These are estimates for comparison. These estimates are about a year old so the numbers have probably changed some but do give us a sense of the cost of printing between the typical personal printer (HP 6122 Deskjet) and the typical network printer (HP 4200 Laserjet). Also, these estimates do not include support costs from TSS. We do provide support for the network printers but not for the desktop printers. Finally, these numbers are taken from our study on the SEMII situation and assumed that the total number of prints would not change if we installed network printers (one per floor per building) versus using personal printers in each office.

Remember having a personal printer versus having to use a network printer may, or may not impact printing practices. Now that I have given the attorney’s disclaimers so that I can’t be responsible for any of this information….here it is.

HP 6122 Deskjet (personal printer)  (assuming 1500 prints per year)
Ink cost $ 54.43/yr
Printer cost $151.00 with 4 yr life = $37.75/yr
Total $92.18/yr or 6.1 cents per page (excluding cost of paper)

HP 4200 LaserJet (Network printer)  (assumes 12,000 prints per year)
Ink cost $133.00
Printer cost $2150.00 with 7 yr life = $307.14/yr
Total $440.14/yr or 3.7 cents per page (excluding cost of paper)

Looking at this from a cost of printing perspective, it costs us a little under twice as much to use desktop printers as the network printers. This assumes you don’t use a laser printer as a desktop. What this doesn’t show is paper usage. The real question is whether faculty/staff print more (use more paper) when they have a desktop printer versus having to walk to a network printer. It is my understanding that we are moving to network printers (one per floor per building in SEMSII) as the desktop printers die. Unfortunately I don’t think we have a means to determine if this is impacting our usage of paper separate from all the other factors going on that impact printing across campus.

Hope this helps.

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