



Student Technology Fee Committee (STFC)

Annual Allocation Request

ALLOCATION REQUEST DATE INFORMATION

Date Created: 2021-02-19 12:36:25

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Date Submitted:

ALLOCATION REQUEST TITLE/DESCRIPTION

Request Title: Sewing Machine for Makerspace

Request Description: A request to fund a sewing machine with embroidery function in the new Learning Commons makerspace

ALLOCATION REQUEST INFORMATION

Department Name: Library

Request Code: 21A0300

Contact Names: Alyssa Hall

UW Tacoma Affiliation: Staff

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Title of Request: Sewing Machine for the Makerspace

Type of Request: One Time

Department Head Approval:

Department Head: Justin Wadland

Annual Request Information

1. **Background:** Review and discuss the context of the proposed technology in detail. Explain how this proposal will be used in conjunction with an original proposal or existing technology. If applicable, how is the current technology disabled or inadequate?

In 2018, the STFC funded a 3D printer for self-directed student use in the UW Tacoma Library and so far it has been a huge success! Dozens of students have been trained on how to print their own jobs and have explored 3D design not just for fun but also for coursework.

One student spent several weeks refining a scan of motor neurons for her capstone project. She then 3D printed the final objects and created a stunning presentation.

<https://sites.uw.edu/uwtacomalibrary/2020/01/08/students-learn-3d-printing-in-the-library/>

And even during the Coronavirus lockdown, Library staff were able to accommodate (through contactless pickup) student 3D printing for John Finke's TBIMOD 410 class where students integrated 3D printed objects into their capstone projects.

The campus is renovating the Snoqualmie and Tioga Library buildings in order to create a new Learning Commons complex which will co-locate the Center for Equity and Inclusion (CE&I) and the Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) with the Library. And one of the new services that we will be able to offer is access to a custom designed Makerspace.

Located in the Snoqualmie building, adjacent to the CE&I and the Library IT help desk, we see this new Makerspace as a drop-in facility for students to explore and use maker technology and build community with like-minded makers.

We are eager to design an inclusive Makerspace which appeals to a variety of makers, from folks who are interested in fabric arts like sewing and costume making to students who want to use the laser cutter to etch and cut a robot body. We see this space as a campus-wide resource which appeals to all students from the arts to the sciences.

Technology that we would like to see included in the new Makerspace includes:

1. The 3D printer that STFC already funded
2. Raspberry Pi kits which the STFC already funded
3. A vinyl cutter which the Library funded
4. A tool library which the Library will fund and make available to campus
5. A Universal Laser Systems VLS2.3 laser cutter/engraver
6. A Brother LB7000 Sewing and Embroidery Machine
7. A poster printer

This proposal is for the Brother LB7000 Sewing machine. Please see the other proposals for the Laser Cutter and Poster Printer.

2. Benefit to Students: Discuss how students have benefited from the original proposal, if applicable. How will additional funding of the technology benefit students? If this was an unforeseen technology need, discuss how students will benefit from this new proposal and why the need cannot wait for annual allocation funding.

Makerspaces provide access to equipment for hobbies and personal interests. With the Library's wide range of hours and availability, we are able to provide access to the machine at times that are convenient for all students. This allows students from all socioeconomic backgrounds to utilize this technology with flexibility and convenience. This sewing machine will also open the door to building connections and community building through valuable peer-to-peer teaching and learning. Students will be able to learn a new skill that they may not have had the resources or access to in the past.

In addition to hobby use for things like cosplay costume building, students will be able to utilize the sewing machine for very practical purposes such as creating and mending their own clothes and working on class projects.

3. Access: Describe who will be using or will have access to the resources being proposed. If the access has changed since an original proposal, be sure to note that here. In addition, all previous requestors, please provide historic data highlighting the usage and accessibility of technology. All new requestors, please provide user need data.

All UW Tacoma students will have access to this sewing machine at its convenient location in the Library. While the makerspace itself will be new to campus, makerspaces in general are not new to the UW system. UW Seattle Housing & Food Services has 3 makerspaces open to a variety of different students. The Dabble Lab, a makerspace of similar size, open to a similar sized user base, provides insight in the type of use that the Library Makerspace could expect. Residents had free access to the lab which had much of the same equipment that the UW Tacoma is looking to put in our Makerspace. In the 2018-19 academic year the Dabble Lab had 1,600 users.

In this makerspace, we plan to ensure that only current UW Tacoma students use this equipment, by keeping the embroidery hoop and bobbins at the IT service counter and checking them out to students.

4. Timeline: Provide a timeline showing how the proposed technology can be completed during the requested period. Describe when you would like to see this proposal initiated and completed, and why.

Installation of the sewing machine will be immediate. We will begin to train student workers and make materials available to students with the reopening of the Snoqualmie Building and opening of the makerspace. We would like to see this proposal initiated as soon as possible to allow us to prepare the space to make it available for students with this reopening.

There is another STFC proposal for a student worker in the Makerspace. That student will be responsible for monthly workshops on equipment in the Makerspace, staff training, peer-to-peer teaching, maintenance, and troubleshooting.

5. Resources/Budget: Discuss available financial, personnel and space resources devoted to the proposed technology and level of support. Proposal must detail all the items/resources requested to be purchased. This includes filling out the Item Detail in next section.

The University is renovating the Snoqualmie building to create a vibrant, technology rich, inclusive space for students. Part of that renovation creates a Makerspace where students will be able to use a variety of technologies to explore personal projects and complete class assignments. This sewing machine will become part of a collection of maker technologies and resources which have been funded by a variety of sources.

The Library budget will cover the cost for staffing the IT service counter for checking out equipment and answering basic questions about the machines. Please see the additional proposal for adding a student staff member with more training on the makerspace machines that will provide workshops and office hours.

We are asking that STFC purchase the sewing machine (\$499) and cover the cost of supplies such as thread, bobbins, needles, batting, and other incidentals for the 2021-2022 academic year (\$300).

Funding Request Items

| Item | QTY | Cost Per Item | Shipping Fee | Tax Per Item | Subtotal |
|---|-----|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------|
| Brother LB700 Sewing and Embroidery Machine | 1 | \$499.00 | \$0.00 | \$50.90 | \$549.90 |
| Supplies | 1 | \$300.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$300.00 |
| OVERALL TOTAL: | | | | | \$849.90 |