1. Executive Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>25 Word Project Description</th>
<th>One-time Costs</th>
<th>Ongoing Costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Web-based technology training and mentoring in multiple topics. Convenient anytime/anywhere access to training helps students build computer skills for classroom use and future employment.</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
<td>$374,915</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Project Description

The number of academic courses requiring the use of computers or containing a technology component is increasing rapidly at Georgia State. Students are faced with the challenge of learning new computer applications or improving their current computer skills. The College of Business will begin pre-testing students for computer skills this fall and the remainder of the university may also adopt pre-testing. Therefore, students who do not pass these pre-tests will need a means of obtaining the necessary computer skills. In addition, employers are seeking graduates with software knowledge ranging from the Microsoft products to Novell networking to Web development tools.

A flexible web-based computer-training program is proposed to resolve these issues. This proposal consists of two parts: online training and a mentoring program.

1. Training will be available via the web or CD in Microsoft Office titles as well as titles beyond those already offered by University Educational Technology Services. In addition to MS Office 2000 products, possible topics may include web development, Novell Netware, UNIX, C++, Visual Basic, etc. Online training will benefit students in their programs of study and provide them with a competitive edge in the workplace upon graduation. This program will also assist students in gaining the computer skills necessary to pass the computer skills pre-tests.

   Students will have access to multiple titles via the Web or on a CD, providing anytime/anywhere access. Training courses feature simulations and an interactive environment. Many of the courses will help in preparation for certifications, such as the MOUS certification from Microsoft.

2. The second part of the proposal is the mentoring program that provides 24/7/365 support. The online mentoring service complements the online training and provides one-on-one support and enrichment by vendor-certified mentors via email and chat sessions, 24-hours per day, 365 days per year. Students may also take advantage of topic-specific weekly group chats, daily emails on relevant questions, and help desk scenarios.
This program, including web-based training and mentoring services will be available to faculty and staff at no additional charge.

3. Relevance to Regents Guidelines

The web-based computer-training proposal is consistent with the Statement Regarding Technology Fees, Appendix F: Technology Fee Guidelines. Statements describing the relevancy of this proposal to each of three guidelines ([1], [2], [4]) are presented below:

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

Online training will provide direct benefits to Georgia State students by giving them access to computer training anywhere/anytime. Training will span introductory to advanced levels. Online computer training will help students in their academic courses as well as provide a foundation on which to build computer technology proficiencies, thus providing students with a competitive edge in the workplace.

[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.

Training is essential to the successful use of productivity tools. Providing online training will help students develop the skills necessary to be self-directed, lifelong learners.

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

The convergence of computers, digital communications, and consumer electronics has brought computing to a vast number of users. This generation of users seeks to learn and use computers in very new ways as compared to the productivity-oriented desktop applications of the past. To keep up with these new technologies, new methods of delivering training are needed. Students require computer training that is available anytime, anywhere.

4. Justification of One-time Funding Requirements

The staff-lead position will require a computer, printer and telephone for creation of accounts and tracking of students and courses. One-time setup costs for this individual = $3,500 (computer, printer, and telephone).

5. Continuing Funding Requirements

Pricing for the web-based computer-training program is for a three-year contract with the annual price to be billed yearly. The multi-year contract provides for yearly title swap-outs and evaluations as software packages are upgraded. Costs are also included for hiring a staff-lead person, whose responsibilities will include account creation, student and course tracking, dissemination of CDs, contact with the vendor, upgrades, and publicity.
The cost breakdown of the proposed package follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hosting of multiple titles (topics may include MS Office 2000 products, java programming, CISCO, Novell Netware, UNIX, C++, Visual Basic, etc)</td>
<td>$ 80,456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online mentoring services, 24/7/365 for students, plus a CD with MS Office 2000 titles along with possible other titles</td>
<td>$238,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff-lead position (Information Systems Training Lead)</td>
<td>$55,959 ($43,450*1.2879)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total cost per year for a three year contract</strong></td>
<td><strong>$374,915</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Accountability of Funds

There is no unusual accounting requirement. Accountability for this program will include yearly invoices for the software product and periodical reports indicating the number of accounts created by students, faculty and staff and usage reports. The support-lead position will account for his/her time using IS&T time management software.

7. Additional Funding Required, Non-Technology Fee

Not applicable.

8. Impact on Computing/Network Infrastructure

The software vendor will host the program thus placing minimal impact on Georgia State’s infrastructure. Implementation will cause increased demand on the GSU connection to the Internet but that increased demand cannot be estimated at this time. Separate funding proposals have been submitted to increase the Internet connectivity for GSU.

The online training program will require confirmation of student status.