Graduate Student Computer Purchase Program

The Department of Economics has created a research account for graduate students to help them purchase a computer for their use. The student can use the allocated funds from their research account towards the purchase of computing equipment, while using their own funds to make up any differences.

The research accounts can be used to purchase any computer (desktop/laptop) model that the student chooses. All these computers will be considered Duke property in terms of the ownership of the computer, but in terms of support these computers will be viewed as personally-owned computers and, as such, will receive “best effort” support from the ECS staff. What this means is that the ECS staff will try to fix any/all problems (non-warranty related) with the computer when time allows. If the ECS staff is not able to troubleshoot or fix the computer, it will be returned to the student and outside support options can be discussed. All warranty work on these computers is the responsibility of the student that purchases the computer.

ECS staff is available/willing to discuss different computing options available to the students during open office hours and can also assist in generating quotes for computers from the University approved vendors, like Dell and Lenovo. Students wishing to purchase a computer from the Duke Computer Store can work with Meghan and Rhonda to obtain the necessary forms to use their funds from their research accounts directly and then pay the difference. In this way they will not have to put the money out up front and wait for a reimbursement. This option is only available for certain vendors and models.

The University has recently obtained a Campus Wide Licensing agreement with Microsoft that will allow students to obtain any Windows Operating System or Office version, either for free or at a very reduced cost. At this time, the agreement also allows students to obtain a license code upon graduation for the current version of Windows at the time to take with them. Please visit the OIT website (http://www.oit.duke.edu) to search form and obtain all the latest news and information regarding this agreement.

All computers will be property of Duke University and will therefore be subject to all relevant policies and regulations. Computers will depreciate to a $0 value in 3 years at which time the computer will become the property of the student.

If a student leaves Duke before the 3 years have elapsed, they may purchase the computer from Economics at its depreciated value or return it to the department.

I understand and accept this policy.

Signed __________________________________________________________

Printed Name _____________________________________________________