

2005-06 Technology Fee Project Report

Continuation of Campus-wide Site Licenses

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Brief Description of the Project

Provide the campus with cost-effective access to a standard set of software applications.

Goals

- Provide consistent, up-to-date software in computer labs for student use.
- Provide faculty and staff with the same software to develop a common base of knowledge across the campus.
- Coordinate software purchases centrally for cost-effective purchases.
- Encourage the use of standardized software applications across the campus to reduce training and support costs.
- Provide lab managers with the necessary tools for keeping student computer labs in working order. Such tools include antivirus, desktop security software, and imaging and other maintenance applications.

Methodology

All software licenses are coordinated through the Computing Help Desk, which serves as a central source of information and distribution, as well as a liaison to the software licensing available through the UT System. The Help Desk installs standard software on faculty and staff computers upon request. In computer labs, the lab manager or designated support coordinator checks out the installation media from the Help Desk for installation or when practical can be provided with a permanent copy of the media. The Help Desk tracks all site licensed installations in its database, but does not assume responsibility for installations not performed by its staff and not reported to the Help Desk.

Evaluation

During the year the Help Desk logged few requests for assistance with non-standard software, indicating that the vast majority of the campus is making use of these site licenses. All computer labs at UTC, where applicable, are now using an acceptable version of MS Office, the campus standard.

Expenditures (E04-0156-009)

Original Allocation:	\$94,000
Total Spent	\$92,977

Summary of Major Software Purchased

MS Office	\$31,475
MS Windows upgrades	\$10,425
Symantec Antivirus	\$16,566
Adobe Acrobat	\$1,230
Sassafras Key Server	\$7,066
SPSS	\$3,845

Conclusion

Without this central funding, many departments and computer labs could not afford up-to-date versions of the software needed by faculty, students and staff. Non-standard solutions would become more likely, and support costs would rise. Thanks to centralized coordination and economies of scale, this project has been able to save the University money while improving the quality of software provided.