

FY 2005 Computer-Related Capital Equipment Requests for the MIT Libraries: Proposed Approvals for Q1

Requests

Total number of requests received: 50

Total cost of all requests: \$55,765

Approvals

Number of approved requests: 45

(Includes new equipment, cascades, and flat panel monitors donated by IS&T)

Recommended expenditure this quarter: \$42,320

Technical Support Goals

...Access... providing enhanced patron access to resources, including patron self-service – 32% of this quarter's expenditures

...Productivity... technology that enhances workplace production by our staff – 66% of this quarter's expenditures

...Creative... doing creative and innovative things we have not done before – 2% of this quarter's expenditures

...Teaching... providing tools to better instruct and serve patrons – <1% of this quarter's expenditures

Things to Keep in Mind

- Adjusted totals include the estimated value of cascaded and donated units. Unfortunately these estimates do not appear in the distribution of expenditures according to support goals, but they are included in the calculation of adjusted totals by unit.
- In response to a suggestion from the Computer Support Group, this quarter we initiated a new policy. Wherever possible, we tried to upgrade an entire group of computers rather than deferring some requests as used to be our practice. We hope that this policy will improve users' experience, since the result will be that groups of public computers will share an operating system and will look the same. We also hope this policy will make support more efficient by reducing the number of operating system and hardware combinations each LTE is required to support. This change resulted in some skewed results (for example, a very large group of computers to be upgraded in ALS) but we expect this will even out over the course of the year.

- The group is aware that this quarter's approvals are heavily weighted toward staff rather than public. Part of the reason for this is that, thanks to the large number of high-end computers we received from IS&T last year, our public stations are in relatively good shape. In other words, we just did not get a preponderance of requests for public computers. Of the five requests deferred till next quarter, only two were for equipment intended to be used by the public, and as always we plan to consider these in the next round. (They were for a self-check unit and a group of 19" monitors, both at Dewey.) In addition we have been assured that the Disabilities Access Group plans to submit a request for upgrades to our public adaptive technology stations next quarter. Again, we hope this will even out over the rest of the year.

Nina Davis-Millis
Submitted to the Libraries' Steering
Committee 10/2004

Total requested this round	55,765
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APPROVALS THIS ROUND

(These numbers are intended to give you a sense of how this quarter's available funds were distributed among our support goals)

Total approved this round	42320	
Approved for access:	13345	32%
Approved for productivity:	27845	66%
Approved for creative:	1000	2%
Approved for health:		0
Approved for teaching	130	0.003
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Approved for public	13995	33%
Approved / access + teaching	13475	32%

ADJUSTED TOTALS

(These numbers are intended to give you a sense of how this quarter's available equipment was distributed among our library units. They include this quarter's approvals plus cascades, donated equipment, and out-of-cycle approvals since the last quarter.)

Adjusted total this round	56058
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Access Services	3625
ALS	7200
Archives	3910
Barker	3830
CAMS	1625
CMS	2010
Dewey	10968
Director	4400
Humanities	9215
Lindgren	630
Music	130
Rotch	2400
RVC	1600
Science	4515
