

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Stage 2 (Final) Proposal Form for the Use of FY 2008 Technology Fees

Submitting Organization:

Major Unit: Information Systems & Technology
Department: University Educational Technology Services (UETS) and
Language Acquisition Resource Center (LARC)

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1. Project Short Title

<i>5-8 Word Project Title</i>
Web Based Voice Tools

2. Total Requested

Fiscal Year 2008
\$16,426

3. Executive Summary

Project Description (three or four sentences)
This proposal is for a site license for Horizon Wimba's Voice Tools. With this product, students will be able to (1) have live discussions with their instructors and other students at any time, (2) create threaded voice discussions, and (3) send voice and audio email messages to their instructors and other students. Instructors will be able to easily embed voice messages within their WebCT courses to provide students with explanations of complex ideas, assignments, or introducing new topics.

4. Project Description

"Voice Tools" from Horizon Wimba are web-based tools that facilitate and promote vocal capabilities on the web. They are perfect for any type of vocal exercises in any subject or discipline and support traditional communicative styles of learning by giving students multiple methods of speaking and listening. They have been highly successful in language and communication classes, but can be used in any course which promotes interaction, collaboration, coaching and/or assessment. For instructors, Voice Tools help humanize and personalize their online courses by using threaded voice boards, voice-enabled email, embedded voice within courses pages, and live group discussions and debates. They increase interaction and student engagement of any online class by allowing faculty and students to easily embed vocal interactions into the page level of their WebCT Vista course (tools integrate with WebCT Vista through a PowerLink). They are especially useful to complement text in courses to meet ADA compliancy guidelines. The tools can also be used on websites outside of WebCT.

Site license includes the following tools:

1. Real-time voice conferencing – used for live conversation-based activities, live oral instruction, small group role-plays, discussions, debates, etc
2. Threaded voice board – used to create threaded voice discussions. Great for brainstorming and collaborating
3. Embedded voice within course pages – add voice messages or listening exercises to any page in WebCT Vista. This tool incorporates a small recorder and playback feature that is placed within a Vista page allowing instructors to verbally explain complex ideas, post assignments, or highlight ideas to be discussed in upcoming lessons or activities
4. Voice-enabled email – send vocal email messages; recipients can reply by sending their own voice email. This tool is useful for Q/A, etc.
5. Podcaster – create podcast messages easily for lectures to students or allow students to post audio content (Note: The podcaster tool is not compatible with our current version of WebCT Vista. Once we upgrade to 4.0 it will be available, but we do not have a date for the upgrade at this time).

With Voice Tools you can:

- Build community
- Offer live discussions between students and instructors, anytime, anywhere
- Emphasize speaking and listening
- Encourage on-going discussions and debates about different subjects and ideas
- Easily teach pronunciation, rhythm, stress, emphasis, terminology, etc
- Import and export most audio files into online courses
- Provide individualized instruction
- Empower shy students
- Provide feedback

6. Record the review numbers assigned by IS&T and Facilities. Their assessments must be included in Sections 16 and 17.

IS&T: IS&T Review # IST08-045
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Facilities: CBSAC and Planning & Facilities Review #14539-07

7. Relevance to Regents Guidelines

[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.

[2] Technology fee revenues should be used to assure that there are sufficient campus licenses for primary productivity tools such as those found in the Microsoft Office product suites and for discipline specific software.

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

8. Relevance to Strategic Plan(s)

Excerpts from the “2005-2010 University Strategic Plan”

A goal is to continue to remain current in the application of computing and information technologies, congruent with the needs of the Net Gen students. All students should have ready access to computing resources and an opportunity to develop information management skills for lifelong learning... Faculty and staff will need the support of human resources, equipment, and classroom facilities in the transfer and application of technology to new learning environments. Out-of class electronic connections between faculty and students will be encouraged. (p. 33)

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

5.3.2 Ensure Availability of Information Technology Resources for Students

9. Impact on Students Served

This proposal is for a site license to be hosted by the vendor and will be made available to all instructors and their students who choose to use it. This product would be especially helpful for creating an audio supplement to text in WebCT Vista for students with sight disabilities, thus improving accessibility of course materials to students. The product is available 24/7 via WebCT Vista. Please note that the instructor must request the tool be made available for his/her course. The instructor also has the ability to decide which of the tools to use. Voice Tools require access to the Internet and a headset or microphone and speakers.

24/7 end user support is included.

