Endpoint Device Standardization
What is a standard?

“when what is good enough for everyone is better than what’s best for me.”

- (Robbie Robeson, IEEE)
Goals of a Standard Configurations

To improve overall endpoint security while providing a number of benefits for Mason including:

**More reliable & secured computing environment:** centrally managed and connected to Mason’s network; receives critical security and operating system updates

**Optimal performance and longevity:** configured to ensure optimal performance; projected 5-year replacement cycle

**More cost effective to procure & support:** lower acquisition costs; faster time to deliver from purchase to deployment

**Improved compatibility:** Hardware and software tested to work within Mason’s network and enterprise applications

**Increased productivity with less downtime:** Mason’s software image pre-installed (e.g., Microsoft Office, Adobe, etc.)
New policies and procedures regarding the purchase and support of endpoint devices (e.g. laptops, desktops, etc.) using university funds

Documented standards for Windows and Mac devices that are approved for purchase

Information available at: https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/its-approved-computer-hardware-standards-for-faculty-and-staff/

Note: administrative units under the Office of the Senior Vice President are standardizing to the Windows platform
What does this mean?

- Management of systems through SCCM, JAMF and Intune
- 3rd party patch management
- File encryption on endpoints
- Reduced privileges for endpoints
- Hardware and software asset tracking
- Hardware standards for Windows and Macintosh systems
- Purchasing restrictions; approved vendors and configurations
- Non-standard systems will have limited rights
Requests to purchase devices outside of the standard offerings must be reviewed and approved by ITS.

If you believe you have unique computing requirements, you may submit the request for a desktop consultation through the following link:
https://gmu.teamdynamix.com/TDClient/Requests/TicketRequests/NewForm?ID=80
Additional Support

Additional information about standard endpoint devices:
https://its.gmu.edu/its-approved-endpoint-devices-for-faculty-and-staff/

PC Purchase Policy:

For questions about this new policy:
Charlie Spann, Assistant VP/Deputy CIO
cspann2@gmu.edu.
Final Thoughts

- This is a conversation.
- We need your feedback!