- Interactive Video Workshop: 15 grad students maximum;
- COMM 8070 Communication Technology: 15 grad students maximum
Acknowledgements from Students, Staff and Faculty

The following comments were taken from letters, emails, and thank you cards the Digital Aquarium and its staff has received.

Stan Anderson
Faculty, Graphic Design
“I appreciate the incredible After Effects demo which you gave to me and the 18 students of my Senior Graphic Design class. Thanks again for the insightful workshop in Final Cut Pro this past week. It’s just what the grad class needed in order to get them going. It is a great pleasure to have such a wonderful working relationship with those of you at the Digital Aquarium and I applaud you on your academia success.”

Rebecca Klein
Faculty, Graphic Design
“That was a big help, to both my students and myself. I have a feeling they’ll definitely be taking advantage of some of your resources.”

Niklas Vollmer
Faculty, Documentary Film
“I never did get to formally thank you for all of the help with my Documentary Film class last semester. Thanks for all of your help with the FinalCut Pro and GL1 workshops. We greatly appreciated the workshops, additional aquarium staff assistance, and access! The students are excited and are raring to dive in!”

The Welcome Center
“Thank you so much for all of your help and assistance with the Presidential Scholarship Day. Your cooperation and willingness to help were truly a blessing. I can only hope the University knows what an amazing employee they have!”

April Lawhorn
Instructor, Honors Program
“We enjoyed your presentation when the Honors FLC visited the Digital Aquarium.”

Cathy Byrd
Gallery Director, School of Art & Design
“Thank you for your tremendous support for the gallery and especially this last project!”

Kijua Sanders-McMurtry
Instructor, Honors Program
“Your presentation for the GSU 1010 Honors class was great yesterday and I appreciate you working with our schedule. The students were excited to learn what about this resource on campus. I just want you to know that I think that you are a good resource to the University and will happily encourage students to utilize your facility.’

Paula Eubanks
Faculty, Art & Design
“Many, many thanks for the tour and introduction to the digital aquarium. My students are very enthusiastic about using the lab and we look forward to our workshops on using the cameras and Dreamweaver.”

Craig Dongoski
Faculty, Art & Design
“I am writing to thank you for all the help and guidance you have given to the students in my class ‘intervention/Invention’. You have been very generous in your support for this rather experimental class involving sound/video media. Your knowledge of the technology has aided us considerable. I, along with the students, have also appreciated how accessible you have made the Digital Aquarium facilities feel. It is a valuable resource and your professional expertise allows us to tap into its potential.”
Eric Panter
Student Film Maker
“Thanks man. You rock. I couldn’t pulled it off w/o you.”

Vanessa Olavd
Senior, RE/MGT
“I take this opportunity to express my gratitude for all the help the Digital Aquarium gave me with a final project. The entire staff was exceptional!!”

George Dean
Public Relations SpotLight
“I really appreciate you allowing SpotLight use the wireless laptops. Everything went well! Again, I truly appreciate your concern and cooperation.”

Anonymous Student
“All of the staff is most helpful and patient. They make what can be a frustrating experience, tolerable. Many thanks for the assistance in preparing my materials for screening.”

Mary Hocks
Faculty, English
“Thank you for presenting two workshops to the students in English 3135 Visual Rhetoric Class. Students mentioned learning useful information about Photoshop and they are eager to continue working in the Digital Aquarium. I am looking forward to working with you again soon.”

Liz Throop
Faculty, Graphic Design
“I want you to know what a tremendous support I have been receiving from Nathan Reetz and the Digital Aquarium. Be assured that the Digital Aquarium is serving crucial pedagogical needs in addition to being the coolest place on campus. I sense an evolving “critical mass” of knowledge, software, and hardware coming together at the Digital Aquarium, so that students can hang out at school and exchange information informally. This kind of environment moves formal instruction ahead tremendously and contributes to campus life as a whole.”

Diane E. Moore
Business Affairs Coordinator, J. Mack Robinson College of Business
“Thanks so much for the fantastic customer service!!”

Leche Joseph
Student
“Just writing to express my gratitude for the help and special attention that you gave me on my project. Because of your last-minute-save-the-day efforts, the movies imbedded into the PPT presentation looked fantastic, and I was able to submit my project on time. Thanks so much!”

Karen Oates
Director, University Educational Technology Services
“Nathan (Coordinator of the Digital Aquarium) does a great job and always comes through for us. We really appreciate all he does for the students, the department and the university.”