10. Justification of Funding Requirements for Fiscal Year 2008

Provide a specific description of the funding requirements for FY 2008 in the Microsoft Excel spreadsheet below. You must use the same terminology as in the Project Description (page 2, #4) to allow each itemized line to be traced back to the items and functionality appearing in the Project Description. Failure to do so will negatively affect consideration of your proposal. Itemize and total the following categories of expense. If necessary, add lines to the table below corresponding to accounting objects of expense. **Please note that any equipment items less than \$4,999 should be categorized as "supplies."**

Object of Expense	Itemized Descriptions		Quantity	Per unit price	Extended Total
Supplies (Note: PCs under \$5,000 go here. Also, use standard dollar amounts and replacement thresholds from sections 11/12, or provide explanation in sections 11/12.)	Item 1 One-day training				
	Item 2				
	Item 3				
	Item 4				
	Item 5				
	Item 6				
	Item 7				
Equipment	Item 1				\$0.00
	Item 2, etc				
Software (Note: Include Vendor and Product Name.)	Item 1 Horizon Wimba Voice Tools - Site License		1	\$14,726.00	\$14,726.00
	Item 2				
	Item 3, etc				
Maintenance or Contractual Services	Item 1		1	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00
	Item 2, etc				
Board of Regents Guidelines state "In almost no cases should technology fee revenues be used for ... space renovation, or other items or activities that do not have a direct and immediate impact upon students instructional objectives." (See Attachment 1, #8)					
Construction Services (Requires review of Planning & Facilities)	Item 1				\$0.00
	Item 2				
	Item 3, etc				
Network Connections and Infrastructure Costs (Requires review of UCCS)	Item 1				\$0.00
	Item 2				
	Item 3				
	Item 4, etc				
Physical Security (Note: Costs normally should not exceed 2.5% of Total Requested.)	Item 1				\$0.00
	Item 2				
	Item 3				
	Item 4, etc				
Other Expenses (explain)	Item 1				\$0.00
	Item 2, etc				
Board of Regents Guidelines state "Technology fee revenues may be used - with caution - for new staffing that is either temporary or ongoing." (See Attachment 1, #6)					
Staff Salaries	Item 1				\$0.00
	Item 2, etc				
Fringe Benefits	Item 1				\$0.00
	Item 2, etc				
			Hours/wk	Hourly Rate	
Student Assistant Salaries	Item 1				\$0.00
	Item 2, etc				
Graduate Student Assistant Salaries	Item 1				\$0.00
	Item 2, etc				
TOTAL					\$16,426.00

11. Consequences of Partial Funding

Proposal is not viable at 75% funding.

Proposal is not viable at 50% funding.

12. Standard Dollar Amounts

NA

13. Standard Replacement Thresholds

NA

14. Prerequisite, Non-Technology Fee Funding

NA

15. Matching Funds

NA

16. Staffing and Other Support Availability

Hosting and 24/7 support will be provided by the vendor. Instructor requests to have the PowerLink added to WebCT Vista courses will be made by contacting University Educational Technology Services.

17. Space Availability and Impact on Facilities

This project has no impact on facilities.
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18. Impact on Computing/Networking/Information Security Infrastructure

For IS&T Use Only:

IS&T Assessment of Network/Computing/Information Security Infrastructure:

Information Security Review (Tammy Clark):

Impact: No

Assessment:

Wireless and Network Ports Review (Mark Roberson):

Impact: No

Assessment:

Server Connections (Charles Hollingsworth, Tammy Clark, Keith Campbell):

Impact: (No-CWH) , No impact – KEC

Assessment:

External Connections (Charles Hollingsworth):

Impact: (Yes-CWH)

Assessment: The inclusion of multi-media services in this context will increase the impact on the campus external connections. However, the overall impact should be minimal.

DVR Installations (Mark Roberson, Tammy Clark, Charles Hollingsworth):

Impact: (No-CWH), N/A- MR

Assessment:

Lab and Classroom Configurations (Joe Amador):

Impact: Yes/No YES

Assessment: WTS needs to be involved if a workstation side client is required and if the client needs to be installed on all lab and classroom workstations.

19. Physical Security Needs

NA

20. Post-Project Assessment Criteria

Project progress may be indicated by the number of requests for use from instructors plus the number of students served. Success may also be determined from feedback from instructors and students.

21. Review and Acknowledgements

Attach electronic notes or documentation showing that the following units or administrators have reviewed or acknowledged this proposal:

- Matching funds commitment from appropriate fiscal officer