



Squeezing the Most from Your PC Dollar, or Who is Going to Get the New Computers This Time?

By: Gillian (Jill) D. Ellern

Abstract

Lightning talk about the methods WCU Hunter Library uses to assign new computers to library staff/faculty when money is tight or given at just the end of the fiscal year. Ellern used a “replacement measure method” that assigns an application level and a replacement cycle calculation number to each need to make this replacement cycle fair to the employees of the library. The presentation also shows the uneven nature of computer replacement at Hunter Library between 2001-2009.

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Archived version from NC DOCKS available at: <http://libres.uncg.edu/ir/wcu/listing.aspx?styp=ti&id=37425>.

Squeezing the Most From Your PC Dollar or Who is Going to Get the New Computers This Time?



Lightning talk for LAUNC-CH
March 5, 2012



JILL ELLERN
SYSTEM LIBRARIAN
WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
HUNTER LIBRARY
ELLERN@EMAIL.WCU.EDU



What method do you use to replace PCs at your library?



- “Whatever money is left over at the end of the year gets to be used for new computers”
- “Whoever needs it really, really bad and complains the most gets a new computer”
- “New staff gets a new computer”
- “Every department/staff for themselves”



Looking For A Better Method



- Given that you might have
 - no allocated budget (22 years of this at WCU)
 - Or perhaps suddenly seriously reduced budget
- You want a method that is:
 - Objective and fair
 - Easy to calculate and understand

Use Jill's Replacement Measure Method

How to Employ This Method



- **Must have a current inventory of exactly what machines you have**
 - Type/model, date acquired, who assigned to
- **Be willing to redeploy machines to other locations**
 - A computer at the library at WCU can have been assigned three or more different locations during its life
 - But average at my library is twice

An Application Level Assignment



- 1 – Server, Scanner attached, or very Specialized Software
- 2 – Basic Staff Functions or Applications
- 3 – E-classroom or Service Desk
- 4 – Public Area PC

Replacement cycle calculation



- Depending on the general age of your inventory you use one of these levels
 - The old way I calculated this: (once used “power”)
Megahertz/Gigahertz + memory = power
 - Now I use:
 - Primarily the PC’s age, but type of machine, parts availability, maintenance level can play a role
 - ✦ Date installed
 - ✦ Still have Gateways (company/parts no longer exist)
 - Notes field for special issues, situations, etc.
 - ✦ Might keep track of how much maintenance was bought for each item
 - can easily look it up online from Dell

Years Before Refresh Is Needed



- Assign a number of years each application level needs to be replaced by
 - Application level 1 (server/scanner) – 3 year
 - Application level 2 (basic staff) – 4 year
 - Application level 3 (eclass/serv desk) – 5 year
 - Application level 4 (public area) – 6 year
- Using a date formula calculate in a spreadsheet of inventory data

Redeployments actions



- What to keep - what to toss?
 - Old classroom PCs are often used for the public area
 - ✦ You can create an image that can be used for multiple stations
 - ✦ Public Area often has only low level needs (Browser/MS Office only)
 - Keep a bank of older swapped out equipment for parts/repair as well as loaner while repair is taking place on other machines
- Student PCs, display, loaner machines are the oldest machines

By using this method, you...



- Are not using a one size fits all – really looks at the needs of that individual station
- Have flexibility by changing the replacement time for each application level
- Can do some prediction of future needs both in numbers and money



spreadsheet for squeezing lighting talk [Compatibility Mode] - Microsoft Excel

File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View

Clipboard Font Alignment Number Styles Cells Editing

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General \$ % .00 .00 Conditional Formatting as Table Cell Styles

AutoSum Fill Clear Sort & Filter Find & Select

J2 =YEAR(I2)-(MONTH(I2)<7)&"/"&YEAR(I2)+(MONTH(I2)>6)

