Dickinson

Sustainable Technology Hardware

February 26, 2015

Dickinson believes that procurement decisions have environmental, social, and financial impacts and are therefore an important element of our overall sustainability ethos and program. To this end, we prioritize the procurement of sustainable products whenever possible, which includes assessing local manufacturing and distribution opportunities and identifying preferred vendors based on sustainable company practices. In this way, Dickinson will have a positive up-stream and down-stream sustainability impact on the economy - supporting vendors that are local, ecologically friendly, and socially disadvantaged. The Associate VP of Sustainability & Facilities Planning and the Director of User Services will periodically review our sustainable technology practices and policies.

This policy extends directly to Dickinson's procurement of electronics and technology hardware. The overwhelming majority of Dickinson's computers and monitors are purchased centrally by the Library and Information Systems Division. Dickinson has an institution-wide preference to purchase:

- EPA Energy Star computers and monitors
- Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) Certified Computers and Monitors

Dickinson currently replaces faculty, staff, lab, and classroom computers and monitors every 4 years and laptops every 3 years. Also, the college has currently standardized to all EPEAT Gold-compliant equipment and Energy Star equipment – including iMacs, MacBooks, Dell Optiplexes, and Dell Latitudes.

All college supplied computers and laptops are currently EPEAT Gold, and the college is working to achieve this for monitors as well.

EPEAT

EPEAT is a system that helps purchasers evaluate electronic products based on environmental attributes, e.g., waste minimization, recycled content, environmentally responsible production methods, bio-degradability, life cycle, energy efficiency, and toxicity.

The EPEAT system currently focuses on desktop and laptop computers and monitors. Products are rated Gold, Silver, or Bronze based on 28 optional criteria.

Currently, over 1,600 products have been certified through the EPEAT system.