DEPARTMENT: Computer Information Technology
PROGRAM: Computer User Support (CUS) Degree   **3/16/2005**

Priority: 10

TITLE: Improving support for CUS majors by working with part-time instructors and student lab aides

Describe Initiative: Assist part-time instructors on what needs to be in the courses that will lead to the Computer User Support (CUS) second year degree program. Make sure there is continuity in the instruction among part time teachers to insure the same material is included in the programs. Make sure emphasis is placed on the important aspects of the elements of training required for first year students to prepare them for the second year classes. Make sure second year courses with multiple sections are taught consistently.

Assist student tutors and students in CIS 180 (Independent Study) in performing more effectively in their roles in the lab (training for them) and improving the quality of support for students especially in the first year courses like CIS125S and CIS125D.

Why do it? The part-time instructors and student lab aides represent underutilized resources in supporting the CUS prerequisite courses and second year courses.

What will the outcome of the initiative be? Greater consistency within multiple sections of courses; better preparation of first year students; better utilization of student lab aides; higher satisfaction for the part-time instructors and lab aides.

Is it feasible? Yes, if we can make available the time needed by the full time faculty to prepare this type of training, and find the resources to make available additional training time for part-time instructors and student lab aides.

What would be the campus location of this request/project? In the CIT Department, classrooms and labs.

How many students (per year) will benefit? The CUS program has about 20-30 majors each year, and an approximately equal number in first year classes.

How will students benefit? Students in classes taught by part-timers will be better and more consistently prepared to move into the second year. Students who are lab aides will be better prepared to assist their fellow students, and gain deeper understanding of the subject matter by being able to help others successfully.

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Describe Resources needed:
Lead instructor time set aside to work with the part time instructors who will be guided and instructed in the proper teaching of the first year courses. Instructor time set aside to work with student tutors and the CIS 180 students. One class release time backfill for one term: 3420 + OPE = $5,127.

Extra compensation for part-timers for receiving the extra training. 80 hours @ $22.63 + OPE = $2,714.

List Possible Funding Sources:
      SLI
      Professional Development
      Curriculum Development (CIS 180)

Provide ORG & PROG codes

How does project articulate with college's Vision, Mission and Goals and contribute toward meeting the President's/Board's approved goals?
This initiative directly supports the college's Mission to provide quality Professional Technical degree programs. This initiative is an example of the Learning Core Value by working together to create a learning-centered environment, of the Innovation Core Value by creativity and experimentation to provide better support for students, and Accessibility Core Value by minimizing barriers to learning.