

STUDENT TECHNOLOGY FEE

- The current student Technology fee is \$8.32 per credit. In FY11 a request was made to increase the Technology fee from \$8.00 to \$10.00 for FY12. A 4% increase was approved for FY12.
- Prior to the increase in FY12 the Technology fee remained at \$8.00 per credit since 2004.

MnScu 2 Year institutions		
	Average	Highest
FY07	\$7.28	\$ 8.00
FY08	\$7.85	\$10.00
FY09	\$8.76	\$10.00
FY10	\$8.96	\$10.00
FY11	\$9.33	\$10.00
FY12	\$9.41	\$10.00

- A four year computer recycling plan is used in high traffic student computer labs. These computers are then recycled to lower use labs. The number of computer labs has increased, as well as the number of high traffic labs. For example, in prior years the library received recycled computers; in more recent years has required new computers due to increased use. Cyber areas have been added and in FY12 a 40 seat computer lab was added in EGF.
- With the added computer labs and computers available to students the number of programs requiring a laptop has decreased considerably. At one point almost every program offered in EGF required students to purchase a laptop, even if it was only needed for one class.
- Student technical support, is essentially unlimited support, and has increased with the number of students carrying mobile devices and requiring support on personal laptops. Student wireless needs have diversified and we can no longer say that EGF is only a laptop campus and TRF is only a desktop campus.
- IT Salaries for FY12 are just over \$646,000. 42% of these salaries are funded by the Technology Fee with the remaining 58% funded by other sources. In FY13, there is an expected 3% increase in salaries and benefits.
- A five year recycling plan is used for most network infrastructure, such as servers, switches, etc. Due to the increased cost to the Technology fee in FY12 for an additional IT position and computer lab, no budget has been allotted or is available for server or switch recycling.
- The current cost center balance for the Technology fee is \$17,515, which will not cover the allotted spring student printing quota.
- Without an increase in the Technology fee we will need to decrease or eliminate some services or equipment provided to students. Some ideas for reduction include:
 - Reduce or eliminate free printing quota (approximately 50k per year)
 - Reduce the number of computer labs that receive new equipment or increase the length of time between recycling. This could also increase the cost of equipment repairs due to expired warranty or version of software programs used. May also increase the number of programs requiring students to purchase a laptop.
 - Reduce or limit technical support to college-owned equipment or only student laptops that are required by their program. However, this model would greatly reduce the support provided to students causing them to purchase support elsewhere. Best Buy's Geek Squad charges a flat rate of \$199.00 for computer diagnostic and virus removal (additional cost for additional support) with an average return time of more than 2 days.
- **Recommendation to increase the Technology fee to \$9.00 per credit for FY13. This is still below the MnScu average and highest.**
- The Technology Committee does an annual student technology survey for ideas and recommendations. All prior FY budget recommendations and accomplishments are posted at www.northlandcollege.edu/VirtualOffice/employee_id001/committees/Technologynology/student/