Planning and Budget Council Summary Sheet

Part I. General Information

Unit, Department or Program: OCET/Imaginarium

Date of request: 11/20/09
Date required by: 7/1/2011
Start date: 1/1/2012

Type of request:  
- Health and safety
- Program improvement
- New program
- Facilities, R&M Imaginarium
- Other

Resources requested:  
- Positions
- Equipment
- Operating
- Other 1 renovation
- Other 2 additional seats

Amount  
- ____________
- ____________
- ____________
- ____________
- ____________

Total  205,000

Alignment with Strategic Plan: 4.8, 5.4
(i.e., Action Outcomes 2.1, 4.3)

Part II. Narrative - Description and Rationale (do not exceed space provided)

Why is this request important? (what are the most important reasons for this request)

The college has received a $695,000 Title 3 grant to replace its existing projector system with a state-of-the-art digital projector. Once installed in Spring 2010, this new system will allow the removal of the old centrally mounted projector in the Imaginarium’s theater. This will permit the addition of 18 or more seats in the center of the Imaginarium, which is the prime viewing for audiences. The added seats will also support the continuously increasing attendance at the Imaginarium. After the new system installed, attendance is expected to make an even significantly higher annual increase.

Descriptive Summary of the Request (provide a summary of the resource request)

- demolition of existing projector pit (est $150,000)
- replacement of new carpet ($30,000)
- installation of 18 seats with interactive control buttons ($25,000)

Rationale for Request (how will the request benefit the unit, department, program or institution; alignment with Strategic Plan and other supporting documents, e.g., program review, annual assessments, department report, etc.)

The Imaginarium serves the college’s astronomy and space science curriculum, including its involvement in Hawaii Space Grant. WCC has recently signed an articulation agreement with UH-Hilo for WCC students who transfer to their BS program in astronomy. The Imaginarium provides a unique resource for these students. It is also used by the UH-Manoa astronomy classes. This facility furthermore serves the college’s community outreach efforts, both K-12. The Imaginarium attracts thousands of visitors annually and stands as one of the college’s most visible presence in the general community. This renovation would insure that the new full-dome digital system is used by the college and community to its fullest potential.

Part III. Evaluation

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Total