



**Wharton County
Junior College**

**Proposed Agenda Item
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Date of Board Meeting: 5-16-17

Date of This Proposal: 5-2-17

SUBJECT (item as it will appear on agenda): Digital Media Classroom Equipment

RECOMMENDATION: Approve Transferring Funds for Digital Media Classroom Equipment

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The Sugar Land Campus consists of designated space for WCJC and for University of Houston (UH) as well as shared space. Since inception of WCJC's Digital Media Program in 2013, WCJC borrowed a UH-designated classroom in order to teach digital media. Due to enrollment growth of the UHSL program, UH can no longer loan a classroom to WCJC. To teach digital media in fall 2017, WCJC must reallocate WCJC-designated space on the Sugar Land Campus and purchase instructional equipment approximating \$35,000. This equipment includes hardware and software, such as Mac mini computers, a server, switches, software, and network ports.

The plan is to convert a general computer lab in room 378 to a multipurpose computer lab. The addition of Mac computers at each computer workstation currently set up with portable computers (PC) offers students the ability to switch between PC and Mac computers. This expanded technology allows faculty to teach a variety of computer courses/programs within one classroom.

As a fairly new program, enrollment in digital media continues to grow. In fall 2016, WCJC's Digital Media Program had 40 majors; revenue from tuition and fees approximated \$104,000. WCJC teaches lower division digital media courses on the Sugar Land campus that transfer into the UHSL Digital Media Program. The colleges have transfer agreements in place and enrollment is expected to increase.

Estimated Cost and Budgetary Support (how will this be paid for?): \$35,000 Transfer from Plant MIS Fund

RESOURCE PERSON(S) [name(s) and title(s)]: Leigh Ann Collins, VPI and Megan Costanza, Dean of Vocational Instruction

SIGNATURES:

Megan Costanza
Originator

5/3/17
Date

Lnc B. Okoia
Cabinet-Level Supervisor

5-4-17 5/4/17
Date

PRESIDENT'S APPROVAL:

Betty A. McCreed

5-4-17