Campus IT Updates

Board of Regents February 20, 2014
Karl Kowalski, Chief Information Technology Officer
10th anniversary of the use of ePortfolios

- Internally developed
- Available to all
- No license fees and minimal upkeep
- Updated system to be more customizable and responsive to diverse devices

http://www.uas.alaska.edu/helpdesk/coursework/portfolio/index.html
Virtualized computer infrastructure

All academic computers
- Improved performance
- Reduced operational overhead
- Reduced power consumption
- Broke endless cycle of hardware replacement
- Continuing a more gradual migration of staff computers to virtual environment
InformaCast Alert Technology

- Juneau, Ketchikan, Sitka
  - Telephone, speaker and broadcast alerts
  - Strengthens ability to notify campus in emergencies
  - Working with OIT to integrate into UA Alert System
University of Alaska Fairbanks

Collaborative Commons

OIT transformed a first-generation computer lab into an inviting and engaging collaborative commons. Making its debut fall semester 2013 and dubbed "The Nook" - the area offers a variety of seating options with accessible power outlets, virtual computer stations, wired and wireless network access for student devices, mobile printing, and collaborative conference tables where students can share content on their devices with others on a large screen.

Student Demand for more flexible computing spaces

- Traditional computer lab space
- Rows and dividers
- Fixed locations

Old lab space
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Tech Central

The move and co-location of UAF Technology Services into one area in Bunnell Building on the Fairbanks Campus into a one-stop for all campus technology needs.

Streamlined access and support

- Helpdesk
- Training and development
- Desktop support services
- Campus Instructional Technology
- Videoconference Services
- Student Computer Support
- The NOOK
Alaska Native Language Center App

Indigenous Alaska Languages
- Leon Unruh of ANLC
- Location centric
- Regional phrasebooks
- Written translations
- Audio recordings
- Phased
  - ANLC Map and GPS locations
  - Digitizing audio and indexing
  - Computer Science Students

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UAA has completed a variety of initiatives that improve service and reduce overall cost of operations

- Federated WolfLync voice, video and conference capabilities with the University of Washington Medical School – allowing WWAMI students in Anchorage and Seattle to communicate in a variety of ways – without long distance or conferencing costs.

- Cooperated with student life to remodel the IT lab in the Commons to better reflect current student use patterns. Replaced PCs with “thin client” virtual PCs at a fraction of the cost of new, helping to finance the remodel from existing funds.

- Expanded managed print locations to make student printing more available, while decreasing printer management costs.
• Increased student access to wireless network and internet services throughout the campus. Partnered with commercial provider to offer higher bandwidth public WiFi in heavily used areas of campus.

• Upgraded Blackboard and Collaborate services to modernize the interface, enhance mobile device utility and provide toll-free access for students unable to use web voice connections due to poor connection quality in some areas of the state.

• 73% complete in the renewed effort to sun-down the legacy AKDIR service – estimated completion in June 2014.

• Increased circuit bandwidth between several anchorage satellite campus locations.
Questions & Comments