Attachment A - College of Business Laptop Computer Proposal

I. Background

- Computing is an essential element of the College of Business' (CoB) educational offerings, and is integrated into many courses.
- Over 50 specialized business software packages, including simulations, financial analysis, accounting and enterprise resource planning applications, along with a basic office suite and web browser, are used in Business curricula.
- Software is currently being purchased by CFT and installed on 150 PC's in the College's computing laboratories. It serves the College's 2000 students by providing them approximately 4.5 hours of computing time a week. Space limits the numbers of stations and increasing usage in educational process and enrollments have seriously constrained accessibility.
  - CoB Student/PC ratio = 2000/150 = 13.3 (yields 4.5 hours/student-week)
  - University average student/PC ratio in labs = 22,000/5,400 = 4.07
  - Colorado K-12 student/PC ratio average = between 6:1 and 4:1 (Jan Wilder, CDE)
  - College is out of space to expand computer labs (labs became overcrowded the 2nd week of this semester) – students want to discontinue using Room 39 as a hands-on teaching classroom, due to need for more "open" seats
  - Wireless network and networked classrooms installed, but little utilized
- Survey of Fall 2001 Entering CoB Freshman – 209 Responses
  - 99% will have computers
  - 60% purchased new hardware to bring to CSU at an average cost of $1,530
  - 179/209 had no budget for software
  - Remaining 30/209 had an average software budget of $378 (sufficient for OS and office suite only)
- Personally owned computers do not have the appropriate software due to licensing limitations and prohibitive cost.

Table 1 Cost Comparison

IBM R Series Laptop	University Program*	Student Owned*	Student Owned**
Base Cost	1,099	1,099	1,099
4 Yr Warranty	126	250	250
SafeWare (4 Year)	160	$400	400
Total Hardware	**1,385**	**1,749**	**1,749**
W2K	24	220	110
Office XP	68	495.50	250
Project	20	360	180
Visio Pro	20	400	200
Altiris	15	0	0
Total Software	**147**	**1,475.50**	**740**
Total All Costs	**1,554.55**	**3,224.50**	**2,489**

* Indicates that this software changes every 2-3 years, and requires a second purchase to stay current.
**Indicates single license will be purchased, and the student utilizes an out of date release raising issues with faculty and lab compatibility.

II. Proposal – require all students to lease a laptop from the University

- Implement as a Charges for Technology program: University ownership ensures access to the proper software
- Run as a leasing program through the Software Cellar (an enterprise, exempt from TABOR)

- o Semester basis
- o Provides University software licenses and pricing
- Begin with the Freshmen class in 2002
- Students in other colleges taking CoB classes are isolated from the classes where computers would be required
- Financial aid
  - o Cost would be included in the financial aid package
  - o 10% scholarships via an endowment created from the CoB's existing CFT fund balance
  - o Projected costs

Table 2 Cost Projections	
Hardware and Software	$191.50/semester
Reduction in current CFT	{$20.00)
Software Cellar	$3.75/semester
Bad Debt & Credit Card	$4.00/Semester
Avg. Finance Charge	$26.73/semester
Total	$205.98/semester

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III. Comparisons

- Colleges and universities requiring laptop computers in their College of Business.
  - o Penn State
  - o Washington State
  - o Arizona State
  - o UCLA
  - o Cost: $600 (heavily subsidized) to $2,500 - does not include software
  - o Most programs start with MBA's as a pilot - done at CSU
- In Colorado, DU requires all students to have a computer, now standardizing on hardware and software
- CU has a strong recommendation that students have a computer meeting some minimal standards - cost not a part of their tuition or fees (98% Freshman penetration)

IV. Benefits

- This proposal would give all students in the COB access to up to date hardware and the software necessary to provide a relevant high quality education.
- Classrooms in the COB have wired and wireless network accessibility in place so that students working there, as part of a class or assignments would have greatly expanded access during classroom and laboratory activities. Further the laptop will be configured to access university resources through network connections on campus and the Internet provider at their residence.
- Providing the fully equipped laptop to students through the expanded Charges for Technology program is much more cost effective and comprehensive for the student with savings estimated to be in the range of $145/ semester over an option where they are required to purchase outside the university.
- Standardized hardware and software will assure that the COB can give effective support efficiently and students have the benefit of up to date equipment
- Faculty can prepare students more effectively by giving them broader educational experiences knowing what students have in computing accessibility

V. Resolved Issues

- The software loaded on the computers will fall under the university licenses reducing the software costs the lowest level possible

- Current students in the college have been surveyed and 75% supported moving to the mandatory laptop program in the form being proposed
- The current $470,000 budget carry forward in the CoB CFT program would be used to establish an endowment for scholarships for 10% of the students

VI. Unresolved Issues

- Need University and SBA approval
- Need a decision by November 2001 to line up financial and disseminate information to prospective students
- Students are ready to act on their own, using CFT funds to initiate a program

VII. Analysis

- The College and the majority of students feel that additional delay in implementing the program will cause more harm than good
  - In adequate access to software packages required in the curriculum
  - Inadequate time to do homework on computers
  - Inadequate hands-on instruction with computers
  - Impaired ability to expand use of software in the curriculum
  - University ownership and a lease program is the only viable approach
  - A significant majority of students (75%) support the program and are willing to pay the additional cost

- What costs would be acceptable to the University and when?