

## Chapter 5: Program Initiatives to Improve Performance

---

*“How do you propose improving future performance?”*

*\*When proposing an initiative(s), use the following structure for each initiative proposed:*

### **Initiative Title – Upgrade Library System and Database Access**

**Priority 4**

➤ **Describe Initiative**

Purchase system vendor's Millennium Access Plus, which is a software module that would allow all of the library's online resources (catalog, periodical databases, web sites) to be accessed with a single search. Purchase server with capacity to accommodate this module, to replace current Dec Alpha.

The ability of students to access and use information that is available from the Lane library is dependent on many things, but among them are the efficiency and effectiveness of the library's hardware and software. As formats have become more varied, and as more resources become available online, the ability to retrieve all relevant information becomes more difficult. The library has increasingly subscribed to online full-text periodical databases instead of continuing with print subscriptions. Such online databases allow students to retrieve much more precise information. One disadvantage of this array of databases is that each has, until recently, required a separate search, using a separate search strategy, for each individual database.

The system vendor's new Millennium Access Plus products vastly improve this process by integrating access to all of the library's resources. With them, a student need only develop and conduct one search to simultaneously retrieve all relevant books, journals, articles, conference proceedings, government documents, photos, etc. The MAP WebBridge also allows librarians to make additional suggestions for resources to try.

Any registered student at Lane may access the library's catalog and subscription databases, so in a very real sense all of Lane's students will benefit from this improvement. Actual usage statistics support the contention that the library resources are accessed by a large proportion of registered students. Between January 1, 2003, and December 31, 2003, 217,584 students and staff came into the library; there were 191,276 separate logins to the library's online subscription databases, and over 500,000 separate searches registered. 80% of those surveyed at last year's graduation ceremony reported that their instructors required the use of library resources to complete their program.

➤ **Describe the resources needed**

Resources needed are funds to purchase a larger CPU (non-recurring), the Millennium Access Plus software products (non-recurring) and MetaFind subscription (recurring) described above.

➤ **List the possible funding sources**

The most appropriate funding source would likely be the TACT fund in the category of New Technology. A second source would be Capital Outlay, should it ever be reinstated. This project cannot, however, be partially funded.

➤ **Provide ORG & PROG codes**

- **TACT – 926500-515001-757500-210000**

*Lane Community College*  
*Unit Planning Template: Instruction*

- **Capital Outlay – 111100-525001-730000-210000**
- **Outside Maintenance – 111100-525001-615700-210000**

➤ **How does this project articulate with the college's vision, mission & goals and contribute toward meeting the President's/Board's approved goals?**

This initiative articulates with the college's mission, vision, values, and strategic directions in the following ways:

- Vision - By transforming lives...by providing exemplary and innovative teaching and learning experiences
- Mission - By making it easier for students to retrieve the information they want – whether for professional technical programs, transfer programs, skill upgrading, business development and career enhancement, by foundation skills development, lifelong personal enrichment, or cultural and community services.
- Core Values supported by this request – learning, innovation, accessibility
- Strategic Directions (includes 03/04, and 04/05)– By improving compliance with Accreditation Standard 5, Library and Information Resources, improving the chances of student retention by reducing barriers to the research process, and by providing exemplary and innovative teaching and learning experiences

IF FUNDING SOURCE COULD BE TACT FUNDS, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

- Category of request:
- **Maintain existing technology - Yes**
  - **Increase student access to technology - Yes**
  - **New technology - Yes**
- How does this request fit in with other unit or college technology plans?
- This request fits in with the Technology Vision of ...” appropriate integration of technology into its services to students, staff, and community within the framework of the college’s mission, core values and strategic directions.” It fits with the commitment to use technology to “enhance human potential, support expanding access to educational and information services, be grounded in an awareness of social, organizational, legal, and ethical issues; and maintain, support and respect the privacy or other rights of individuals. It fits with the principles that guide technology resource decisions – “...to reflect the understanding that technology is a long-term investment rather than a one-time cost, to enhance staff efficiency and effectiveness, and to maximize student access to technology.”