Proposal for the Use of the FY2001 Technology Fee
Submitting Organization: Division of Distance and Distributed Learning
Contact Person: Dr. Carla Relaford, relaford@gsu.edu

I. Executive Summary

Seeking on-going affiliation and licensure to SCOLA (Satellite Communications for Learning Association), to contribute SCOLA as a foreign language resource to support the university.

One-time Costs: $1,200.00   On-going Costs: $13,160.00

2. Project Description

Georgia State University has a diverse community of students, faculty and staff from many different cultures. In keeping with the growing international reputation of our University, and the University’s Strategic Plan to maintain the importance of targeting international and intercultural perspectives, the Division of Distance and Distributed Learning (DDL) is proposing a portion of the Student FY2001 Technology fee be allocated to fund SCOLA.

This educational technology requested by the College of Arts and Sciences’ provides commercial-free international news, documentaries and variety programming from over 55 countries from around the world. An affiliation with SCOLA, or the Satellite Communications for Learning Association, will provide the University with unique and valuable resources for teaching and learning. The programming is available in over 20 original native languages and is transmitted via satellite to a consortium of educational institutions. DDL is striving to provide on-going delivery of SCOLA to the College of Arts and Sciences’ Language Acquisition Resource Center (LARC), the Student Center, the Georgia State University Village and other facilities throughout campus. Over two thousand students in the foreign language curriculum at Georgia State University would have access to SCOLA and use this service to increase their foreign language skills to attain a better understanding of a country’s language, culture, politics, economics and lifestyles. DDL will expand accessibility to SCOLA to reach the Georgia State University Village where 2000 students can take advantage of the programming.

The educational value of SCOLA is not limited to serving only our international students and those studying foreign language. SCOLA programming is instrumental in providing resources for educating our university community in many academic disciplines including: International Studies, Geography, Media, Journalism, History, Business, Sociology, Anthropology, Political Science, Cultural Diversity, Health, Religious Studies, Government and Law. Students gain a basic awareness of the characteristics of many other countries, including the kinds of events in their news and their culture. Further insights are gained from the study of people, politics, philosophies, social climate, government, status of sciences and technologies, the health of the economies and potential for investments, trade, export-import and cultural exchanges as well.

SCOLA is a rich learning resource for students, and serves as a valuable instructional technology for faculty. Affiliates of SCOLA are supplied with INSTA-CLASS, a unique teaching tool for faculty to access via the Internet. It provides comprehensive materials for immediate classroom use in conjunction with the SCOLA broadcast. Instructors are supplied with transcripts of news broadcasts in original foreign languages, along with the English translation, vocabulary lists, quizzes and topics for discussion. The combined use of SCOLA programs and the INSTA-CLASS supporting materials has enormous potential to enhance the academic experience and learning process for students in the Language Center. Other facilities on campus where students can take advantage of SCOLA are being explored. Our overall goal is to increase the use and value of SCOLA by making it accessible to the numerous departments who are actively engaged in international initiatives.
The College of Arts and Sciences’ will have full support from the staff of DDL in this project. We will maintain licensure and communication with SCOLA and will provide all technical support as noted in the proposal. In addition, we are willing to provide information and resources as a contributed service.

The total requested allocation of the Technology Fee is $14,360.00.

3. **Relevance to Regents Guidelines**

Funding SCOLA is consistent with the fundamental principles recommended by the Board of Regents’ Review Team and described under, “Technology Fee Guidelines.” As outlined in the second fundamental principle, technology fee revenues should be directed toward needs that directly meet the educational value criterion established in the Chancellor’s approval letter; i.e. the fees provide added value to the educational experiences of the students. SCOLA programming as an enhanced learning resource to the Language Acquisition and Resource Center achieves this objective.

The request for SCOLA directly addresses Guideline [1], stating that high priorities should be given to the use of technology fees assisting students in meeting educational objectives of their academic programs. Specifically, with respect to access of academic technologies. SCOLA provides access to television from countries on the other side of the world. It not only concentrates on foreign languages, but also provides international perspectives and international studies for business students and students of political science as well. A major component of distance learning is utilizing other resources and giving students a variety of experts in their field of study to broaden their education. SCOLA would achieve this in a cost-effective way that is not equally comparable to any other resource. We have explored other similar services and found this to be the greatest value for the licensing fee.

The hardware requirement request directly addresses Technology Fee Guideline [3] in supporting a special purpose laboratory. The College of Arts and Sciences’ Language Acquisition and Resource Center offers a wide variety of foreign language resources to students. Offering SCOLA will serve as an added resource to their facilities, immediately benefiting patrons interested in language learning, including students from The Department of Modern and Classical Languages and students from the entire University community.

Based on the Board of Regents’ Technology Fee Guidelines, Senior Vice Chancellor Lindsay Desrochers Letter to College and University Presidents regarding Technology Fees, and Georgia State University’s Strategic Plan, funding SCOLA as a learning resource would be an excellent and appropriate use for the FY2001 Student Technology Fees.

4. **Justification of One-time Funding Requirements**

The full implementation of SCOLA to the LARC requires four VHS VCR tape recorders and the associated cabling and installation. The College of Arts and Sciences’ Language Acquisition Resource Center requires a one-time acquisition of these VCR VHS tape recorders at a total of $1200.

5. **Continuing Funding Requirements**

The on-going license fee for the SCOLA service is $8160 per year and engineering support to maintain the satellite signal, installation and cabling, and hardware maintenance costs $5000/yr.

A total of $13,160 in continued funding is required to support the on-going cost of the SCOLA License.
6. **Accountability of Funds**

SCOLA will invoice The Division of Distance and Distributed Learning (DDL) on an annual basis for the affiliation and licensure with SCOLA. DDL will maintain the relationship with SCOLA, including all administrative tasks, technical issues and necessary correspondence. Funds to cover the $5000/yr engineering support would be applied to a departmental account already in existence to cover expenditures associated with the maintenance, installation and cabling to support SCOLA. No procedures are necessary for unusual inventory or accounting requirements.

7. **Additional Funding Required, Non-technology Fee**

No additional sources of funding in terms of construction, renovation costs or any other items are required to become and affiliate of SCOLA.

8. **Impact on Computing/Network Infrastructure**

The Division of Distance and Distributed Learning presently has the capability, in terms of hardware and personnel infrastructure, installed and in place to pick up the SCOLA signal. Affiliation with SCOLA will not impact the University’s computing and networking infrastructure in any way.

Please contact DDL for any additional informational needs or further assistance related to this proposal evaluation (404) 651-1778.
ATTENTION: TECHNOLOGY REVIEW COMMITTEE

RE: Proposal for the Use of the FY2001 Technology Fee
Division of Distance and Distributed Learning
Contact Person: Dr. Carla Relaford, relaford@gsu.edu
June 12, 2000

I have read and approved the attached Proposal for the Use of FY2001 Technology Fees. I believe the affiliation and licensure with SCOLA to be a worthwhile and appropriate application of the Student Technology Fees.

Dr. Stephen Langston
Assistant Vice President
Office of Public Service

*THIS DOCUMENT IS SIGNED AND ON FILE IN OUR OFFICE. PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU WOULD LIKE US TO SUBMIT VIA INTER-CAMPUS MAIL*