

Staying on top of technology is very important throughout today's world. Technology is a critical component of higher education. Crowley's Ridge College has made numerous technology related improvements to enable a more successful learning environment for our students in the classrooms and throughout campus. Installing fiber optics, creating multiple computer labs, purchasing classroom computer equipment, virtual devices, learning and library software, projection and sound equipment, ID and credit card scanning, and other technological improvements are a tremendous help, especially to our students, faculty, staff, campus and online visitors.

CRC recently implemented digital books through the Cengage platform, which can also provide a textbook for students who prefer an actual book. This new digital platform will cost \$32,398 this year. We believe this is a good educational investment, which enables our students to have the latest learning resources for each class and can be accessed in any location through an online connection.

We also invested in using online learning platforms that enable students unable to attend a traditional class, such as our athletic teams, to still access class materials when away from classes. Costs for these areas will be more than \$20,000 and one area will be more than \$10,000 annually.

CRC also has a brand new website that provides greater access to classes and resources for our students, more fully connect each department, enhance our image, and better serve all our constituents. These website changes are also aimed at helping CRC further increase future enrollment as we connect more easily with prospective students. This new website is a sizable added expense but critical to CRC's success in meeting higher education needs. In addition to the cost of creating this website, we will also incur the cost of maintenance and other associated fees.

As is summarized regarding the above improvements, keeping a strong focus on technology is expensive. Crowley's Ridge College's IT department provides ongoing support in meeting our technology needs and helps us to keep associated costs as low as possible.

We encourage you to use this link www.crc.edu/donations to provide a gift to help CRC cover the numerous costs associated with technology. Your gifts will be used to help CRC meet our technology needs and will directly help our students, faculty, staff, campus, and online visitors.