

FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 80-03

Current state laws and procedures regarding purchases of computer hardware, software, and maintenance services have produced conditions that severely hinder the University in the performance of its teaching, research, and administrative functions.

Lengthy delays resulting from the cumbersome review and negotiation procedures imposed by the Legislature and enforced by the State Data Processing Coordinating and Advisory Council (DPCAC) are expensive and impede successful accomplishment of research. This holds particularly when funds for such purchases derive from monies available for limited periods of time, as in cases when state funds or research contracts are involved.

The stringent and often unnecessary contractual demands imposed upon vendors by DPCAC discourage vendors from offering bids on their products, thus increasing costs of equipment, supplies and services rather than decreasing them as the "open bid" system found in the law is intended to do.

The Faculty Senate of Louisiana State University strongly encourages the University administration, the State Legislature, and the Division of Administration to work together to streamline the laws and procedures when State Institutions of Higher Education are the purchasers of computer hardware, software, and maintenance services. If such purchases cannot be exempted from delays due to DPCAC action, then the following should hold:

1. Purchases involving less than \$20,000 should not require any DPCAC action, and
2. Purchases involving between \$20,000 and \$100,000 should be subjected only to DPCAC staff approval.