Classroom Technology

Overview

Available on the web at http://classrooms.at.ufl.edu/ is information regarding the technology and list of supported classrooms, including details about equipment, configuration, and pictures of each classroom.

All general classrooms at the University of Florida are equipped with a computer, SMART Sympodium interactive LCD panel, ceiling-mounted data projector, laptop/mobile device A/V and internet connections, DVD/VHS player, and a dry-erase or chalkboard. All rooms are equipped for computer-based lightweight lecture capture (Camtasia Relay) with webcams. Some lecture halls are equipped with Mediasite rich media lecture capture systems with remote controlled cameras. All classrooms can be used with a student response system (clickers).

Some helpful links include:

- Classroom Information - http://classrooms.at.ufl.edu/classroom-info/pictures.php
- SMART Podium Information - http://classrooms.at.ufl.edu/classroom-technology/sympodium.php

Digital Classroom Upgrades

The 2013-2014 academic year will be the second year of the Classroom Digital Upgrade Project. This project involves replacing the existing analog projection and A/V control systems with new high-definition digital systems. While increasing the video resolution capabilities of the system to modern standards, the main goal of this project is enable HDMI digital inputs for current and future laptops and mobile devices that do not provide analog VGA outputs. As part of the upgrade, the projector, technology podium, SMART Podium, and all associated wiring and systems are upgraded. Room upgrade schedules are selected based on impact and room availability.

Renovation Selection Criteria

Through 2012's renovations, the selection criteria for renovation was largely based on number of years since the last update and focused on turning deficient spaces into good, functional classrooms.

Starting in 2013, sufficient renovations have now been completed to be able to focus on making usable classrooms into excellent ones. A master list of functional deficits is kept, and rooms are selected from the list based on expected impact, room availability, faculty and student feedback, trouble calls, and maintenance needs.
Summer 2013 Classroom Upgrade Projects

Carleton Auditorium
- Remove existing stage and wheelchair ramp, replace with smaller stage/ramp
- Repair water damage around ceiling diffusers
- Provide new light fixtures
- Provide new Crestron lighting controls as per classroom/campus standard
- Provide new angled front walls and mount three 20’ wide projection screens
- Paint ceiling and walls, paint floor under seating
- Clean existing acoustical panels, replace panels that have been painted, add new panels as required.
- Relocate power/signal path to new podium location
- Digital classroom upgrade

CSE 220, 221, 222
- Acoustical treatments and flooring upgrades

Leigh Hall 207 Phase 2
- Replace Ceiling, lighting, light controls
- Rebuild lecture/demo table to be ADA compliant
- Digital classroom upgrade

Matherly Hall Classrooms
- New blinds and chalkboards

Weimer Hall Classrooms
- Acoustical treatments and flooring upgrades

Small Classroom Digital Upgrades
- 20+ additional classrooms selected by impact and availability

Summer 2012 Classroom Upgrade Projects

Fine Arts B 103 & 105
- During the summer of 2012, UFIT, in partnership with UF Physical Plant Division, renovated the learning spaces in Fine Arts B, rooms 103 and 105. These two large classrooms, seating 97 and 116 students respectively, had not been substantially updated since their construction in 1964. The renovations created new functional, attractive, and comfortable learning environments with the latest teaching and learning technology. Specifically, the renovation work addressed:
  o Acoustical characteristics to improve students ability to hear the faculty and instructional media effectively
  o Lighting control and fixture improvements to improve students ability to see instructional media effectively while note-taking
  o New permanent painted projection screen that does not obscure the dry-erase board
  o High definition digital projection capability
- Digital laptop video compatibility
- New wide-screen SMART Podium digital whiteboard and annotator
- New lighted dry-erase board to replace chalkboard
- New theatre-style seating with integrated electrical outlets for charging mobile devices
- New ADA accessibility features including accessible restrooms
- New Wi-Fi wireless network access points

**Architecture 116 & 120**
- Architecture 116 & 120 classrooms had loud overhead air handlers removed to improve the quality of the learning and working environment, and so students could hear one another as well as the instructor.

**Flint 50**
- Flint 50 renovations converted the room to the first triple-projection room on campus, allowing faculty to utilize three different projected images for students as part of instruction, the first of its kind on campus.

**Leigh 207 Phase 1**
- Replaced built-in chalkboard that was no longer usable
- Switched to a permanent painted projection screen to enable simultaneous use of chalkboard and projection