



June 2011

Climate Savers Computing Policy

To: All WMU students, faculty, and staff

Purpose

This policy is in support of the Climate Savers Computing Initiative (CSCI), to further efforts by the university community to reduce computing related energy consumption. In addition to the obvious energy savings, budget savings are projected to be several hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. This policy has been vetted and supported by the Faculty Senate Academic and Information Technology Council, the LAN Manager Collaboration Group, and the President's University-wide Sustainability Committee.

Context

Approximately 50% of the power supplied to a standard desktop PC is lost as heat. Servers may waste 30% - 40% of the power supply. Additional heat can affect other building systems, such as air-conditioning, causing them to use more energy.

Policy

The following measures will be taken to reduce energy losses:

- Enable power management settings on all units to minimize electricity consumption - disabling these settings will be considered a violation of this policy. *Units that require 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year operation (e.g. dedicated servers) are excluded from this requirement.*
- Turn off all equipment including peripheral equipment (monitors, printers, speakers, etc.) and even power strips that provide power to computing components whenever possible when not in use for extended periods of time – particularly nights/weekends
- Maximize energy savings during low usage periods (holidays, semester breaks, summer semesters) specifically in high-concentration areas such as computer labs.
- All equipment purchased will comply with the EPA's "Energy Star" program – a copy is attached to this policy as an addendum.
- All departments and their respective areas of operation will comply with the CSCI. Additionally, as new energy savings opportunities/programs are initiated, all departments and their respective areas of operation are expected to participate in these new initiatives; failure to do so will be considered a violation of this policy.
- College deans, Department chairs, department/unit heads will designate an individual to be responsible for implementation and administration of this policy.
- Questions on the policy can be directed to the Facilities Management Division, the Office of Information Technology or your local LAN Manager

Handwritten signature of Timothy Greene in blue ink.

Timothy Greene, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Handwritten signature of Lowell Rinker in blue ink.

Lowell Rinker, Vice President for Business and Finance, and Chief Financial Officer

Handwritten signature of James Gilchrist in blue ink.

James Gilchrist, Vice Provost for Academic Operations and Chief Information Officer