

**State University System
Education and General
2015-2016 Legislative Operating Budget Issue
Form I**

Library e-Resources

University(s):	Complete Florida Plus Program (CFPP) - All SUS & FCS - System-wide
Work Plan Issue Title:	Promoting Increased STEM Student Services through the Enhancement of STEM Resources
Priority Number	
Recurring Funds Requested:	\$2,250,000
Non-Recurring Funds Requested:	
Total Funds Requested:	\$2,250,000
Please check the issue type below:	
Shared Services/System-Wide Issue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2014-2015 Non-Recurring Issue	<input type="checkbox"/>
New Issue for 2015-2016	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

I. Description

It is imperative that Florida improve the recruitment, retention, and graduation of undergraduate students in the STEM fields. The State of Florida has recognized the need to address the growing deficiency in science and mathematics education in F.S. 1001.03 (17), which calls for a “Unified State Plan for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).” The Complete Florida Plus Program (CFPP), successor to the Florida Virtual Campus (FLVC), is legislatively required to license e-resources for the public postsecondary libraries in the Florida college and university systems. CFPP requests new funds to acquire a robust portfolio of common STEM e-resources for college and university libraries to support undergraduate students.

While the current statewide allocation to FLVC for the purchase of electronic resources for the State University System and the Florida College System does allow for a number of interdisciplinary and subject-specific resources, it does not

provide for a consistent level of access to STEM resources available to undergraduate students enrolled in state-funded postsecondary education in Florida, nor does it allow for the smaller universities and colleges to provide a broader range of research-intensive STEM resources. STEM resources can be expensive; two critical engineering databases currently licensed by FLVC for the SUS, Inspec and Compendex, cost over \$450,000 for annual subscriptions. The SUS annual subscription to Complete Cambridge Scientific Abstracts costs \$310,000. In order to retain these and other valuable STEM products, while creating a central collection available to postsecondary students, additional funding is necessary. Total funding requested for STEM resources is \$1,050,000.

This request also includes the entrance of the 12th university, Florida Polytechnic University, to the SUS. Florida Poly greatly increases the need to provide access to the most current and up-to-date STEM resources, which will increase the cost to the system. For example, it will require an additional \$40,000 annually to provide Florida Poly access to Compendex and Inspec. While FLVC has successfully limited the costs of providing access to e-resources for Florida Poly in 2014 (by negotiating free trial access), these costs will rise for 2015 as vendors expect full payment. It is anticipated that the costs to add Florida Poly to the existing e-resources that FLVC provides to the SUS would be an additional \$250,000.

Finally, the majority of Florida undergraduate students do not have access to the high quality educational videos and multimedia resources that are so critical in the online educational environment. Funding for a collection of multimedia resources that broadly support the core undergraduate curriculum would support the educational mission of the state. FLVC currently offers the Films On Demand Master Academic Collection for the FCS; extending that license to include the SUS would cost an additional \$200,000. Additional essential multimedia resources are produced by Alexander Street Press, with subject coverage ranging from STEM and Health Sciences to the Arts and Humanities. These resources would be incorporated into local institutional learning management systems, course management systems, and alternate textbooks, reducing the overall cost of course materials to students. Total funding requested for these resources is \$950,000.

The additional statewide funding for STEM and multimedia e-resources would ensure consistent access to resources critical to support programs for Florida's undergraduate students.

Return on Investment

Florida's postsecondary institutions are striving to provide graduates for the knowledge economy who will work not only in Florida, but in the global marketplace. To meet the dynamic BOG Strategic Plan goal of 22,500 STEM undergraduates system-wide by 2025, the acquisition and enhancement of STEM and multimedia resources is imperative. Providing this critical support and access to resources for students and their programs will facilitate increased

knowledge, encourage retention, and reduce time to graduation, especially in the key STEM fields.

III. Facilities *(If this issue requires an expansion or construction of a facility and is on the Capital Improvement List complete the following table.):*

	Facility Project Title	Fiscal Year	Amount Requested	Priority Number
1.	NA			
2.				