

RUCS-Newark Future Lab Technologies Plan 2003-2004

Recommend a plan for future campus labs.

Obtain information regarding academic departmental goals and their lab technology needs

- 1) Better collaboration with academic departments on future instructional needs
 - a) Applications needed for use in instructional labs
 - b) Assistance in finding appropriate applications
- 2) Increase availability of web development tools available for instruction
 - a) Availability of video, multimedia, site management, animation and scripting application development tools [i.e.: Flash MX, Adobe Go Live and Live Motion]
- 3) Hybrid Distance Learning – Using both electronic delivery and local professors/lectures to teach and instruct students. [Model Study: University of Florida]

Evaluate equipment and software use of current labs

- 1) Life cycle for equipment
 - a) Maintain a 3-year life cycle for all lab equipment is possible.
- 2) Software upgrade/implementation cycle
 - a) Upgrade OS and Office software at least 1 year after release.
 - b) Request from professors each year for upgrade of instructional software
 - c) Research current software trends and keep up with industry standards to keep the labs current.
- 3) Investigate the possibility of using Thin-Clients/Central Servers to replace lab equipment.
 - a) Will be applicable for instructional labs initially, expanding to open access labs
 - i) All software will be run locally, using Citrix or other terminal services program
 - ii) Will reduce the rate of replacing desktop equipment.
- 4) Evaluate having a Linux Lab
 - a) For learning and use by students and professors
- 5) Evaluate Windows 2000 Lite and test for implementation in the labs
 - a) If applicable, will enable machines to boot faster
- 6) Evaluate latest PC Operating Systems for future integration into the labs
 - a) Test all latest OS releases for possible lab implementation
- 7) Enable lab machines to Dual boot [MS Operating System and Linux]
 - a) Expand the usability of current lab machines

Survey new technology trends

- 1) Open availability of Open Access Computers
 - a) Develop a virtual chart of all open access labs indicating which machines are currently in use. Will be available on the web.
- 2) Use of PDA on campus
 - a) With the expansion of wireless, enable students to use their PDA's on campus.
 - i) Install PDA docking stations so that users can synchronize their PDA with the campus-wide calendaring system. [Determine which PDA's will be supported]
- 3) Develop a Laptop Printing lab
 - a) More users are using laptop technology and they will need a location to print. Rather than have printing stations all over campus, request space for a laptop-printing lab.
 - b) Will be available to wireless and wired laptop users

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Recommend a lab plan that accommodates these needs for the future including location of labs, size of labs, equipment, special needs, applications, and upgrade cycle

- 1) Installation of a “large” computer instructional lab
 - a) Need a instructional lab that will seat at-least 60 – 70 people
 - i) 1st choice location: Hill Hall
- 2) Need of training labs
 - a) Request space and funding for training labs to be used by departments to fit their training needs
 - i) Currently, these needs take away the instructional lab usage from student instruction
 - ii) 1st choice location: Conklin Hall
- 3) Expansion of Open Access Labs
 - a) Open a Robeson Campus Center Lab
 - b) Assume support for the Woodward Dorm Lab
- 4) Printing in the labs
 - a) Integrate with libraries systems to use cards for printing and copying pages.
 - i) Users will be allocated a certain number of pages for printing and/or copying per semester, for additional pages, must purchase them.
 - b) Control Print job size
 - i) Install “Pcounter” program to control the size of all print jobs to reduce violations of the printing policy
 - ii) Enable double sided printing on all lab printers to save paper
 - c) Printing Equipment
 - i) Install more color printers in the labs
 - ii) Evaluate all current high-volume printers on the market to determine which printer’s suites the lab needs.
- 5) Video distribution system for the labs
 - a) Instructors and distribute video from the instructors station directly to students workstation
 - i) Using NetSupport School Software, can distribute video via TCP/IP and can monitor students workstations, up to 16 stations simultaneously. [Model Study: Purdue University-Calumet]
- 6) Expand ADA capabilities in all CIF labs
 - a) Expand availability of ADA supported application tools in the labs
- 7) How-to-Use tutorials for basic supported applications available on the web
 - a) How-to-use MS Office CBT available to all on the web [behind Rutgers authentication]
 - b) Develop Rutgers specific CBT for students

Evaluate the need of additional Instructional Class Labs

- 1) Expansion of Instructional Labs
 - a) Request additional space for more instructional PC labs.
 - i) 1st choice location: Hill 115, down the Hall from Hill Hall Labs
 - ii) 2nd location: Relocate Office Suite Hill Hall 122 to another location and convert space into another instructional lab. Maintain Hill 121 as a Server Room.
 - b) Installation of a “large” computer instructional lab
 - i) Need a instructional lab that will seat at-least 60 – 70 people

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Mobile instructional labs

- 1) Installation of a mobile instructional lab
 - a) Students w/ laptops
 - i) Convert existing classroom space to accommodate this style of instruction.
 - ii) Classrooms outfitted with wireless for connectivity
 - b) Students with out laptops
 - i) Convert existing classroom space to accommodate this style of instruction.
 - ii) Classrooms outfitted with wireless for connectivity
 - iii) Purchase laptop carts for classroom use