Proposal For

Upgrades in the

206 Curtiss Lab

Agricultural Education & Studies

through the

College of Agriculture

in response to a call for proposals by the

College of Ag Computer Advisory Committee

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Gaylan Scofield, Ph.D., Proposer - ggs@iastate.edu
006 Curtiss Hall - 294-0045

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Robert Martin - Professor & Head
Agricultural Education & Studies Department

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Dean, College of Agriculture
Project Overview and Expected Benefit

The Department of Agricultural Education & Studies has a total graduate and undergraduate enrollment approaching 475 students, which represents about 7.3% of the students in the College of Agriculture. This proposal from the Department of Agricultural Education & Studies is a request to enhance the 206 Curtiss Hall Lab based on input from current users of the lab and AGEDS graduate students. The 206 Lab is the only open computer lab in Curtiss Hall. There are currently 9 low-end Pentium III - 350MHz and 3 low-end Pentium II - 266MHz computers in the lab connected to a laser printer, scanner, and student file server. The lab is utilized by students taking class in Curtiss Hall completing reports, presentations, class projects, email, Internet, on-line classes, and graphics preparation. Curtiss Hall has a large volume of students taking classes in the Curtiss Hall Auditorium. Many of these students utilize the 206 Lab for email and web usage before and after class. Many students have expressed the satisfaction of having a small quiet lab in which they can complete their needs before and after class. In addition to the 206 Curtiss Hall Lab, the Department maintains a closed lab located in 220 Curtiss (key entry) for AGEDS grad students. This lab currently has 10 Pentium 166 computers with limited RAM and hard drive space, laser printer, scanner, and is connected to the student file server. These Pentium 166 computers were recycled from the 206 lab 3 years ago to replace 486 level systems when the 206 Lab received the 9 Pentium III computers. Many of the AGEDS grad students are utilizing the 206 Lab for the more demanding tasks they need, thus limiting the number of available spots for undergraduates. The student file server gives students disk space for projects, serves as a print server to monitor printing, has FTP capabilities for those students who wish to retrieve files from another location, and can also deliver web pages and streaming video if required for student projects.

A. Description and intended purpose for all project expenditures and identify expenditures from Central Pool Funds.

This project proposes to upgrade the 206 Curtiss Hall computer lab to Pentium 4 level computers with current software. A number (depends on funding) of the computers will be relocated to the other lab for use by grad students. This will allow the retirement of an equal number of Pentium 166 computers purchased in 1996 & 1997 which are below the minimum University standards and do not run the current software required by students using this lab. The movement of these older Pentium II & III computers to the 220 Curtiss Grad lab will provide more opportunity for the undergraduate students and others to find an open workstation in the 206 lab.

B. Quantify how the proposed facilities will be made available to students.

1. Identify the hours this facility will be open for general student use.

The 206 Curtiss Lab is open 8am-5pm Monday-Friday. Curtiss Hall is not available to students in the evenings or weekends due to it being locked. No scheduled courses are
taught in this lab. The closed lab is available to AGEDS grad students via key entry 24 hours / day - 7 days / week.

2. Identify the number of students that will be able to work simultaneously during these hours.

206 Lab - 10 workstations - 8am-5pm, Monday-Friday
220 Grad Lab - 10 workstations - 24 hours / day

3. Identify the number of student population(s) that should benefit from the proposal. Estimate the number of students to be served.

The 206 Lab currently serves both graduate and undergraduate students in the AGEDS Department, other students in the College of Agriculture, as well as students taking Departmental service courses such as AGEDS 282, AGEDS 311, AGEDS 315, AGEDS 450, AGEDS 500, and AGEDS 514. Specific numbers include:

Agricultural Education Graduate 64 students
Agricultural Education & Studies Undergraduate 407 students
Service Based Courses (approx number of students/semester) 175 students
Students utilizing the lab between classes in Curtiss Auditorium varies

C. Special new technologies needed.
None

D. Identify university facilities needed for the proposed project.
Support and Maintenance

1. Support for recurring costs will not be supported; identify the anticipated costs and explain how these costs will be met this year and in future years.

The A Department employs a hardware/software support person to perform the required routine maintenance and repair.

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installs devices to prevent theft. Additional support and maintenance costs for this facility will be paid through other resources made available to AGEDS by the College and University.

**Full Budget**

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<th>Description of Item</th>
<th>Quan</th>
<th>Unit $</th>
<th>Total $</th>
<th>AGCAC $</th>
<th>Dept $</th>
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2. **Minimum Feasible Budget**

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