Re-design and improve the Learning Center: invest in enough tablets for check-out for every tutor to use with students; include better access to power; consider finding additional permanent overflow space for tutoring and SI.

CURRENT CHALLENGE:

I wish to address the challenge faced by students who attend the Learning Center for tutoring and S.I. office hours. The challenge is adequate space and access to power devices. The Learning Center sees about 5600 students who visit tutors and S.I. leaders 40,000 times in an academic year.

PROPOSED SOLUTION:

There are two proposed solutions here, one short-term and one long-term.

A short-term solution is getting a enough tablets available for check-out for every tutor to use with students. As power is an issue at least there will be a nearby central charging station for students attending the Learning Center. This also helps with space as check-ins can be monitored by student employees who host the Learning Center. Given the open space even with the amount of visits we have students do forget to check-in or do not want to be inconvenienced. Imagine how much more than 40,000 visits we would have. The ideal device would be the Microsoft Surface tablet as it would offer the versatility needed for varying programs that students use across courses in tutoring. A good update program and the equipment for it would make software being available seamless and consistent. Additional iPads may also be needed for SI Leaders as well.

A long term solution is to re-design the Learning Center to include better access to power and consider finding additional permanent over-flow space for tutoring and SI. There was a proposal submitted regarding a power solution, but we still await a quote as it does not seem like a priority and we need the quote to seek funding.

BENEFITS TO FRESNO STATE:

This solution benefits Fresno State because the Learning Center is one a program that directly impacts student academics. The research is clear that tutoring and SI benefits students attend whether from under-represented backgrounds as well as the general student population.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Thank you for your consideration.