

Embrace open-source software across campus instead of proprietary software students may not have access to (e.g., SPSS).

CURRENT CHALLENGE:

Depending on their major, many students across campus are expected to learn and become proficient in using a specific software. For example in Economics, students learn SPSS which is an IBM software. Students may be able to use the required software on campus computers but cannot install it in their own computer. Even a software such as Jmp which students could install in their own computers has many limitations such as, students will most likely not be able to use after they graduate.

PROPOSED SOLUTION:

My solution to the "proprietary software challenge" is to embrace open-source software across campus. Departments/Colleges could identify open source alternatives to the proprietary software they are currently using. Proprietary software could be kept in the short run on campus computers, while the open source alternative is phase in. Open source software is free and easy to install which will allow students to have it in their own computer.

BENEFITS TO FRESNO STATE:

Our students should have access to tools that make them marketable in a world where data management and computer literacy are in high demand by employers. By embracing open-source software across campus our students will develop analytical and data analysis skills that are not proprietary software dependent. As an additional benefit Fresno State will save in the long run on licensing and proprietary software update.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Thank you