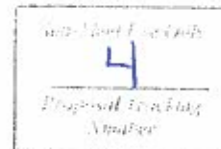


# Minnesota State University, Mankato Strategic Priority Funding Step 2: Invited Full Proposal



\*\*\* Please do not use this form until invited to do so by the Planning Sub-Meet. \*\*\*

Proposal Name: WC 349 – Collaborative Classroom

This proposal is being submitted for a project that supports (please indicate priority by checking the appropriate circle):

- Global Solutions   
  Applied Doctoral Institution   
  Extended Learning  
 Quality and Excellence   
  Campus of the Future

Total Funds Requested for Expenditure in FY14 (2013-2014 academic year) \$ 70,000

Primary Contact Name Brian Wasserman Campus Mailing Address WC 354

Primary Email Address brian.wasserman@mnsu.edu Phone Number 6385

Please note:

- Upon notification of funding, the primary contact recipient will work with the Assessment and Evaluation Sub-Meet to prepare an assessment plan. Funds will only be released upon successful completion and approval of the assessment plan.
- A Mid-Year Report will be due January 13, 2014, and an Annual Report will be due June 30, 2014.

Primary Contact Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Applicant Name(s) and Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew Clay (ITS)  Date 1/8/13

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

I have reviewed the following proposal:

Department Director/Chair Signature\*  Date 1/10/13

Department Director/Chair Signature\* \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Department Director/Chair Signature\* \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dean Signature\*  Date 1/10/13

Dean Signature\* \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dean Signature\* \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Division/Vice President Signature\*  Date 1/8/13

Division/Vice President Signature\* LBI Date 1/8/13

RECEIVED

Date Submitted to Institutional Research, Planning, and Assessment: JAN 11 2013

(Deadline is January 11, 2013)

\*Signatures needed for all affected units, departments and colleges. Attached additional cover/signature sheets as needed.

# Strategic Priority Funding Proposal

## Full Proposal: Step 2

(Please limit the proposal narrative and attachments to 10 pages)

Proposal Name: WC 349 Collaborative Classroom

(Increase space between questions or add pages as needed)

1. Provide a clear description of the project being proposed. (5 points)

We would like to redesign this space into a collaborative classroom. The existing room is quite large and isn't as useful as it could be if it was designed around collaboration. We would install tables in the classroom that have technology embedded in them that allows the students to work collaboratively. The goal of this project is to create a learning space that allows for students to work in teams and simulate real world experience.

Currently, the classroom chairs in WC 349 are in rows and do not reflect the best practices in teaching and learning. We will be taking the space and making it more collaborative and friendly to the "bring your own device trend". The classroom will be a computer lab that allows all types of classes to use it, however, it will be organizing the students into groups so that it enables the teacher more easily use collaboration, peer, active, and project based learning styles.

The classroom would be designed with 6-7 collaborative workspaces each seating 6 students. Each table will have a shared screen at the end and a laptop connection for each student, allowing the student to use his or her own laptop. The faculty member would be able to take any one of the student screens and show them up the big screen and also show his or her screen to the students. Each workspace would include one desktop computer so a student without a laptop would still have access to the class materials.

2. Identify the university strategic priority advanced by this project and explain the direct connection between the strategic priority and project. (20 points)

- *Change the world by collaboratively addressing our planet's most challenging problems.*  
The CM program educates and trains the world's current and future professional constructors. In doing so, we should be using effective and proven techniques such as active learning, collaborative, peer, and team-based learning activities. This collaborative classroom is a transformational upgrade that will lead to better learning experiences and help our students learn to work in teams, solve problems and think critically in preparation for their careers in project management.
- *Greatly expand the reach of our extended learning programs.*  
The redesign of a computer lab allows us to bring fresh ideas and features into the classroom. One exciting thing that we are working on and testing is the ability to use a Skype-like interface on the table to connect to other students at another campus or globally for them to work in teams across the Internet. Additionally, the students have access to many different collaborative tools that allow them to work with individuals off campus and globally.
- *Reinvigorate our physical home and build the campus of the future.*  
This renovation replaces a traditional, outdated classroom environment with the newest and arguably highest available levels of teaching and learning technology. State-of-the-art and discipline-specific technology is very relevant to the future of teaching and learning; in fact, it is instrumental in the university providing the best education possible.
- *Measure and continuously improve our work to ensure excellence in all that we do.*  
Recent student feedback clearly indicates a need to incorporate more current technology and pedagogy into our courses. This collaborative classroom space will increase self-directed learning and place the instructor in a role of facilitator instead of traditional teacher. This should improve communication skills as measured in our assessment plan and exam scores and competition results as described in section 4 below.

