

**Software Licensing Constituent Group
Meeting at EDUCAUSE 2000
October 11, 2000
Report on Discussion**

Submitted by meeting convener
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Approximately 70 people attended, including representatives of two vendors, Microsoft and Adobe. We talked about issues we are facing. They fell into the following topics (thanks to Karen Montefiori at Vanderbilt for taking notes):

1) For the schools participating in the Microsoft Student Select Pilot Program, what has been their experience so far? How have they reacted to Microsoft changing product ordering requirements during the pilot? For example, the Pilot agreement states that the minimum order quantity is 100. We were told orders for several products could be combined to meet this minimum. Several months into the pilot, participating schools were then told that the minimum order quantity is 100 per product (as opposed to per order).

In addition, prior to the start of the pilot, schools were told they could return unsold licenses and media kits. Several weeks into the pilot, we were told unsold licenses and media kits could not be returned.

2) How many schools are participating in the Microsoft Campus Agreement (along with Select) versus Select only? For schools participating in the Campus Agreement, what has been their experience? Any problems?

3) How many schools have a central source for funding software licenses for which there is low demand (i.e. not enough demand to meet the minimum order quantity)? Do most software licensing units operate under the assumption that costs must be recovered? If not, how is the funding obtained?

4) How many schools license multiple statistical programs? How many try to standardize on a few? Advantages to standardizing on a few include lower support requirements, an improved ability to recover cost, and a lower per license cost to the end user. How do other schools fund niche products for which there is low demand?

5) Are other schools considering serving applications to their campus community (using Citrix Metaframe, for example)? Do any other schools have experience in this area?

6) How do other schools ensure software license compliance? Which unit on campus is responsible for ensuring software license compliance (or is it the responsibility of each unit)?

Where questions were directed to the vendors we gave them opportunity to address concerns and try to resolve issues.

This meeting will probably grow in size. As people introduced themselves, many said they had just been designated as "Licensing Manager" for their institution. They didn't exactly know what was expected of them, but licensing issues were becoming more focused on their campus.