What is the Laptop for Students Program?
The Laptop for Students Program is a scheme designed to encourage students to purchase a laptop computer package (comprising certain special benefits) to support their academic work while at SQU. The SQU has accordingly specified a reference computer specification suited for use on campus, and made agreements with selected companies to supply, finance, maintain and support the equipment. Further, the SQU has also negotiated, with Microsoft, a special software package, to be supplied and preinstalled on laptop computers purchased under the scheme. This software will provide the minimum software requirements necessary for all SQU students.

Who are the Partner Companies?
To ensure competitive choice on campus the SQU has formed a partnership with two companies. Each company is required to offer at least two models of laptop computer that comply with the SQU's reference computer specification. The two companies are:

Mustafa Sultan Office Technology
Fujitsu Siemens Computers

Overseas Business Machines
Lenovo Thinkpad (previously IBM) Computers

Why is the University promoting this scheme?
More and more higher education establishments like SQU are requiring students to have their own personal laptop computer. In many institutions ownership of a laptop is a requirement for admission. The SQU is not, at present, requiring students to have a laptop computer as a condition for attending any of its program; however we do wish to encourage such ownership since we feel that students will gain certain academic benefits.

The purchase of a personal laptop computer for students, and their families, can be a significant financial commitment. Although the SQU is not financing purchases it does wish to ensure that students get a good quality machine able to serve the student's needs for several years, that the system meets certain minimum standards, that maintenance and support is easy to get, and that the software run in such systems is properly licenced and maintained up-to-date. It has designed this scheme to ensure that these minimum requirements are met and can be enforced.
**Why should I buy a laptop computer?**

Almost all academic programs run by SQU require the use of a computer. These machines are used for reporting, to run specialised applications, to research subjects, and for communications purposes.

SQU works hard to ensure that students are able to access the computer resources they need for their studies, and provides a large number of computer laboratories around the campus. But sometimes computer access can be difficult, and for students who do not live in and around SQU access can be a problem. Use of a laptop computer addresses all the needs of the user, and allows students to work on their studies when and where they like. Indeed the SQU has recently enhanced its local area network (the SQUNet) to include wireless access. Using designated wireless hot spots a student with a laptop will have significantly enhanced opportunities to use the on-line facilities provided by the University (including the Internet).

**Do I have to buy a computer?**

No. At this time the SQU has not indicated that it requires any student to have a personal laptop computer as a condition for attending any program. Clearly, though, this policy will be kept under review and could change.

**How do I buy a computer?**

You should approach one of the two partner companies and indicate you wish to purchase a laptop computer under the scheme. Both partner companies have sales and services outlets on-campus to support the scheme. Since there are special agreements under which the scheme operates you will need to prove you are a genuine SQU student, usually you can do this by showing a valid SQU student ID card.

**What are the purchase options?**

Both partner companies are required to offer direct purchase and/or financed purchase options to students; companies may make other options available also. Note that should you require finance you will be required to complete an application form and provide other family details, including nominating a financial guarantor.

**Note:** Purchase agreements entered into by students are between the student concerned and the company. The SQU has no involvement or responsibility for such transactions. Further, the SQU will not guarantee finance secured under the scheme.

**What does the purchase package include?**

The package includes:

1. System hardware to SQU specifications.
2. Full on-campus sales, service and support.
3. Three year warranty (optional on selected models).
5. Licensed software (Windows and Office).
6. Software updates free of charge.
7. Insurance (when you avail of any finance scheme).

Where must I go for more information?
If you require more information in respect of the available systems and purchase options go
to the On-campus Sales and Service Centre. If you would like to discuss issues in respect of
thee operation of the scheme (or you have any complaint in respect of service received),
contact the <Laptop for Students Program Coordinator>, in the Centre for Information
Systems.

Where must I go to purchase a computer?
Go to the company <On-campus Sales and Service Centre>.

Where do I go for maintenance and service?
Go to the company <On-campus Sales and Service Centre>.

