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Student Affairs Fee Advisory Board

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Funding Request Form FY2027

Department should complete one form for each individual request

Department:

Multicultural Services

Program, Service or Operation Requested:

Modular Tables with Power Integration & Furniture Replacement for Department Spaces

General Description:

The Department of Multicultural Services requests one-time funding to replace and upgrade essential furniture in the 2200 suite. The request includes:

- Replacement of existing tables in the main program/meeting space with modular, mobile tables that feature integrated power, wheeled bases, and compact storage functionality. The current tables were maintained during the department's furniture update in 2021 to reduce renovation costs. While serviceable, they do not meet program needs as they are heavy, difficult to move, and lack integrated power. New tables with wheeled bases, flip-top or nesting features for storage versatility, and integrated power grommets or strips will allow for flexible room configurations, safer access to technology, and improved usability for students and staff.
- Replacement of the front reception desk in Suite 2200, which has aged significantly and no longer meets functionality or aesthetic needs for welcoming students and visitors.
- Addition of media tables to the two student meeting rooms in Suite 2200, ensuring that these spaces are consistent with other student meeting rooms by supporting collaboration and access to integrated technology.

Together, these replacements will increase accessibility, improve functionality and safety, and enhance student experiences.

Request Type:

☐ Full
 ☐ Increase
 ☒ One-Time
 ☒ Partial/Matching

Type of Funds Requested:

☒ UAF
 ☐ Other

General Questions

How does this address an important need and/or positively impact students?

This project addresses limitations in usability, accessibility, and technology support across high-use student spaces. The current tables in the main program space restrict seating, are difficult to rearrange, and require unsafe extension cord use due to lack of built-in power. The front reception desk no longer provides an inviting or functional entry point for students. Adding media tables in Suite 2200 will bring the student meeting rooms up to campus standards by supporting collaboration, group work, and technology integration. Together, these updates ensure that students have flexible, safe, and functional spaces for learning, engagement, and leadership development.

What department/Division strategic plan item does this support?

This request supports the Division of Student Affairs mission to provide exceptional facilities that create supportive campus environments where students feel a sense of community and can develop as leaders. Specifically, it aligns with:

- Inclusive & Caring Communities (Priority 1.2): Ensuring facilities are welcoming, adaptable, and accessible for the wide-range of student needs.
- Well-being (Priority 6.1): Providing functional, student-friendly spaces that support academic and personal success.
- Leveraging Resources (Priority 3.1): Making data-informed facility improvements to enhance flexibility and usability for departmental programming.

Please provide data, evidence, and/or input (student faculty, staff, other) you gathered to help you determine the need for additional resources.

- The current meeting room tables were kept during the department's renovation in 2021 to lower expenses, but no longer meet evolving needs.
- Student and staff feedback consistently highlights difficulty in moving and rearranging meeting room tables.
- The lack of integrated power in meeting room tables has required reliance on portable power strips and extension cords, creating safety hazards and limiting accessibility.
- Observations of space use show that modular meeting table designs would better accommodate different event formats and student group sizes.
- The front reception desk has been identified as outdated and less functional compared to other reception areas. There are visible signs to wear and tear with previous repairs required for broken parts.
- Feedback on student meeting rooms in Suite 2200 highlights the need for media tables to mirror the technology and functionality of the other student meeting collaboration spaces.

What actions have you implemented or discontinued internally to address the identified need?

The department has continued to use the existing tables despite their limitations, and has relied on desk repairs, extension cords and portable power strips to compensate for the lack of built-in power. The meeting room tables' size and lack of mobility, combined with large accompanying chairs, create limited seating capacity and restrict how the room can be arranged for different types of meetings and programs. While keeping this furniture during the renovation was a cost-saving measure, the workarounds and current limitations are no longer sustainable or adequate for meeting department needs.

If funding is granted, what metrics will you use to evaluate success of this program/service/operation?

- Increased student satisfaction with functionality and comfort of program and meeting spaces.
- Reduced setup time and improved seating flexibility for departmental events.
- Elimination of extension cord and power strip use and improved safety.
- Positive feedback on the updated reception space as a welcoming, functional entry point.
- Positive student feedback about use of the student meeting rooms with integrated media tables.

Have other sources of funding (fundraising, sponsorship, reserves, etc.) been considered? Please explain.

Alternative funding sources have not been identified for this capital improvement. Given the compliance and safety issues involved, UAF funding support is being sought and will be matched by department funding.

Total Estimated Cost

Funding Description	Amount
10–12 modular/flip-top/nesting tables with integrated power, wheeled bases, and sturdy construction	\$30,000
Electrical and power wiring	\$25,000
Replacement of front reception desk in Suite 2200	\$10,000
Two media tables in student meeting rooms in Suite 2200	\$5,000
<i>Less Estimated Partial/Matching Funds (if Applicable)</i>	\$25,000
TOTAL INCREASE REQUESTED	\$45,000