

ITS eWARRIOR NEWS

WSU Information Technology Services

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NEW WSU STUDENTS BEGIN THEIR EWARRIOR DIGITAL LIVES

ITS welcomed new students and their families and friends to campus as they stopped by the Technical Support Center and the Engagement Center in Somsen Hall, during the first Fall Prep day, Thursday June 24th, to pick up their laptops and start their eWarrior digital lives.

It was a true team effort involving many staff members and student workers from the Technical Support Center and the Digital Learning Commons. The DLC

STARS distributed 76 laptops to happy

students. While our HP laptop order is still in transit, students who prefer Macbooks walked away with their new laptop and HP fans had the option of leaving with last year's model as a temporary solution for the summer.

Laptop distributions will continue all summer as we approach the first day of the fall semester.



ITS MISSION

Information Technology Services (ITS) provides the technology-based foundation to support and empower the Winona State University (WSU) community to meet and exceed their educational and business needs.

FINISHING TOUCHES APPLIED TO HYFLEX CLASSROOMS



Members of WSU ITS worked to put the finishing touches on several HyFlex classrooms in Pasteur Hall, refining the AV control systems to make them reliable and user-friendly. TLT is working alongside contractors this summer to upgrade several mid-sized classrooms to include built-in cameras, speakers, microphones, and Zoom Room functionality that will allow faculty to accommodate remote students this fall and beyond. In addition to providing 'just-in-time responding' to student requests for accommodation, these technologies will be critical for faculty interested in redesigning their courses using a HyFlex delivery model.

Built-in systems are just one way that WSU supports online participation in classes and is best suited for our larger, lecture-oriented spaces. In our smaller, seminar and active learning spaces, faculty can request mobile cameras and microphones and can utilize their laptops to turn any space into an online classroom – one of the many benefits of our eWarrior Digital Life and Learning Program.

“Tech Quote”

“It’s not that we use technology, we live technology.”

– Godfrey Reggio, American director of experimental documentary films

WIRELESS RFP RESULTS IN NEW VENDOR WITH NEW CAPABILITIES



WSU has entered a 5-year partnership with Mist Systems, a Juniper company, to provide WSU networking/Wi-Fi solutions. This solution is currently used by MIT, Dartmouth, Gap, PetSmart and other high-profile companies and higher ed institutions.

Members of WSU ITS worked with several companies over the course of more than a year trying out their products and services, doing proof-of-concept testing, and holding many, many meetings with sales engineers from the 4 major networking/Wi-Fi companies. After pouring over complex proposals from these companies the selection was

based upon the one that is most suited to meet the needs of WSU now and in the future.

Mist provides a system that is cloud based, therefore freeing up local data center resources as well as having a deployment methodology that results in installations that take a fraction of the time compared to their competitors. This new solution will bring Wi-Fi 6 capabilities to WSU immediately and allows for potential in Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) features, neither of which were available with our previous solution.

ITS VISION

Information Technology Services (ITS) endeavors to position the University as a national leader in the innovative and effective use of technology to support the academic enterprise.

TECH TEAM SPOTLIGHT

NAME: John Yearous

POSITION: IT Project Manager / Application Developer

YEARS AT WSU ITS: 12

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR WSU ITS: “I manage various IT projects that cross multiple departments on campus, and when I have time, they let me write some code.”

FAVORITE PART OF ITS: “Managing various types of IT projects, which often touch different departments on campus. I enjoy this because it lets me learn about the many different areas of Winona State.”

FUN FACT ABOUT JOHN: “I earned the rank of Eagle Scout at the age of 16.”



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