

Student Technology Fee Committee

Viking Union Room 460

January 26, 2017

Proposal to allocate \$400,000 of the Student Technology Fee financial reserve toward the improvement of WiFi across the Western Campus.

The following is an overview of the strategy we would use to deploy the additional Wifi Service.

Once Carver is complete, we'll have ~580 Access Points on the academic network, four controllers (three for load balancing and one for failover), and two advanced security and management appliances (Identity Services Engine and Mobility Experience). Coverage is a bigger problem for us than density, especially for exterior spaces. We would like to invest in coverage for Red Square and the high-traffic exterior corridor from Old Main to the Flag Plaza, as well as ensuring sufficient coverage and density in classroom/lab spaces to allow for the implementation of more advanced teaching technologies (mobile devices, new-generation "clickers", etc.). Once those are adequately addressed, we would ensure proper coverage and density for high-traffic study and hang-out spaces, especially those with lots of dead spots (Library, VU, AW). We would hope that we could accomplish most of this with the added \$400K investment, but if we can't, I do believe the University would pitch in to ensure we end up with effective coverage for the common faculty, staff and student campus usage areas.

Having addressed those issues, we would invest any remaining funds toward event spaces (Carver Gym, PAC, MAC Gym, VU MPR, PAC Plaza, etc.) and then start looking at faculty office suites and business/operation spaces (Old Main, Campus Services, AC, etc.). Facilities Management, FM, would desire additional coverage of areas where their work takes place, however, they would need to fund the upgrades for those areas. Possibly we could work out some job sharing where FM donates cost for providing the electrical service and mounting for the access points. We also know that Cisco, our WiFi equipment provider, would donate some necessary engineering support. And Comcast will be providing additional equipment and bandwidth for the delivery of TV service over the WiFi network.

The overriding goal would then be to maintain the complete campus WiFi coverage with annual maintenance that we would hope to come from a portion of the STF funding along with the necessary supplemental investment by the university.

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