

## Student Computer Ownership Committee Activities Academic Year 2007-2008

**Members:** Christos Alexopoulos (ISyE), Miles Edson (Housing), Michael Gamble (Arch), Jonathon Giffin (CS), T. Govindaraj (ISyE/Fall), Monty Hayes (ECE/Spring), Travis Horsley (Student), Aaron Lanterman (ECE), Jarek Rossignac (IC/Executive board liaison), Lisa Spence (OIT), Alex Taubman (Bookstore), Alex Wang (Student)

**Chairs:** T. Govindaraj (Fall), Jonathon Giffin (Spring)

**Meetings:** Two meetings were held.

1. 17-Sep-2007: Discussion of changes in commercial software and of new needs expected under the upcoming laptop requirement.
2. 14-Feb-2008: Finalized the laptop hardware and software recommendations.

**Laptop Requirement:** Pursuant to the spring 2007 Faculty Senate decision, all incoming students beginning with the summer 2008 semester are required to own laptop computers. The committee set minimum laptop hardware capabilities designed to last students for multiple years.

- *Processor:* Intel Core 2 Duo 1.6 GHz or better (or equivalent dual processor).
- *Memory:* 2 GB.
- *Hard Drive:* 120GB or larger.
- *Video Memory:* 128 MB or greater through integrated graphics adapter or separate video card.
- *Communications:* 802.11 a/b/g/n, Bluetooth 2.0 EDR.
- *Display:* Supports 1024x768 resolution or better.
- *Accessories:* CD/DVD Writer, Sound capability, Wired Ethernet port, 25' Ethernet cable, Notebook security lock.

This is an increase in requirements from the previous year and reflects the progression of the laptop computer market. The committee set the requirements after consultation with OIT and advertised the requirements to students both as a brochure distributed by the Institute and on our website: <http://www.sco.gatech.edu>.

### Software Recommendations:

#### Windows systems

- *Operating system:* Microsoft Windows Vista Business or higher
- *Email:* Zimbra Web Client or Microsoft Outlook
- *Security:* McAfee VirusScan & Antispyware Enterprise 8.5i
- *Productivity:* Microsoft Office 2007 Standard, Adobe Acrobat 8 Standard

#### Mac OS X Systems

- *Operating system:* Apple Mac OS X 10.5 (Leopard)
- *Email:* Apple Mail
- *Security:* McAfee VirusScan 8.6
- *Productivity:* Microsoft Office 2008

This past year, we updated software requirements to reflect current software versions, including new versions of both Windows and OS X. We removed course-specific software, including Dreamweaver and Matlab, from Institute-wide requirements and instead encouraged students to purchase such software in a manner similar to how they would purchase a textbook.