



# Infrastructure Proposal - FY2000

Technology Planning Guideline or Document

**DESCRIPTION: Upgrade campus network**

**AMOUNT: \$800,000**

The campus network is comprised of software, servers, high speed digital switches and routers, end user connections, Internet connections, and transport mechanisms such as wire, fiber, and wireless. By upgrading the UNI campus network, the University will be able to maintain its need to transport growing data, video, and voice traffic at increasingly higher speeds. As new applications affecting this traffic are deployed, the network must be upgraded to support the increased transportation requirements. Continuously keeping the network up to date is essential in order to keep pace with the needs of faculty, staff, and students in a modern learning environment.

**DESCRIPTION: Video Communications System**

**AMOUNT: \$350,000**

New technologies are making it possible to cost-effectively create, store and deliver video across cable and data networks. A UNI video communications system would provide a repository and means for creating campus video for access through existing campus networks and the Internet. Course lectures, supplemental course materials, student contributions, training, licensed commercial products, and other video materials would become accessible to students, faculty, and staff in classrooms, offices, and the residence halls. This system would allow efficient management of campus video resources and greatly increase access to such resources. High quality audio and video communications capabilities are becoming increasingly important in a multi-media oriented world. Deployment of this item would proceed in concert as necessary with network upgrades for widespread access through the campus data network and the Internet.

**DESCRIPTION: Satellite Farm**

**AMOUNT: \$125,000**

UNI's two campus satellite dishes for instructional uses reside on the roof of Schindler Education Center (SEC). Building design and safety issues prevents installation of any additional dishes and requires the eventual moving of the existing dishes. One dish was blown over in 1997 damaging both the dish and the roof. Additional dishes are needed to receive the growing amount of digital video, audio, and data content that is delivered via satellite. These funds would be used to remove the current dishes from SEC and relocate them to a satellite farm, add additional dishes and receivers, provide fencing and other security systems, install remote aiming devices for receiving satellite signals, and install the network connections to the farm site. The satellite farm would be situated in a secure location with a clear southern view across the satellite arc and with connections to the campus master control room.

**DESCRIPTION: Interactive Voice Response System**

**AMOUNT: \$125,000**

Adding an interactive voice response system for use with UNI's Student Information System will enable the University to provide students with anytime, anywhere direct telephone access to computerized information and administrative processes such as registration, grades, financial aid, and billing. Not only would such a system serve as a convenience and improved service to students, it could also save the university valuable personnel time currently spent providing such information through staff manning telephones and computer screens to provide students with the same information.

**DESCRIPTION: Multimedia instruction classrooms**

**AMOUNT: \$600,000**

More and more faculty are preparing multimedia presentations to use to augment their lectures and enhance learning. Existing classrooms equipped for these multimedia presentations are inadequate to meet the growing demand for this type of instruction. While the College of Business has been able to use its opportunities for corporate funding to equip all its classrooms, that has not been possible in other colleges. At \$20,000 per classroom, these funds would enable UNI to equip 30 additional classrooms with the capabilities available to all business faculty and only selected faculty elsewhere on campus.

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