Information Technology Planning Board

GACNet Classroom Wireless

February 14, 2014
Status

• ITS Services and OID have identified five buildings for the first phase classroom wireless implementation:
  – Dodd Hall
  – Haines Hall
  – Boelter Hall
  – Bunche Hall
  – Public Affairs Building

• These five buildings contain 96 of the 192 general assignment classrooms

• Initial cost estimate for first phase is $1M
Initial cost estimate

- Assumed deployment of the same equipment as currently used for general wireless deployments
- Most of the estimated costs are related to cabling
- IT Services has identified options to reduce the need for cabling
- Potential cost reduction of $400K
Options to reduce cabling costs

• Use newer access points with increased capacity limits
• Use alternate wireless technologies designed for high-density environments
Using newer access points

• Our wireless vendor has released updated access points to support the new 802.11ac standard
• These access points support higher levels of traffic and larger numbers of users
• OID and IT Services have identified five classrooms in Bunche Hall to use for testing:
  – Bunche 3317, 3123, 3143, 3153, and 3157
• OID and IT Services have further decided to test these access points using existing cabling in the room
• Testing period to be Spring Quarter
Using alternate wireless technology

• IT Services uses an alternative to our standard wireless deployment to support large scale (hundreds of users) events

• OID and IT Services have identified two large classrooms to test this technology in a classroom setting
  – Moore 100 (419 seats)
  – Franz 1178 (293 seats)

• Testing period to be Spring Quarter
Spring Quarter Testing

• OID will inform instructors of wireless capability
• IT Services will monitor wireless equipment to verify increased capacity
• OID will survey instructors and students at the end of the quarter
Next Steps

• Test deployment models over Spring Quarter
• Update installation estimate based on test results
• Submit project costs and implementation plan for approval