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GB Fall 2005-09

Student and University Technology Improvement Initiative

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- 1 WHEREAS the Student Government Association is a legislative body, charged
2 with serving as the official voice of the Student Body, and
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4 RECOGNIZING that technology plays an increasingly important role in the
5 educational environment and everyday life of students, and
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7 NOTING that in order to receive the greatest benefit from such technology as may
8 be used by both instructors and students, sufficient support resources must be made
9 available, and
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11 REALIZING that faculty and students in various departments choose to use a
12 variety of computing platforms, including but not limited to: Mac OS, Windows,
13 and Linux, and that attempts to “standardize” to one platform serve neither the best
14 interests of the students nor that of the institution
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16 BE IT RESOLVED that the Student Government Association of Missouri State
17 University hereby requests that the administration and Board of Governors
18 implement a 1:1 technology initiative within a reasonable timeframe (no later than
19 Fall 2008), where 1:1 technology initiative is defined as a situation in which all
20 students and faculty at Missouri State University own a computer, most commonly
21 a laptop, that meets certain minimum requirements of the institution. Any such
22 program must satisfy the following criteria:
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24 1. Any such program must be platform neutral at the global institutional level.
25 Individual programs may stipulate specific software/hardware requirements,
26 but such discretion shall lie only with the individual programs/departments
27
28 2. All efforts must be made at the individual program level to permit students
29 and faculty freedom of choice with respect to what Operating System (OS)
30 and/or software they choose to use, such that unless no other options are
31 available, cross-platform software solutions are preferred
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33 3. Any plan shall include campus-wide wireless access for all students and
34 faculty, particularly if a laptop-based plan is chosen
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- 36 4. In order to facilitate freedom of platform and software choice, responsibility
37 for purchasing their own computer systems shall fall to the students. Faculty
38 shall continue to have systems provided by the institution
39
- 40 5. Any necessary institutional costs for implementation of the plan shall be
41 drawn from the Student Computer Usage Fee (SCUF) funds particularly
42 those currently put towards the maintenance and upgrade of existing open-
43 access computer labs, including but not limited to, a pool from which funds
44 can be drawn to provide financial assistance to students in financial need to
45 purchase their own system
46
- 47 a. As part of this reallocation, the number and size of the open access
48 computer labs will be reduced to a minimum level necessary to
49 compliment the 1:1 plan.
50
- 51 b. Any reallocation of funds as outlined in sub point (a) above shall also
52 include an increase in funds available to departments and colleges for the
53 purchase and maintenance of special-purpose computer labs (eg. video
54 editing labs, animation labs, language labs, programming labs, etc.).
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56 BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the Student Government Association of Missouri
57 State University recognizes that educational technologies other than computers are
58 widely used at this institution and that to further facilitate the use of technologies
59 requests that the administration and Board of Governors:

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- 61 1. Separate from the Student Computer Usage Fee (SCUF) any funds that
62 currently go toward the installation and maintenance of classroom technology
63 installations and create a new Student Classroom Technology Fee that goes
64 to cover all types of classroom instructional technology, and that, when
65 capital improvement funds are available, are not to be used for capital
66 changes to infrastructure such as electrical wiring and other such design and
67 construction-related items.
68
- 69 2. Establish a committee to design and implement a new institutional
70 technology plan that includes and compliments the aforementioned 1:1
71 technology initiative, such committee to consist of a preponderance of faculty
72 and student representatives in at least a 2:2:1 ratio to administrative
73 representatives, so as to insure priority consideration for academic interests,
74 to be chaired by the Provost or his/her designee.
75
- 76 3. Strongly consider joining the Internet 2 Consortium to provide the greatest
77 possible bandwidth to the University's entire academic community, but if this
78 is not currently feasible, take steps to increase available bandwidth through
79 other means.
80
- 81 4. Implement a system to incentivise the creative and appropriate use of

82 technology by faculty in the various departments and colleges, and reward
83 departments, faculty, and programs already doing so.

84

85 5. Shift responsibility for the support of academic computing from
86 Administration to Academic Affairs, in order to provide more academically-
87 minded support to faculty and students. This includes, but is not limited to,
88 the division of Central User Support (CUS) into administrative and academic
89 support divisions, as well as shifting responsibility for special technology
90 projects to the office of the Provost.

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