

General Policy - Mac Technology

Rationale:

Since personal computing was introduced at BSC, the proliferation of Macs and PC's at the College has taken its own course. There is a mixture of both, but the overwhelming majority of machines are PC's. The purchase price of Macs is greater than PC's, while the capabilities of both systems are somewhat equal. Technical support for Mac hardware and software is costly and time consuming due to little training and experience in this area among the technical support staff. While some curricula may have to rely on Mac technology for the education of students, the use of this technology for newly acquired purchases to service normal College business will no longer be supported by the Information Technology Solutions and Services support staff. The cost of purchasing, and technical support of Mac technology, must be kept to a minimum.

This policy deals with the proliferation of Mac Technology (both hardware and software) at Bismarck State College.

Policy:

Mac technology used in the normal business operation of the College (i.e., within faculty/staff/administrative offices):

1. Mac hardware will not be purchased for use in the normal business operation of the College.
2. Mac software may be purchased to support the existing base of Mac technology only.
3. At the point where existing Mac technology has become obsolete, it must be replaced with PC hardware and software.
4. Exceptions to this policy for normal business operations of the college: Mac purchases for use within the business operations of the college must be justified by documented need and requires the approval of the Chief Information Officer.

Mac technology used within academic programs:

1. Mac purchases for use within academic programs must be justified by documented academic need and requires the approval of the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Chief Information Officer.

History of This Policy:

Policy first drafted by the Computer Use Committee in AY 97-98. Approved by the President's Cabinet on May 11, 1998; Revised April 19, 2004; November 22, 2010; July 30, 2013; August 4, 2014; February 21, 2019.