

Who, Who Just Said That? A 360 Degree Approach to Synchronous Distance Learning

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K-State Olathe



Agenda

- About K-State Olathe
- History of campus technology
- Technology improvements through the years
- Polycom CX5500/Meeting Owl – about and demo
- User provided feedback/survey results
- Questions and open discussion



About K-State Olathe

- Opened in 2011
- Supported by local tax
- Graduate degree programs
- Event/meeting space
- Biosafety level 2 labs
- Sensory and Consumer Research Center
- Commercialized kitchen space



History of campus technology

- 2011 Crestron technology
- Polycom codecs
- Fully routable/switching system – very complex
- Classes taught to/from Manhattan and Olathe
- Room camera placement in conference/class rooms
- Need to accommodate external organizations
- Zoom introduced in 2013



Technology Improvements

- 2014 – Added ceiling microphones and AV Bridges in “B” classrooms
- Spring 2015 – Faculty Survey/Interviews
- Fall 2015 – Polycom CX5500 purchased
- Winter 2016 – Classroom and Conference Room upgrades
- Fall 2017 – Meeting Owl purchased
- Current/Future – Phase out old Crestron equipment for NVX infrastructure







Polycom CX5500

• Features

- Video/sound quality
- Expansion mics

• Uses

- Zoom/Skype for Business
- Meetings/Classes/Focus groups

• Limitations

- No Panoramic view in Zoom
- Portability

- Price ~ **\$5500**

Polycom CX5100 / CX5500 Features and Accessories



Polycom CX5500 Trial Review

- Camera tested in several administrative meetings and classes taught from Olathe and Manhattan
- USB extension cable needed
- Placement of camera in larger classrooms is limited
- Initial feedback from faculty and students – Spring 2015



User provided feedback

- “We have a lot more flexibility to move around the classroom, which is ideal for instructors with my instruction style. This camera is an example of what I think our campus needs to be successful. I have been wanting something like this since I arrived.”
- “Students were “much more engaged.”
- “Best classroom experience yet using zoom! Keep it up.”
- “The in-class experience worked very well. It was helpful to have the full face image of the person speaking; it made for a better learning experience.”
- “My feelings of belonging were much improved. The camera changing was kind of like me turning my head if I were in the classroom in order to pay attention to whoever is speaking.”



Meeting Owl – OWL Labs

- Features
 - Up to three active speaker windows
 - Small, compact
- Uses
 - Zoom, WebEx, etc.
 - Meetings/Classes/Focus groups
- Limitations
 - Video/audio quality
 - Active speaker switching
 - Start up company
- Price ~ **\$800**



Survey Results

- Recent survey of faculty/students – Spring/Fall 2017
 - 19 responses, 17 positive
 - Overall benefit of a 360 degree camera
 - 360 degree vs stationary camera
 - Any negative experiences
 - Interaction perspective
 - Overwhelmingly positive



User provided feedback

- “The 360 degree camera offers the best learning experience for remote students that I have witnessed in over 10 years of teaching. Clearly value-added.”
- “Educational technology is in high demand. I appreciate the inclusion and research of the effectiveness of the 360 degree camera and how its use impacts the classroom experience.”
- “These devices are necessary as we teach in the 21st century. More institutions are moving to video conferencing technology. My colleagues in Manhattan are jealous of the rich experience we are able to give students...”



Meeting Owl – OWL Labs



Meeting Owl – Demo

- Zoom meeting using Meeting Owl
- Meeting Owl control application (iPhone)



Questions and Open Discussion

