**SUMMARY**

The Legislative Fiscal Analyst recommends the placement of a one-time appropriation in the amount of $5,000,000 on the priority list for the purchase of equipment for the nine colleges and universities in the Utah System of Higher Education. This funding would purchase equipment for the training and instruction of students on all campuses.

**OBJECTIVE**

The objective of this recommendation is to make current equipment and technology available to students that will help provide them with up-to-date training and educational opportunities.

**DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

The USHE institutions have an equipment budget (FY 2008) of $9.4 million. This funding is to purchase equipment necessary for the training and teaching of students. Business and industry expect students who are trained with current equipment and technology. To provide useful training to students, campuses must be able to replace older obsolete equipment with current technology. This is especially true today with technology improving so quickly.

The one-time funding for the nine colleges and universities in the Utah System of Higher Education is to purchase new equipment and supplies. The Analyst recommends the funding go to the State Board of Regents for further distribution.