Explaination of Microsoft Licenses acquired through HiEd, Inc.

The dollar amount for the Microsoft licenses totals $999,711 which provides one year of licensing to students, faculty and staff for Microsoft products, versioning, and patches for the period November 1, 2011 through October 31, 2012.

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.

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

- 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.
- Allows departments to teach the use of Microsoft products, including operating systems and the SQL database, without acquiring licenses on their own (a savings to departments of approximately $50,000 for SQL).
- Reduces support costs and security risks university-wide.
- Achieves substantial savings over the cost of standard educational licenses purchased through State contract.

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. This year, Dell was the only bidder. Negotiations between UH and Microsoft / Dell reduced their originally quoted pricing by $140,000.

The purchase is made using Dell’s State of Texas, Department of Information Resources contract SDD-1014 MSFT through HiEd, a Dell Value Added Reseller and HUB vendor.