The following configurations for desktop and laptop computers were developed by the Office of College computing for CEAS. These are minimum configurations. Certain programs may require a different configuration, so please check with your specific program for any additional requirements.

Although students can choose between Desktop or Laptop configurations, the College strongly recommends that students purchase a Laptop with wireless network access.

**Recommendation Rationale**

The rationale for the student owned computer requirement involves many factors, some of which are:

- The College concentrates its limited computing resources on providing workstations and engineering and applied science software required to support coursework. The University has implemented a university-wide Information Technology and Instructional Equipment Fee which provides limited funds for these computing lab resources. These funds are not sufficient for providing personal computing. **Students must provide their own personal computing** (word processing, email, etc.) using their own computer. This is the primary purpose for the Student Owned Computing Policy. If students wish to perform personal computing on campus, we recommend they purchase a laptop to bring with them.
- Many students already plan to own their own computers and want guidance on what hardware/software to buy.
- By having their own computer, students can fully benefit from the computer programs and documentation frequently delivered as part of an engineering textbook.
- **A portable wireless computer (laptop) is strongly recommended** because a laptop with wireless network access allows students to use their personal computer while they are on campus, between and during classes. If they have their own laptop with them, a student can avoid having to find an open computer system in a computer lab or returning to the location of their desktop computer.
- Requiring student ownership of hardware/software means that these costs are included in financial aid considerations.

**Minimum Recommended Laptop Specifications**

- Intel® Core™ i3 Processor
- 4GB DDR3 SDRAM
- Mobile Intel® HD
- 500GB (5400rpm) hard drive
- DVD±RW
- Audio
- 10/100/1000 Network interface
- Wireless 802.11g/n
- USB 2.0 ports
- OS: Windows 7 - 32 bit

Note: Due to the nature of how laptops are used, an extended warranty may be an option to consider.

January 11, 2011
Minimum Recommended Desktop Specifications

- Intel® Core™ i3 Processor
- 4GB DDR3 SDRAM
- Video card with 512 MB of video RAM
- 500GB (7200rpm) hard drive
- DVD±RW
- Audio
- 10/100/1000 Network interface
- Front-side USB 2.0 ports
- 20” LCD Monitor
- OS: Windows 7 - 32 bit