Re: Lab Spaces Project Overview for Faculty Tech Committee and Faculty Senate Subject:

Date: Thursday, April 14, 2016 at 9:47:17 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Wright, Randall C

To: Sheehan, Matt, Pelfrey, Deanna

CC: Kiousis, Spiro K, Noblitt, Bradford John, Carr, Robert W

**Priority:** High

Attachments: EFAA53ED-7020-4761-9DF7-32FFB3AC2078[220].png, F7ED3722-4E1C-4D42-9D66-

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0EE0-45B9-9C85-1E971C7D2F93[220].png, CJC-Lab Upgrades 2016 Overview.docx

## Good evening,

Attached please find an overview of the potential lab upgrades project for the College. TAG has worked very hard over the past few months to assess the potential upgrade options to enhance these spaces for our students and faculty. We look forward to your feedback and input ASAP so we can work with the administration on potential next steps.

Thank you.

## Randy

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## College of Journalism & Communications Lab Upgrade Opportunity Overview April, 2016

Report to Faculty Senate, Technology Committee From the CJC Technology Advancement Group (TAG)

**Overview**: Project to upgrade the technology and furnishings of lab spaces within the College of Journalism & Communications.

**Rooms Under Consideration**: 2050, 2056, 3024 and 3028.

**Timeline**: Rooms will be retrofitted during the summer of 2016 in time for use during the fall 2016 semester.

**Upgrade Features**: Funded by UF Classroom Technology the rooms will be retrofitted with new furniture that will allow up to 32 seats (skills classes will still be capped at 20 per accreditation standards) in different configurations in addition to adding state of the art classroom technology including high capacity wireless infrastructure allowing students with laptops to download UPApps software automatically and utilize the space/technology during classes, lab times and open access times.

Funding Provided by UF Classroom Technology *Per* Room:

Technology and Furniture @\$49,000.00

Total for All Four Spaces: @\$200,000.00

**Scheduling of 2050, 2056, 3024 and 3028**: Upon completion of the room upgrades, the College will provide the Registrar's office with a complete list of courses and lab times led by CJC faculty or adjuncts with a preference for scheduling in Weimer Hall. First preference for class, lab and open lab scheduling of the rooms will be provided to CJC. All other times will be provided to the Registrar for scheduling other classes in any of the spaces.

**Additional Q&A**: Here are some of the more popular questions that have been received:

-What about printing in these areas? *A printer solution will be provided ensuring printing is available via all the spaces.* 

-What will the College have to spend on the rooms? The only expense CJC will be responsible for are cosmetic improvements to the rooms including paint, flooring, etc. A recent estimate from Morningstar quotes \$7,758.00 per room. This is a one-time expense.

-Who will be responsible for paying for additional technological upgrades in the future to keep the spaces up to date? *UF Classroom Technology will pay for all future upgrades for each of the spaces.* 

What technology will UF Classroom Technology provide? *A complete overview of the technological solution is available for anyone to review.* 

-Is SPSS (software) available as a part of the UFApps scenario? *Yes, SPSS is fully supported.* 

-Will UFApps support both PC and Mac laptops? Yes.

-Is it possible to configure the labs with a mix of desktops along with UFApps wireless? *No, the ability to make the space easily flexible and configurable is critical to the success of the space and project.* 

-How is technical support for the spaces handled? *UF Classroom Technology* is the primary and initial call for immediate support (both phone and on site). *UF Classroom Technology provides this support from 7:30 am-10 pm Monday through Friday. The College's TAG will provide back-up technical support at all times.* 

-What about 3032? Based on feedback from faculty and staff we're not considering 3032 for this potential partnership with UF Classroom Technology and the Registrar's office. As such CJC is planning on using some of the potential savings to fund a complete upgrade of technology and furniture for 3032. CJC will maintain full control of scheduling for 3032 24/7/365.

-What about the video production labs? The video production labs on the ground floor and in the INC are not a part of this project. \$72,556.00 in equipment fees was recently invested to purchase 22 27" iMac's to keep this space (G215) up to date. UF Classroom Technology and UFIT does not recommend using UFApps for video editing software due to the size of files and bandwidth necessary to allow for seamless editing. As such these two labs will remain in the current configuration.

-Does UF Classroom Technology guarantee log-on speeds? No, this is not in the control of UF IT but is related to Microsoft. In shared spaces where computer systems need individual long-on the amount of log-on time is dictated by what's necessary to configure individual settings to that computer and user. Of course, it should be markedly faster than current logon times in the impacted labs.

