

Computer costs byte into budgets

Students spend more than 10 per cent of their annual expenditure on study related expenses, says the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee.

In its report released late last year, *Australian University Student Finances 2006* the Committee found the mean expenditure on study was \$1750 with computer costs and textbooks being the largest items of expenditure.

As a proportion of total costs, study-related expenditures were higher for full-time than for part-time students, being 12.1 per cent of mean expenditure for full-time undergraduate students.

In dollar terms, they were highest for part-time postgraduate research students at a mean of \$2270 a year.

Mean computing and computing related costs were \$770 at for undergraduates with costs jumping at postgraduate stage to \$1010.

Computer from nine bucks

An IT auction including Dell laptops, some starting at a bargain \$9, aims to ease the squeeze for Australian students as GraysOnline holds a massive sale of two-year-old Dell notebooks.

Through February and March 2008, GraysOnline is selling \$1.5 million worth of Dell Latitude D610 notebook computers, some with an amazing starting bid price of just \$9. All are fully equipped to support wireless and Microsoft's Windows XP operating system and represent hundreds of dollars in potential savings for cash-strapped students.

According to GraysOnline director Mark Kehoe, university

students have previously been priced out of the market for top brand laptop computers.

"The last thing students want is to be chained to campus computer rooms or to have to hire or loan a laptop from their universities, which is why owning your own can save precious study time and precious money," Kehoe says.

"And if it's good enough for school students to each have a computer under Mr Rudd's 'education revolution', we think it's time more university students enjoy the benefits of owning an affordable, high quality laptop."

University students who have purchased other products from our site keep coming back to



GraysOnline because they're guaranteed to find fantastic bargains they would otherwise pay top dollar for at major retail outlets," Kehoe said.

"We expect the same sort of reaction to this laptop sale, particularly with some starting at a bargain bidding price of \$9.

"Aside from the Dells offered during this sale, there's a whole range of brand new PCs, laptops, printers and other IT

gear available on GraysOnline. The bargains and savings are unbelievable and attract huge interest from businesses, mums and dads and those keen on setting up a home office."

Each of the GraysOnline Dell notebooks in this sale come with up to 12 months manufacturer's warranty and can be delivered anywhere in Australia. ☐

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