

EQUIPMENT NEEDS ASSESSMENT APPLICATION #2

Name of Person Submitting Request:	David Bastedo
Program or Service Area:	Biology Department
Division:	Science
When was the last Program Efficacy document completed?	2009
What rating was given?	Expansion
Equipment Requested	8 Anatomy in Clay Model Systems

1. Provide a rationale for your request.

The Biology department over many years has had to sacrifice its equipment budget in order to maintain its supplies for student lab activities. The college has no external funding mechanisms for supplying necessary materials for laboratory activities other than its regular budget. The Biology department no longer has an equipment budget and hasn't had one for more than 10 years. Two previous budget crises caused the department to cut many of its budget categories in order to preserve its supply budget. One key budget category that was lost was capital equipment. Since then the department has had to rely on one-time monies from a variety of sources. Some years have had equipment and some years the department has had to sacrifice and continue at less than an adequate pace due to a lack of equipment and/or replacement. One of the requests for this year's budget needs assessment is to reestablish this category in the department's budget. In the mean time, the department has significant needs related to upgrades and maintenance of its equipment. This request is for 8 Anatomy in Clay model systems at a cost of \$4,950. The total cost for these items includes tax and shipping charges.

2. Indicate how the content of the EMP One-Sheet and latest Program Efficacy Report support this request. How is the request tied to program planning? (*reference the page number(s) where the information can be found on the EMP and Program Efficacy*).

In the EMP, pg 28 the Biology department has established several Program goals related to improvement or new development of courses to serve students. The fulfillment of these goals is only possible with the necessary resources to acquire the appropriate equipment for the laboratory activities. In the description of "what will your program need to do to maintain currency/relevance or an optimal level of service?" (pg 18,19 of 2009 Efficacy document) the department clearly describes funding of equipment and supplies as absolutely essential to its effectiveness. One current goal is to establish a number of new courses. One that is in the process of being sent to the Curriculum committee is "Anatomy for Artists and Athletes". This course will broaden the reach of the department and create a course that will integrate with other departments on campus. This course requires hands-on materials that are more artistic and kinesthetic. The modest request will provide the foundation for its laboratory instruction.

3. Indicate if there is additional information you wish the committee to consider (*for example: regulatory information, compliance, updated efficiency and/or student success data or planning etc*).

Needs Assessment Applications are due 10/15/10

. While some college courses can be taught with little more than an effective instructor and a classroom, biology subjects require lab supplies and equipment. These are not optional. The college has worked with the biology department to provide an ongoing adequate budget for supplies. It is time to recognize the need for a regular equipment budget that will maintain and improve the instructional effectiveness of our lab experiences. Until that occurs, the department will continue to make requests for special one-time funds through Program Review and other one-time resources. The serendipity of one-time funds is a poor way to guarantee an exceptional student experience in biology. The materials requested here are necessary now.

4. Evaluation of related costs (including any ongoing maintenance or updates) and identification of any alternative or ongoing funding sources. (for example Department Budget, VTEA or Perkins)

The department has no alternative funding sources that can provide for these equipment needs.

5. What are the consequences of not funding this equipment?

Without this purchase, the department will not be able to advance its curriculum goals. Any new laboratory course in the department will require new equipment. Unfortunately it is the life blood of activity courses. The course can never be offered unless the materials necessary for instruction are available.