	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	First Name	Make	Model	Model Number	Date Acquired	Application Level	Replacement date based on level	Replacement Fiscal Year	Purchase Fiscal Year	Notes	WCU#	WCU Green #
2	Special Collections	Dell	Dimension	8200	7/15/1999	1	7/15/2002	2002/2003	2003/2004	?	68601	22239
3	Systems	Gateway	Ghost Backup	E 4100-C CTO	2/27/2004	1	2/27/2007	2006/2007	2003/2004	No	70433	
4	Systems	Gateway Server	E	4100-C CTO	2/27/2004	1	2/27/2007	2006/2007	2003/2004	No	71540	22376
5	Robin	Gateway	E	4100-C CTO	2/27/2004	2	2/27/2008	2007/2008	2003/2004	No	71538	22373
6	Opac	Gateway	E	4000	10/30/2002	4	10/30/2008	2008/2009	2002/2003	Public area	67921	
7	Reference	Gateway Laptop	E	450	3/25/2004	3	3/25/2009	2008/2009	2003/2004	?	71558	22345
8	Anna	Gateway laptop	M	275	9/13/2005	2	9/13/2009	2009/2010	2005/2006	Upgraded already	78646	
9	Systems	Gateway	M	275	9/13/2005	2	9/13/2009	2009/2010	2005/2006	no	78796	
10	Robin	Gateway	M	280	11/3/2005	2	11/3/2009	2009/2010	2005/2006	No	78833	
11	Circulation	Gateway	E	4100	2/27/2004	4	2/27/2010	2009/2010	2003/2004	Need to look at	74301	
12	Microfiche	Gateway	E	4100-C CTO	2/27/2004	4	2/27/2010	2009/2010	2003/2004	Need to look at	71516	22310
13	Storage	Gateway	E	4610D	3/15/2007	1	3/15/2010	2009/2010	2006/2007	No	77789	22251
14	Storage	Gateway	E	4610-D	3/15/2007	1	3/15/2010	2009/2010	2006/2007	No	77788	22254

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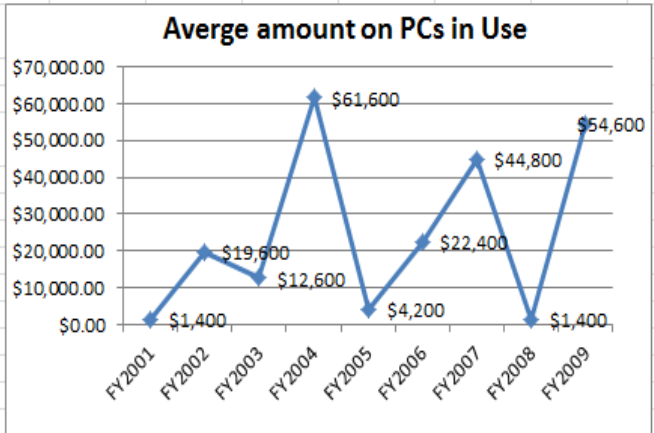
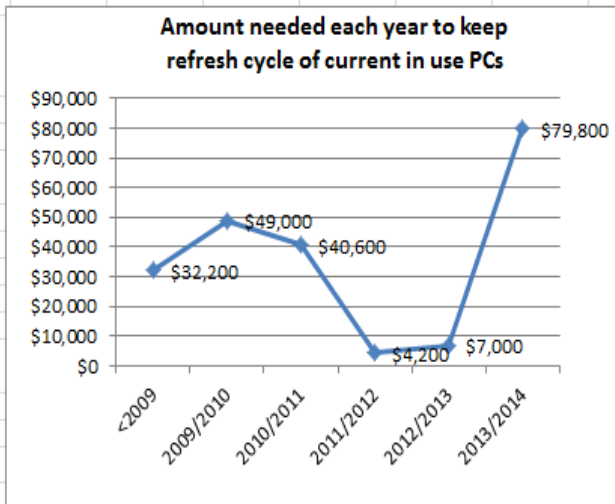
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Conditional Formatting as Table Cell Styles

Insert Delete Format

AutoSum Fill Clear Sort & Find & Filter Select

J210					
	E	F	G	H	I
197	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016
198	3	5	57	8	1
199					
200	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016
201	\$4,200	\$7,000	\$79,800		
202					
203	4 (*20 or so of priority 4 are system unit backup for public, repairs, emergencies, etc)				
204	64	161			
205					
206	Average total needed each year				
207	\$10,266.67	\$42,933.33			
208					
209					
210					
211					
212	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008
213	44	3	16	32	1
214					
215	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008
216	\$61,600	\$4,200	\$22,400	\$44,800	\$1,400
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