

Engineering Student Technology Committee

<http://www.engr.colostate.edu/ESTC>

College of Engineering

Colorado State University

1. Title of Proposal: Computer Labs Furniture

2. Proposal Participants:

Primary Contact for Proposal

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Department/Major: Engineering Network Services _____

Circle One: **Staff**

3. Proposal Abstract (limit to 100 words):

Some furniture, in particular office chairs for computer desks and tables for the Internet Café, are beginning to wear out and should be replaced. We propose to use up to 25% of the cost of replacement computing equipment to replace these items, for a total cost of \$37,350.

4. Proposal Budget

List of items to be purchased and cost

Internet Café		
Two center office tables	\$ 900	
Two side tables	\$ 500	
8 Keyboard trays @ \$70 each	\$ 560	
10 stacking chairs @ \$59 each	\$ 590	
<i>Total Internet Café</i>		<i>\$ 2,550</i>
GIS Computer Classroom		
1 instructor medium back stool	\$ 300	
<i>Total GIS Classroom</i>		<i>\$ 300</i>
All Other Labs		
115 office chairs @ \$300 each	\$ 34,500	
<i>Total All Other Labs</i>		<i>\$34,500</i>
	Grand Total	\$37,350

Figure 1. Cost breakdown of proposal.

Dollar or percentage amount requested from ESTC: Up to \$37,501.40.

5. Full description of proposal:

ESTC bylaws allow CFT funds to be spent on furniture up to 25% of the cost of the computing equipment. The estimate for computing equipment spent this year in the labs is **\$150,005.59** (see Figure 2.) 25% of this amount is **\$37,501.40**.

<i>Item</i>	<i>Est. Purchase Cost</i>
Computers	\$ 113,950.00
Loaner laptops	\$ 2,000.00
Thin Clients	\$ 22,934.34
Monitors	\$ 750.00
Printers	\$ 2,000.00
Digital Sender	\$ 2,771.25
Projectors	\$ 5,600.00
TOTAL	\$ 150,005.59

Figure 2. Computer equipment costs this year.

ENS proposes to replace furniture consisting of tables, keyboard trays, stacking chairs, instructor stool, and office chairs, according to the list in Figure 1. The items in Figure 1 are listed in order of priority, with the emphasis on the Internet Café furniture.

Internet Café

The two freestanding coffee tables and the two side tables in the Café have seen ten years of heavy use, with students sometimes sitting on them or otherwise using them inappropriately. The tables have suffered damages such as the keyboard trays falling off, the legs separating from the top, and in at least one case, the entire table collapsing due to stresses on its structure. ENS has repaired these tables several times, but some of them, particularly the attached keyboard trays, are now beyond good repair.

The stacking chairs in the conference room have not held up to wear nearly as well as the office chairs. Several of the metal struts that make up the legs have snapped, and cannot be repaired.

We propose to use up to 25% of the cost of the replacement computing equipment to replace the stacking chairs, the two freestanding coffee tables, the two side tables, and obtain new keyboard trays to attach to these tables. We estimate the cost to be about **\$2,550**.

GIS Computer Classroom

The classroom was not originally outfitted with a seat for the instructor. If an instructor (faculty or graduate teaching assistant) chooses to use one of the office chairs, then the room is one chair short for students. Most instructors elect to stand due to the height of the lectern. Standard office chairs do not adjust high enough for the lectern. We purchased a “tall” instructor stool with

medium back and height adjustment to compensate for the height of the lectern for the Viking Electronic Classroom. It has proven so popular that instructors “borrow” it from one classroom to the other.

We propose to purchase a tall instructor stool dedicated to the GIS Computer Classroom for **\$300**.

Office Chairs for All Other Labs

Engineering students who use the computer labs and classrooms sit at these chairs for hours at a time. For the classrooms, two-hour lab sessions are common, and the room is open for general use outside of class times. For general use computer labs, some students use the desks for high-intensity computer work for several hours at a time. For such use, high quality, comfortable ergonomic chairs are important. These chairs have a typical useful lifespan of 6-7 years.

We propose to replace the office chairs in the computer labs with new medium back office chairs with a high ergonomic rating. The total number of chairs in all of the computer labs and classrooms is 442, with a total replacement cost of \$132,600. We are asking to replace approximately 25% of the total chairs in the labs.

When replacing chairs, we will follow these guidelines:

- (1) Replace the most used and most defective chairs (e.g., the “worst” chairs) first;
- (2) Cycle down other chairs that are replaced to displace lesser chairs;
- (3) Attempt to purchase in lot sizes so colors match in each lab (e.g., replace an entire lab’s worth of chairs at once).

We suggest the following replacement schedule, assuming 115 office chairs:

- Anderson Computer Lab (63)
- Internet Café (13)
- GIS Computer Classroom (34)
- MERC Computer Lab (5)