

**Report from Meeting of  
EDUCAUSE Software Licensing Constituent Group  
EDUCAUSE 2001 — Indianapolis  
Sunday, October 28th**  
*Leader: Larry Rapagnani, University of Notre Dame*

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 Charlotte Lenox from Baylor and Margaret Knox from Texas for taking notes):

John Miller was introduced as the new licensing person for Microsoft (Johnm@microsoft.com)

1. Negotiating contracts with vendors. Agreed that negotiating terms doesn't usually work unless the vendor has competition. Always need a plan B. Reminder to always get venue changed to your own state and try to put a percentage cap on cost increases.
2. Folks from the California and Texas systems spent a good bit of time talking about the nightmares of total decentralization in terms of software licensing. Most of us just listened and counted our blessings -- especially those of us from private schools!
3. Microsoft Open/Select. Possibility that Select will include a student option in the future? Upgrade pricing is gone. All upgrades will be discontinued - just buy new product.
4. Microsoft OS (XP) home editions and the problems when the employee then tries to upgrade to the corporate edition ? or brings their computer and tries to connect to the campus network.
5. MSDN Academic Alliance (AA). Microsoft confirmed that this is for in-class, class-specific, use only and cannot be substituted for the MSCA student option. MSDN AA could cover visual studio for IT schools doing only instructional usage.
6. We spent TONS of time talking about the way FTE employee numbers are calculated for the MS-CA. Many of those present simply could not understand that the calculation method mirrors that of the IPED numbers. We also discussed how student workers are counted.
7. Home use -- a lot of schools have told MS they are not doing it because of liability (faculty doing more than university work). Difficult to enforce so we are talking about good-will in enforcement.

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. We see this on the listserv as well. Licensing issues are becoming more focused ? and more complex ? for the campus community.