

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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**ACTION ITEM:** ASU's Biodesign Institute Project

**ISSUE:** The Board is requested to review and approve ASU's Biodesign Institute project, for an anticipated expense of \$690,000.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Biodesign research facility was delivered without significant audio-visual capability. The proposed project is designed to improve the efficiency of the researcher teams by facilitating more effective electronic collaboration. Collaboration between researchers within an institution and between institutions is a necessity. Institutions such as Stanford University and GlaxoSmithKline, are providing their researchers with the facilities necessary to collaborate in real time. The goal of the proposed project is to create an environment that provides this real time collaborative experience. Biodesign conference rooms AL1-10 and AL1-14 are actually one large conference room with a divider. This divider will be removed and the room will be left as one large conference room. Audio visual capability will be added to this room to create an Access Grid ([www.accessgrid.org](http://www.accessgrid.org)) environment.

### **DISCUSSION:**

From the Access Grid website: The Access Grid® is an ensemble of resources including multimedia large-format displays, presentation and interactive environments, and interfaces to Grid middleware and to visualization environments. These resources are used to support group-to-group interactions across the Grid. For example, the Access Grid (AG) is used for large-scale distributed meetings, collaborative work sessions, seminars, lectures, tutorials, and training. The Access Grid thus differs from desktop-to-desktop tools that focus on individual communication. The Access Grid developers have issued over 20,400 certificates to users across 56 countries. Each institution has one or more AG nodes, or "designed spaces," that contain the high-end audio and visual technology needed to provide a high-quality compelling user experience. The nodes are also used as a research environment for the development of distributed data and visualization corridors and for the study of issues relating to collaborative work in distributed environments.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Board approve ASU's Biodesign Institute project.

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### **Project Overview**

This project is Phase II of ASU Biodesign Institute's AV project and is what we are calling The Collaboratorium. The project was bid as a single large project encompassing several areas within Biodesign. Phase I was completed in March 2006 and included the Auditorium and Lobby.

Phase II, tackles the Lower Level of Biodesign A and includes modifications to the Lower Level. These modifications include: Converting AL1-10 and AL1-14 (adjoining conference rooms) into one large conference room with Access Grid ([www.accessgrid.org](http://www.accessgrid.org)) capabilities. The lower level atrium will be configured with a large drop down theatre screen with projector, as well as several large flat panel displays, which will be used to display content delivered from within Biodesign, within ASU, and from other institutions outside of Biodesign and ASU. This content will be in the form of lectures, seminars, and videoconferences to enable and foster collaboration.

### **Deliverables**

Remodel AL1-10 and AL1-14 as needed. Procure and install equipment necessary for the Access Grid environment. Procure and install the atrium video displays and the equipment required to drive it.

### **Service and Economic Benefits**

Researchers and staff of the Biodesign Institute will use this equipment to share their research with other members of the Biodesign community, and to collaborate with their colleagues around the country and around the world. This environment will provide for the real time sharing of data and will provide a "conference room feel" for members at all locations. The use of this environment will allow the users to meet with their colleagues as needed, without the need for lengthy and costly airline tickets and hotel stays.

### **Project Roles and Responsibilities**

The Biodesign Institute will oversee the project. Biodesign IT will provide system administration of this environment.

### **Project Funding**

The project will be funded from the existing Biodesign Institute operating budget. The funding was anticipated in this budget year and has already been allocated.

### **Project Management Timeline**

The project was bid as one large AV project, split into several phases. This bid process provided that the same vendor was used throughout all phases. Therefore, once we have the approval to proceed, we can begin work on the project.

08/2006	Project approval
08/2006	Begin construction and equipment procurement
09/2006	Installation of equipment and acceptance testing
10/2006	Project completion.

**Opportunities for Collaboration**

The equipment to be installed as part of this project will be used to support the research conducted by numerous groups within The Biodesign Institute. Researchers from the Centers for Infections Diseases and Vaccinology, Glycosciences Technology, Innovations in Medicine, Bioelectronics and Biosensors, BioOptical Nanotechnology, Applied NanoBioscience, etc., will be able to use this equipment to collaborate with their colleagues across campus, across the country, or across the world.

**Implementation Costs and Marginal Operating Costs in Thousands**

**Costs in Thousands (\$000)**

<b>Development /Operating</b>						
<b>Description</b>	<b>FY07</b>	<b>FY08</b>	<b>FY09</b>	<b>FY10</b>	<b>FY11</b>	<b>Total</b>
Hardware	\$476					\$476
Licensing and Maintenance Fees		\$46	\$51	\$56	\$61	\$214
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$476</b>	<b>\$46</b>	<b>\$51</b>	<b>\$56</b>	<b>\$61</b>	<b>\$690</b>