

**MEMORANDUM**

**June 2007**

**TO:** College of Medicine

**FROM:** Steven Wormsley, PhD  
Chief Information Officer

**RE: Statement on Microsoft Windows Vista & Office 2007**

---

As many of you are no doubt aware, Microsoft officially released their latest versions of Windows and Office in January 2007. The purpose of this document is to inform the College of Medicine community with regard to the future availability and support of these products for faculty, staff and students.

**Windows Vista**

Windows Vista is the latest version of the Windows desktop operating system. This operating system does offer some significant improvements over the previous Windows XP Professional Operating System; however, it does still have some significant issues to overcome. The Office of Medical Computing will not be installing the Windows Vista Operating System, nor supporting this Operating System until approximately January 2008. Beginning January 2008, we will only support **Microsoft Windows Vista Business Edition**.

**Microsoft Office 2007**

In addition to Windows Vista, Microsoft has also released the newest version of their Office productivity suite entitled Office 2007. This new Office package is a significant departure from previous versions of the Office software (Office 2003, Office XP, etc.). As such it will take several weeks for the Office of Medical Computing to fully learn the new software.

It is also important to note that any files created with the new version of Office 2007 are not directly compatible with previous versions of Office. What this means is anyone using the new software and sharing documents with people not using it will be required to save their documents in the old format manually before sharing the documents. There is an Office 2007 document viewer that can be installed on computers to allow those with older version to read and print the documents; however those people will not be able to modify and save the document. While neither of these issues is a major problem, the Office of Medical Computing does expect this to create some issues.

**Microsoft Windows Vista & Office 2007 Summary**

The Office of Medical Computing expects to be able to begin offering Microsoft Windows Vista Business Edition and Microsoft Office 2007 to the college by January 2008. We are currently evaluating Windows Vista and Office 2007, so we can provide the best possible support for the College of Medicine. Please bear with us as we work to be able to provide this software to the College of Medicine community.

Should anyone have any specific questions regarding any of these new software offerings from Microsoft, please feel free to send an e-mail to [wormsley@email.arizona.edu](mailto:wormsley@email.arizona.edu)