-Are there issues related to the usage of UFApps and specific tasks faculty assign in courses? *No, but UF Classroom Technology always suggests that faculty prescreen more complicated assignments that are software intensive prior to the semester to ensure faculty and student needs are met.* 

-How often will the scheduling of the spaces change? Prior to each semester CJC will confer with faculty to determine the classes that the College would like to place in any of the spaces along with associated lab time and open access time the College would like to reserve. Planning ahead will be a critical component of ensuring the College maintains sufficient access while also accommodating the needs of the Registrar's office.

-How will this impact open lab times in these spaces? *Open lab times will likely be reduced but will not be eliminated. The scheduling for those times will be determined in coordination with the Registrar's office on a semester-by-semester basis.* 

**Subject:** Re: Lab Spaces Project Overview for Faculty Tech Committee and Faculty Senate

Date: Sunday, April 17, 2016 at 9:26:58 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Wright, Randall C

**To:** Sheehan, Matt, Sylvia Chan-Olmsted, Morton Padovano, Cynthia R, Tappan, Kay Middleton

CC: Kiousis, Spiro K, Noblitt, Bradford John, Carr, Robert W, Pelfrey, Deanna

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D726-4EE0-935F-EAF241CD6C8F[229].png, 4262FB34-0EE0-45B9-9C85-

1E971C7D2F93[229].png

Hi Matt,

Thanks for your additional questions on behalf of the Tech committee and the Faculty Senate. I'm copying TAG leadership on this as well so they can weigh in where appropriate. I am out of town this week Monday-Friday attending the annual National Association of Broadcasters meetings but will try to check e-mail often.

Here's some additional information below based on your questions. *Answers in bold italics*:

- \* Is my understanding correct that under this plan calls for the conversion of 2050, 2056, 3024 and 3028 to bring-your-own-laptop labs where students will utilize personal machines for computing work in those spaces? **Yes.** Instructor machines will be provided that drive the presentation hardware, or will faculty also need to bring laptops? If any of these assumptions prove true, I would recommend that this document be modified to explicitly state this in the overview or upgrade features section. I will defer to UF Classroom Technology/TAG for the exact answer to this in terms of faculty/instructors but the instructor position in each room will include a new Dell Classroom PC and connections to a personal device so it appears the instructor will have options. You are correct in that this upgrade positions these rooms for UFApps configuration with our students and their personal laptops.
- \* In what configuration will these labs be furnished? Are plans calling for upgrades in these spaces substantially aligning with the existing configurations of the rooms? Reiterating a request the committee made in the fall: Are there examples of furnishings and configurations under review elsewhere on the campus that the committee and interested faculty can visit? It may seem like a small thing, but for teaching, how a space is configured can substantially change the type of course that is delivered. A key element of the upgrade is the ability to have flexible room configurations through the use of modular furniture configurable for "up to" 32 students. Faculty and adjuncts are free to configure the rooms in whatever way works best for their courses. 16 Akira fixed tables on casters (rectangle table, fixed top, T-base, fixed height, casters 60L) and 32 chairs will be supplied in the furniture package for each room. 16 of the chairs are Cobi, swivel base, no arms model 434110 and 16 of the chairs are Cobi, swivel base, with arms model 434111.

<sup>\*</sup> I believe we all are in accord that these rooms deserve cosmetic improvements, but what specifically are they? Are we carpeting the rooms? New lighting? Blinds? Paint color change? This isn't directly

related to instruction, but I think there will be questions on what we get for our \$31,032 investment. It's our understanding that the improvements noted include patching and painting of all walls in addition to new carpeting for each room. This will be the same color combination that's been used in room upgrades throughout the College including the new carpet.

