Three years ago, the University of Illinois Board of Trustees approved a semester assessment of $200 for new students effective fall semester 2008. These funds are used for improvements at all UIC campuses that benefit students. A committee comprised of representatives from student government groups, faculty, and members of the Provost’s staff oversees the allocation of these funds to support Library and ACCC improvements.

At the Library of the Health Sciences-Chicago (LHS-C), we used the funds generated by the assessment to upgrade student computers, including hardware, software, workstations, and chairs. We purchased comfortable seating and installed it in several locations in the Library. Two group study rooms were enhanced with technology that supports student collaborations and group work. Below is a photo of our new Smart Room equipment with interactive white board and video projection.

A portion of the funds went to new databases and information resources. The Library will soon make laptops available for borrowing.

At our regional site libraries in Peoria (LHS-P), Rockford (LHS-R), and Urbana (LHS-U) funds were used for additional workstations, laptops for checkout, new furniture, and improvements in space.

In the coming year, we plan to add computers, workstations, seating and tables, and further improve technology and study space at all LHS locations.

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