July 2, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Faculty and Staff

FROM: Shannon B. Clegg, Campus Enterprises
       Gloria Thornton, Information Technology Services

SUBJECT: Introduction of eMarketplace and new purchasing procedures for Windows PC’s

Get ready….the new UNCG eMarketplace is coming soon!

UNC Greensboro’s eMarketplace is the new e-procurement solution hosted by SciQuest. The user-friendly application is a web based experience similar to shopping on sites such as Amazon.com.

The University's Procurement strategy is to develop contracts with strategic suppliers that will address the University's needs for a variety of products and services. Contracts will be negotiated with these suppliers aggregating volume and increasing our purchasing power. As part of this implementation, UNC Greensboro is in a new collaborative purchasing system with all other UNC system schools.

Once a contract is established, departments will be able to reap its benefits, including negotiated university or system pricing, lower procurement costs, outstanding supplier performance levels, and increased value-added services. One of the distinct changes in this shopping experience will be the level of information a ‘shopper’ can see. For example, when a shopping search result is returned, users will be able to see whether the item is a:

- HUB (Historically Underutilized Business) supplier
- "Green/Recycled" materials supplier
- State of NC Contract
- UNCG Preferred Supplier
- NC Preferred Supplier
- New Supplier
- Coming Soon Supplier

Departments will gain access to all their purchasing spend data as well. A dashboard is built into the system and departments will be able to see information on how much was spent with a particular supplier or out of a particular fund or account.

Our Project team and Focus Groups have been working with SciQuest and SunGard to customize this e-procurement solution to UNC Greensboro. eMarketplace will eventually replace the Banner Purchasing
module and once all users are trained, all purchasing will be handled within the eMarketplace. Campus training will begin in the fall.

UNC System Combined Pricing Initiative (CPI) for PC Purchases

We’re very excited to introduce the first set of strategic purchasing opportunities available to UNC Greensboro. These are a result of a collaborative effort of all campuses and General Administration. This summer, UNC Combined Pricing Initiative (CPI) standard models for Windows PC’s will replace the UNCG-specific models currently offered through the Campus-wide Hardware Procurement (CHP) program. UNC Greensboro’s eMarketplace eprocurement system will help to ensure that UNCG is in compliance with legislation passed by the NC General Assembly in July 2009 (SB 202, budget provision 6.11a).

Here are some features of the CPI:

- CPI standard PC’s with system-wide discounted pricing will be available for UNCG purchases beginning summer 2010 - pricing and model specifications will be available for view on ITS’s website
- When UNCG’s new eMarketplace system becomes available (expected this fall), purchases of CPI models will be made through the new system via punch-out catalogs
- Participation has been mandated by GA for all campuses, and each campus will be required to make at least 80% of all PC purchases from the standard configurations available through the CPI
- Any purchases of Windows-based PC’s not covered by the CPI will need to be approved through a campus-specific exception process that, at UNCG, ITS will develop and communicate in conjunction with the Purchasing department prior to the CPI standard models being available for purchase
- Contracts for Apple purchases are not yet included in the CPI, so departments’ purchases of Macintosh computers should continue to be made through UNCG’s Institutional Apple Store (see https://web.uncg.edu/apple/). Until Macintosh computers are integrated into the CPI in FY 10-11, Apple purchases made through UNCG’s Apple Store will not require an exception process and will not count as part of the 20% limit on exception purchases.

Visit our UNC Greensboro eMarketplace website for more information on the project and timeline for Go Live. The website is: http://purchasing.uncg.edu/eMarketplace/