

**A Resolution on University-Wide Printing and Purchasing
Contracts
Executive Committee and Committee Chairs
Faculty Senate
March 12, 2012**

Whereas Ohio University has committed to a Responsibility-Centered Management approach to budgeting; and

Whereas RCM requires that planning units balance financial costs against other measures of productivity and requires a customer-centered approach to central services; and

Whereas many units have responded to budget cuts by implementing the most cost-effective approach to printing, scanning, and copying that meets the needs of its staff and its teaching and research mission, including confidentiality obligations; and

Whereas university-wide contracts have the potential to disrupt long-term budget, logistical, and sustainability planning by individual units; and

Whereas the contract with ComDoc will significantly raise costs in some units and result in the replacement and disposal of cost-effective hardware, despite any overall saving to the University or projected improvement in the University's carbon footprint; and

Whereas neither the general terms of the contract nor estimate of costs to individual units were made available to department or school budget directors before the contract was signed; and

Whereas University units will become responsible for printing costs that had previously been covered by grants or personal employee funds; and

Whereas it is not clear that the full costs of the transition to this print management system have been accurately understood; and

Whereas the largest printing and copying volumes are necessarily tied to units that are actively engaged in providing a transformative education to large numbers of students, the ComDoc initiative threatens to fundamentally impair work that is central to Vision Ohio, the university's core mission, and our primary revenue stream;

Be it resolved that Ohio University either negotiate exemptions to the Print Responsibly program for all departments, schools, colleges, or support units that

would see an increase in their printing budget as a result of the contract; or that departments, schools, colleges or support units be held harmless during the first phase of Print Responsibly, after the first year of which the ComDoc contract and its effect on the core missions of teaching and research shall be fully assessed and discussed with chairs, school directors, and Faculty Senate; and

Be it further resolved that any future university-wide service or purchasing contracts obtain the approval of a significant proportion of affected department, school, or support unit budget directors (as permitted by legal constraints or directives) and that any planning unit disadvantaged by a university-wide contract be compensated out of savings incurred elsewhere.