

# Cleveland State University

## Academic Technology Committee of the Faculty Senate

11/29/2021

RE: Faculty Recommendation for Faculty Computer Replacement Guidelines

To: President of the Faculty Senate

This letter is from a standing faculty senate committee with a recommendation for guidelines related to any proposed faculty computer replacement program. The committee respectfully submits these recommendations for consideration to ensure the faculty opinion is included with the appropriate conversations and negotiations.

### History

In 2019 the *ad hoc* Faculty Computer Replacement Taskforce had conducted a detailed study for developing policy recommendations for the faculty computer replacement program. The task force undertook systematic research about three components: comparative study of computer replacement policies at peer institutions; hardware

subsequent computers or purchased separately through the IS&T self service portal if replacement is needed.

### Hardware recommendations

On the specification/configuration of the computers purchased for faculty, the 2019 task force recommended that the university must procure computers that meet the prevailing industry standard for instruction at the college level (see Table 1 below). Its recommendations on the configuration for the hardware presented to the provost have acquired increased salience. The COVID 19 pandemic has increased the university's reliance on optimal hardware for remote instruction and advising needs. We should be expecting increased reliance on information technology and current hardware configuration with all the digital transformations that the pandemic has accelerated. There will likely be more remote/online instruction (hybrid, synchronous, and asynchronous) moving forward. Thus, our committee encourages a laptop culture amongst all academic units where applicable.

Thus, the Academic Technology Committee recommends that the taskforce's hardware table be updated to reflect current minimum requirements for distance and hybrid teaching. The committee recommends the configurations in Table 1 be accepted as the minimum specification/configuration for all computers procured for instruction needs moving forward. Like in the past, there may be a specific need for more powerful computers in some cases and we recommend flexibility in the guidelines that i n