

Collaborative Software Procurement for Universities

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Abstract:

Software procurement involves complex negotiations, formalising contracts and agreements and finally vendor management tasks. Can Universities in Australia and New Zealand collaborate and develop software procurement strategies?

Questions that need answers! Do the software vendors have the upper hand? Do they divide and conquer? Does one size fit all? Universities deal with site and campus licences, volume licences, academic editions, downloads and freeware. Is it a corporate system? Is it perpetual or leased, have maintenance or upgrade insurance; is it for staff and students; can they work at home or on their personally owned laptop?

Central funding, School/Faculty budgets, end user pays; the money has to come from somewhere! How much is software costing the university annually? How many different contracts are being managed or not managed properly?

Come to this symposia and tell us your software licensing story.

Possible topics include:

Microsoft Campus agreements

SPSS for Teaching AND Research

Licensing software for student labs

Work at home

Who owns the software?

Audit is not a scary word!

Hear about some of the successes and failures that the Queensland Software Collaboration Group has experienced when dealing with vendors and resellers. The group has seen the development of a very competitive marketplace in Brisbane with reseller organisations staffing significant licensing sections locally.

The balance of power for future software procurement is shifting to the Universities exercising their collaborative strengths.