3. Describe how the project will have a significant impact on students and deliver a significant return on investment to the university. (15 points)

The space itself will impact the students and the faculty in very positive ways. It is much more flexible and allows a professor to adjust his or her teaching style to meet the needs of the students and their future work environments. Students will have an exciting and engaging atmosphere in which to learn. We are striving for a campus of the future, where students are able to receive the best possible education, become critical thinkers, and change the world for the better. This re-designed classroom will start a new wave of teaching, learning and function within the built environment courses at MSU.

4. Identify the specific measurable outcomes that will be used to measure the impact of the project. (10 points)

The CM department accrediting body is the American Council of Construction Education (ACCE). The way we are able to teach computer applications and principles related to the following ACCE accreditation standards will be improved by the collaborative classroom:

- analysis and design of electrical, mechanical and structural systems
- construction graphics
- estimating
- planning and scheduling
- project management.

Improved scores on relevant sections of the American Institute of Construction exam for Certified Professional Constructors (required exam for all CM students).

Offer continuing education courses to industry professionals.

Improve performance/scores in regional and national student estimating and project management competitions.

5. Describe how the activities generated by this project will be sustained after strategic priority funding has ended, or if applicable, explain why the project does not need to be sustained. (5 points)

The faculty presentation technology in the room is already under the replacement cycle of Information Technology Services. The tables and chairs that we will purchase will fall under future FF&E requests. The rest of the technology will be sustained by a partnership between CM and ITS.

6. Provide a budget justification that explains why the funding being requested is required to support the project and outline the funding requested within the budget table below. (5 points)

The redesign of the classroom is instrumental to advancing our university and aligning the built environment with the teaching and learning needs of today's students and instructors. Furthermore, the redesign provides the capacity to ensure that our students and faculty are placed in a rich learning environment that will allow their learning experiences to result in their potential to change the world by collaboratively addressing our planet's most challenging problems, impact and expand the reach of our extended learning programs, and measure and continuously improve our work to ensure excellence in all that we do.

The newer collaborative-style classrooms require a large amount of infrastructure in order to install them. This means that with the increase in classrooms and classroom technology we now have limited amounts of money for new initiatives such as this. This project has matching funds from both ITS and the Construction Management Advisory Board which will help fund a new classroom that will allow students to learn in a collaborative environment, moving us towards the president's vision of a campus of the future. Construction Management will also partner with ITS for ongoing maintenance support.

Budget table:

	FY14	FY14 Matching Funds
Personnel		
Unclassified Salary (in-load, overload)		
Classified Salary		
Fringe <sup>a</sup> (Classified and Unclassified)		
Graduate Assistant Salary		
Graduate Assistant Tuition Reduction/Waiver <sup>b</sup>		
Non-Salary		
Student Help		
Purchased Services/Travel Expenses		
Supplies and Materials	\$25,000	\$25,000 (ITS)
Building Improvement/Construction Costs	\$15,000	\$25,000 (CM Advisory Board)
Equipment	\$30,000	\$25,000 (CM Advisory Board)
Other (please specify)		
<b>Total Budget/Funding Requested</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>

<sup>a</sup>Note: All current employees must be paid fringe benefits. Fringe should be estimated based on salary and position classification: Unclassified 30%, Classified 37%, Adjunct 7.65%.

<sup>b</sup>Estimated Tuition Reduction/Waiver for full-year enrollment: Masters \$5,858, Doctoral \$10,000.

7. Identify any special considerations or needs required for this project (e.g. physical space, contractual obligations, IT support, or collaborations with/implications for other units). (5 points)

The project will require the following:

Physical Space: (Facilities)

- Demolition of existing space
- Construction to allow for additional electrical supply for computers
- Cable install for internet infrastructure
- Lighting update and new lighting zones created

Contractual Obligations: (Facilities and ITS)

- There would be the contractors performing work on the physical space
- There will be contractors that are working with the technology installation
- A partnership between ITS and CM will be developed for ongoing maintenance of the technology

IT Support:

- Classroom Space will be designed in collaboration with Construction Management and ITS
- ITS will be contributing \$25,000 to the funding

Other units:

- The classrooms would be available to other departments as schedule allows

8. Provide a project timeline outlining key tasks and dates for completion. (5 points)

Design (by April)

Demolition (May)

Construction (June-July)

Install Furniture (July)

Install Technology (August)

Functioning Classroom with Portable Technology (laptops) (August)

Permanent Technology Installed (Winter Break – Dec. 2013)

Completion (January 2014)

