Explanation of Microsoft Licenses Acquired through a Value Added Reseller

The dollar amount for the Microsoft licenses in FY2013 totals $1,217,099 which provides one year of licensing to students, faculty, and staff for Microsoft products, versioning, and patches for the period November 1, 2012 through October 31, 2013.

For more than a decade, the University of Houston (UH) has provided Microsoft site licenses to UH students, faculty, and staff. The agreement provides standard Microsoft Office products plus Project, Visio, OneNote, SharePoint and others for the desktop, as well as server products including Exchange and SQL. In addition, Microsoft Lync Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) telecommunications licenses are included in this purchase.

UH colleges and divisions strongly support this acquisition, the benefits of which include:

- Saves approximately $300,000 over the cost of purchasing individual licenses under the State contract.
- Ensures campus-wide license compliance for desktop and server products.
- Provides upgrades to the Windows desktop operating system.
- Enables use of the most current software versions.
- Reduces support costs and security risks university-wide.

In FY2010, UH competitively bid the Microsoft licenses and awarded Dell the bid based on best value and lowest price. UH rebid in FY2011 and FY2012 to Value Added Resellers (VARs) to continue to ensure best pricing. Negotiations between UH and Microsoft/Dell also reduced the originally quoted price by $140,000. This year, the licenses will again be bid among VARs and negotiations carried out among UH, Microsoft, and Dell.

The purchase will be made using Dell's State of Texas, Department of Information Resources contract SDD-1014 MSFT through a VAR, yet to be selected from the bid process.

SUMMARY: The University of Houston seeks approval to purchase from Microsoft / Dell a suite of Microsoft products available to University of Houston faculty, staff and students in the amount of $1,217,099. The purchase enables cost savings to the University of $300,000 over the cost of educational pricing for individual licenses and ensures campus-wide license compliance of Microsoft products. The agreement is effective from November 1, 2012 through October 31, 2013.