

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Minor Works Program (Minor Program Improvements and Omnibus Equipment)

2007 – 09 Request:	\$28,600,000	Project Type: (Pres/Pro) Program
Institution Priority:	#4	Project Phase: (P D C)
		Gross Square Footage: N/A

Minor Works Program Improvements (\$10.6 million) provides the funding to make improvements and modifications to University facilities that do not rise to the level of major capital projects, but which provide significant programmatic and quality of life improvements to existing facilities. The academic environment is extremely dynamic. As buildings age and uses change, facility improvements are critical and the backlog of projects are substantial. The modifications accommodate program growth and change, access for the disabled, classroom and lab improvements, research needs of new and existing faculty and general campus facility and infrastructure improvements.

Examples of the types of projects funded from this appropriation are as follows:

- Building improvements, reconfigurations and acquisitions resulting from program and operational changes/building infrastructure improvements related to telecommunications.
- Research lab space remodels and fixed equipment in laboratory spaces
- Utilities and building system improvements
- Roads, walks and grounds improvements and expansions
- University classroom improvements and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) projects

The Omnibus Equipment (\$18 million) portion of this program-driven request is to improve, upgrade, or replace essential instructional and research apparatus and support areas throughout the University. The lack of modern equipment directly impacts undergraduate and graduate students' education and their preparedness for careers.

Student experiences are also heavily dependent on computing equipment which is typically short-lived because of rapid changes in requirements of software applications and reliance on the internet for learning, scholarship and administrative functions.



Modern equipment is vital for the effective delivery of classroom instructional materials, to conduct research, and to attract and retain the best scholars. The research equipment required for a faculty member in biological sciences may exceed \$250,000 or over \$500,000 in engineering. Many equipment items used in research are obtained through

competitive proposals to federal agencies typically requiring an institutional match of as much as half the cost. Thus, these funds are multiplied when we can compete for federal funds. Other critical equipment needs include the replacement of farm and field equipment to fulfill our land-grant mission. **The university is requesting \$10 million of the \$18 million request specifically for teaching, research and support equipment.**

The University's 2009-11 Operating Budget Request includes a decision package for replacing the Core Student Computing Systems. \$8 million of the omnibus request is to purchase the equipment (such as servers and other hardware) and products designed to integrate data and student functions integral to the systems replacement.

The WSU operating and capital requests for the Core Student Computing Systems replacement are interdependent.