

Personal Computer Procurement Program

A key objective of the Personal Computer Procurement Program (PCPP) is to streamline and standardize the University's process for procuring personal computers. A critical success factor of the PCPP program was the selection of a preferred supplier for personal computers. The project team is pleased to announce that the University has selected Dell as its preferred supplier of computers. On Nov 15, 2011 the Board of Governors granted approval for the University to enter into a multi-year agreement with Dell for the supply of computers. The pending agreement (which is under negotiation as of Nov 17, 2011) will make Dell the University's preferred supplier for Windows™ based desktop and portable computers, servers, and peripherals. Dell was selected through a rigorous, highly competitive selection process.

Under the pending agreement, the unit price and process used to purchase one computer will be the same unit price and process used to order large quantities of personal computers (of a given configuration). This contract feature will render it unnecessary to pool personal computer requirements within faculties or units to increase the purchasing power. Additionally, the configuration and the price for standard systems will remain stable over extended periods, which will ease the planning and budgeting processes.

Key things the University Community should know about the PCPP are:

- Faculties and units will realize significant benefits from the Personal Computer Purchasing Program (PCPP), which will be officially launched once the agreement with Dell has been signed. Once the PCPP is launched, it is expected that all personal computing equipment will be ordered through the PCPP.
- Computers on Campus (ConC) will play a key role in the operation of the PCPP.
- The PCPP was designed to meet a broad range of computing needs. The Program includes a suite of standard configurations, which will be updated periodically; the PCPP also provides access to a range of custom configuration/order options. ConC staff will help clients match specific requirements to the most appropriate solution.
- The PCPP will provide units and faculties substantial savings on personal computers and servers.
- Universal adoption of the PCPP will facilitate realization of significant improvements in the effectiveness and efficiency of desktop computer support services (i. e. services provided by the Shared Service Desk and Compu-Reps), which will benefit all computer users.
- Apple products will also be available through the PCPP. The pricing on Apple™ computers will not change as a result of the new supply contract for Windows™ personal computers.
- Enhancements to the operating model (i.e. process and organizational changes) for the procurement of IT equipment, software, and consulting services will be announced early in 2012. Development of a new IT Procurement Centre (ITPC) is currently underway. When the ITPC becomes operational, customers will benefit from streamlined process and service enhancements for the procurement of IT equipment, software, and services. Further enhancements will be introduced when the eProcurement solution goes live (approximately June 2012).