

June 17, 2010

10-126

APPROVE AND AWARD A CONTRACT TO  
DESIRE2LEARN, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF  
LICENSES AND SYSTEMS MAINTENANCE OF ITS  
LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

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FINANCIAL  
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REPORT: Portland Community College has a need to purchase license, hosting and related services to replace the existing contract with Blackboard for its Learning Management System. The system is used by over 800 PCC instructors to provide online courses, services and programs to more than 30,000 enrolled students annually. The Blackboard Learning Management System originally licensed as Web CT in 1998 no longer meets the needs of the College, and is being retired by Blackboard. All Oregon colleges and universities using Blackboard need to find a different system to provide this service. A joint yearlong competitive process was led by Portland State University through their RFP #14344 in which PCC was an interested party. Being an interested party, PCC participated in the process but was not necessarily committed to the result. Through this process, PSU decided to select Desire2Learn as the replacement for Blackboard LMS and hosting services. PCC's RFP review committee evaluated PSU's findings and decided Desire2Learn would be the best option for PCC as well. The college will continue its contract with Blackboard for 2010-11 while it completes the process of transferring courses to Desire2Learn and training instructors in the new system.

Desire2Learn offers a flexible, robust and innovative system for expanding and enhancing the PCC distance learning program. It expands access to this technology from the online instructors to all faculty and staff, thus expanding the range of applications to serve students. The Desire2Learn system also includes optional applications that the college may wish to purchase at a later date, such as an e Portfolio system and a Media Repository. This five year agreement will provide a stable environment for growth and improvement.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board of Directors award a five (5) year contract to Desire2Learn, Inc. for purchasing licenses, installation, and maintenance of its Learning Management System. The contract will be valid through June 30, 2015. Initial implementation is \$100,000, and annual license of \$300,000 sets a contract expenditure of \$1,600,000. Funding will be from the General Fund.