- Can you provide clarification on what is included in the "state of the art classroom technology" package offered by UFIT? What capabilities will this installation provide? UF Classroom Technology will install the following in each room: Dell Classroom PC, Connections via HDMI/VGA/Audio for walk-in devices, Hovercam High Resolution Document Camera, USB webcam for instructor PC, Epson 1985WU projector, Da-Lite electric drop-down screen 10' wide, speaker for audio reinforcement, all cables and connectors, 2 70" LCD displays, 1080P PTZ USB camera, ceiling microphones, all cables and connectors, etc.
- \* Does this plan include upgrades to the network infrastructure in Weimer? What is the status on that project? This project is separate from the upgrade of network infrastructure that TAG is working on with UF IT. The network infrastructure upgrade would be funded via UF IT while the lab upgrades would be funded through UF Classroom Technology.
- \* Also reiterating a request made by the committee in the fall: what is the "printing solution" that will be provided? Are there examples of user-provided laptop-based printing elsewhere on campus? How will this be configured and supported? What hurdles will users need to jump through to print? How much time between the desire to print and a sheet appears? I had believed that this was one of the primary questions that your team was investigating this term. UF Classroom Technology has offered a variety of solutions depending on our feedback but has committed to printing being available from or in each space, depending on projected usage and demand. UF Classroom Technology has assured us that printing would not be an issue from each room. This is a detail that feedback from faculty and College administration will play a key role in the final configuration.
- \* Do we (CJC or UFIT) have examples of faculty using UFApps primarily in instruction? Specifically, how does a cloud computing environment handle heavy processor usage and software like SPSS? We have received feedback specifically from UF Classroom Technology on SPSS and that it functions well in UFApps. I believe it was Kay that asked specifically about SPSS and we communicated with UF CT about it in particular. Do we have examples of professors or graduate students who have substantially completed work in the virtual environment? What is their experience? We can ask UF Classroom Technology for some faculty/students who have used this type of environment.
  - What is UFIT's promise for support time for these spaces? Our colleagues have all had varying experiences with support both in our rooms and those centrally-supported. On average, I think it would be safe to say that UFIT support lags in response time to our-provided support (anecdotally ranging from half-hour to half-days). What and how should faculty respond to a technical error that disrupts instruction? No promises are ever made regarding support time response but our plan would be to have UF Classroom Technology as the "first call" for any issues with TAG being the back-up.
- \* Reiterating an in-person question from our conversation on Wednesday: What is the sunset on this UFIT deal? Is there a way that the arrangement can be re-negotiated as useful life of the technological investment ends? As I mentioned, I think it would be in our best interest to evaluate how our space is used every few years rather than being completely locked in until the building ends its useful life. Current discussions have no sunset on the arrangement as UF Classroom Technology will continue to

be responsible for all technology upgrades and furniture enhancements in the rooms and the College would maintain first rights/preferences for CJC classes/lab times and open time.

## Randy

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From: "Sheehan, Matt" <msheehan@jou.ufl.edu>

Date: Friday, April 15, 2016 8:28 AM

**To:** Randy Wright <<u>rwright@jou.ufl.edu</u>>, Sylvia Chan-Olmsted <<u>chanolmsted@jou.ufl.edu</u>>, "Morton Padovano, Cynthia R" <cmorton@jou.ufl.edu>, "Tappan, Kay Middleton" <kaytappan@jou.ufl.edu>

Cc: "Kiousis, Spiro K" < <a href="mailto:skiousis@jou.ufl.edu">skiousis@jou.ufl.edu</a>, "Noblitt, Bradford John" < <a href="mailto:bnoblitt@jou.ufl.edu">bnoblitt@jou.ufl.edu</a>, "Carr, Robert

W" <robcarr@ufl.edu>, "Pelfrey,Deanna" <dpelfrey@jou.ufl.edu>

Subject: Re: Lab Spaces Project Overview for Faculty Tech Committee and Faculty Senate

Thank you, Randy, for this document. I am cc'ing the rest of the faculty members of the technology committee on this note and including the document submitted last night. We appreciate the work that you all have been doing in discovery on this project.

The Senate has requested written reports be submitted for the final faculty meeting today. I will be forwarding this document as the substantial part of that report.

In light of that timeline and that the technology committee has not had the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the document, could you please join us for the Senate-called faculty meeting on Thursday 11 a.m. to noon in 3032? I am anticipating that this agenda item will generate a great deal

of discussion and I do not feel confident in my understanding of the details of the proposal to sufficiently address questions that may arise.

I will, in a separate note, attempt to find a time for the faculty on the tech committee to convene prior to the Senate meeting early next week. If that is possible, we may have additional questions for our discovery.

In the meantime, and if you'll forgive unilateral lame-duck questions, I personally provide the following:

- \* Is my understanding correct that under this plan calls for the conversion of 2050, 2056, 3024 and 3028 to bring-your-own-laptop labs where students will utilize personal machines for computing work in those spaces? Instructor machines will be provided that drive the presentation hardware, or will faculty also need to bring laptops? If any of these assumptions prove true, I would recommend that this document be modified to explicitly state this in the overview or upgrade features section.
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Again, we thank you for the work on this project and answering our questions.

-- M.

From: Wright, Randall C

**Sent:** Thursday, April 14, 2016 9:47 PM **To:** Sheehan, Matt; Pelfrey, Deanna

Cc: Kiousis, Spiro K; Noblitt, Bradford John; Carr, Robert W

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