What are the advantages of the scheme?
Advantages of the scheme include:

1. The computer is specified to be compliant with the SQU reference system
   requirements, software drivers, basic operating system and basic applications software
   needs.
2. The equipment will be preconfigured to meet SQU requirements.
3. The equipment will be registered for use on campus.
4. The software will be maintainable at the most up-to-date level at no extra cost.
5. On some models you will have a full three year warranty (on other models this
   warranty will be an optional purchase).
6. You will benefit from on-campus support through the company Sales and Service
   Centre.
7. You will benefit from the terms that the SQU has agreed with companies in respect of
   laptop service and repair.
8. Should you machine require repair you may be eligable to borrow a loan machine
   while your system is being fixed.

Why are the computers more expensive than buying direct from
companies?
The Laptop for Students Program includes elements that are not provided by non-partner
companies, including:

1. Full on-campus sales, service and support.
2. Three year warranty (optional on selected models).
3. Carry case included.
4. Licenced software included (Windows and Office).
5. Software updates free of charge.
6. Insurance included (when you avail of finance scheme).
7. Loan machines during system repair.
8. Guaranteed parts availability to ensure quick repair.
9. SQU/Partner service agreement.

**What about software?**

Machines will be preconfigured with:

1. Microsoft Windows operating system (latest version approved for use on the SQU campus. While the SQU aims to run the latest software it must validate new releases, so this may not be the latest version release by Microsoft).
2. Microsoft Office, full version not the functionally restricted student version.
3. Full hardware drivers to ensure system is optimally and properly configured.
4. Any additional software provided by the system manufacturer.

Students will be able to maintain their systems at the most up-to-date software release under the terms of the Microsoft Campus and University Agreement (Student Option) as signed by the SQU. It is important for the student to note that:

1. Software provided under this agreement is not the property of the student.
2. On graduation he/she may elect to purchase final right to the software.
3. Once a student graduates he/she will not be entitled to upgrade rights.

**Since I already have a computer how does the program benefit me?**

If you already have a computer then the scheme may benefit you in two ways. Firstly the designated partner companies may, through their On-campus Sales and Service Centre, provide maintenance and support. Note, however, that if you did not buy your computer from one of these companies you may be charged for this service. Secondly, you may, at your option, purchase the software component of the scheme; this would be a good idea since it will be properly licenced, maintained and updated.

**Will the University help finance the purchase of a computer?**

No. At this time the SQU will not provide financial support for this purchase. Any purchase made under the scheme is between the student and the company.

**What happens when I leave the University?**

You own your computer so the SQU will have no claim over you in this respect. Note, however, that owing to the SQU agreement with Microsoft you will no longer be entitled to software upgrades. If you wish to ensure the legality/validity of your software you will need to purchase final rights to the software for a nominal sum.

**Where is the On-campus Sales and Service Centre?**

The On-campus Sales and Service Centre for both companies is located on the first floor, near the male student cafeteria, directly over the University book shop.
Contacts Mustaf Sultan Office Technology (Fujitsu Seimens)

Telephone:
Fax:
E-mail:

Contacts Overseas Business Machine (Lenovo)

Telephone:
Fax:
E-mail:

Location diagram:

< insert location diagram>
What is the SQU Reference Specification?
The SQU reference laptop specification will be subject to continuous review and will change from time to time. As of 28\textsuperscript{th} March 2007 the specification is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement and Explanatory Notes</th>
<th>Base (Entry Level) Model</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Advanced Model</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Processor, Intel (Core Duo/Core2 Duo) or AMD (Turion)</td>
<td>1.83Ghz</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
<td>1.83hz</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chipset shall be certified compliant with the needs of the processor as determined by the processor manufacturer. Shall provide low power consumption, high performance graphics, fast bus data transfer speed, and advanced PCI and I/O bus support.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System Bus - FSB</td>
<td>667 MHz</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
<td>667 Mhz</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second-level cache</td>
<td>2 MB</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
<td>4 MB</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard Disk Drive, with S.M.A.R.T. support</td>
<td>80 GB S-ATA (5400 rpm)</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
<td>120 GB S-ATA (5400 rpm)</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memory (Installed)</td>
<td>512 MB</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
<td>1 GB</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System memory shall be expandable, using the latest high performance technology, to at least 2 GB.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display (14&quot; to 15.4&quot;), TFT</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XGA (14.1&quot;) or WXGA(15.4&quot;), 1280 X 800 pixel, 1600X1200, true color, 85HZ, 2048 X 1536, 75HZ</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Video Graphics Support</td>
<td>64 MB</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
<td>128 MB</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
945GM) installed on the mainboard, having its own dedicated video memory (it shall not share system RAM). It shall be approved for use with the processor and its chip set, and must be able to be expandable to at least 128 MB, supporting 32-bit color depth.

| Pointing device (mouse, trackball, trackpoint, touchpad) or any device providing the required functionality. | - | Mandatory | - | Mandatory |
| Wireless Networking (Shall be compliant with Aruba wireless access points) | IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth | Mandatory Optional | IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth | Mandatory Optional |
| Wired Networking, RJ45 standard fitting | Ethernet 10 Mb/s Fast Ethernet Gigabit Ethernet | Mandatory Mandatory Optional | Ethernet 10 Mb/s Fast Ethernet Gigabit Ethernet | Mandatory Mandatory Optional |
| Broadband support | Omantel ADSL Nawras EDGE | Optional Optional | Omantel ADSL Nawras EDGE | Optional Optional |
| Dial-up Modem, 56k V.92 modem MDC 1.5, with Fax Support, RJ 11 standard fitting | Omantel Compliant | Mandatory | Omantel Compliant | Mandatory |
| Optical Drives (single unit) | CDR/W DVD Reader DVD Writer | Mandatory Optional | CDR/W DVD Reader DVD Writer | Mandatory Mandatory |

IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
IEEE 802.11b/g IEEE 802.11a Bluetooth
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interfaces</th>
<th>Numbers of connections shown in parenthesis (thus).</th>
<th>Keyboard port (1) Mouse port (1) Power (1) PCMCIA (1) USB 2.0 (4) VGA (1) Parallel (1) Serial (1) Fast IrDa (1) Firewire (1) Audio-out (1) Audio-in (1) SPDIF (1) Video-out (1)</th>
<th>Mandatory Optional Mandatory Optional Mandatory Optional Mandatory Optional Mandatory Optional Mandatory Optional Mandatory Optional</th>
<th>Keyboard port (1) Mouse port (1) Power (1) PCMCIA (1) USB 2.0 (4) VGA (1) Parallel (1) Serial (1) Fast IrDa (1) Firewire (1) Audio-out (1) Audio-in (1) SPDIF (1) Video-out (1)</th>
<th>Mandatory Optional Mandatory Optional Mandatory Optional Mandatory Optional Mandatory Optional Mandatory Optional Mandatory Optional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Audio</td>
<td>Integrated sound card Integrated speakers Audio interface (input) Audio interface (output) Headphones</td>
<td>Mandatory Mandatory Mandatory Mandatory Optional</td>
<td>Integrated sound card Integrated speakers Audio interface (input) Audio interface (output) Headphones</td>
<td>Mandatory Mandatory Mandatory Mandatory Optional</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keyboard (Arabic/English), Windows compliant</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Mandatory -</td>
<td>Mandatory -</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security features</td>
<td>Kensington locking point Kensington lock Fingerprint lock Easy hard disk backup</td>
<td>Mandatory Optional Mandatory Optional</td>
<td>Kensington locking point Kensington lock Fingerprint lock Easy hard disk backup</td>
<td>Mandatory Optional Mandatory Optional</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrying Case, shall include sufficient padding to protect the unit and its accessories.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Mandatory -</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>