



St. John's University

"Thanks to Crestron's reliable and easy-to-use solutions, professors now have the confidence to experiment, configure, and manage the technology in the classroom."

Patrick Flanagan
Associate Professor of Theology and Religious Studies
St. John's University

Introduction

Founded in 1870, St. John's University in Queens, NY, offers more than 100 programs of study to more than 21,000 students across six campuses. The university is committed to providing its students with an exceptional academic experience both inside and outside the classroom. Over the last four years, the school has aggressively invested in updating their AV platforms across their campuses.

The challenge

Following the relocation of its Manhattan Campus in 2014, the university's IT department stressed the importance of standardizing on one AV platform. After noticing gaps in the technology throughout each campus, they decided it was imperative to develop a solution that alleviated these inconsistencies, improved the user experience for students and faculty, and provided the ability to transform traditional lecture spaces into collaborative learning environments with just the touch of a button.





"When upgrading our classrooms we just wanted a system that worked... Providing our faculty with an easy-to-use solution was our first priority."

Eric Alvarado
Academic Technology Director
Information Technology at St. John's University

The Technology

The presence of Crestron technology is not new to the university. In Fall 2009, St. John's unveiled its first Crestron deployment in the D'Angelo Center, located on their Queens Campus. The 127,000 square-foot building quickly became one of the most popular locations for student life. More small deployments followed.

Prior to the Crestron deployments, the six campuses located throughout the New York City metro area and Europe used multiple AV systems from different vendors. Due to the inconsistent user experience throughout the classrooms and lecture halls, and with a team of just nine people to provide support, the IT department began to notice an unmanageable rise in support calls, mostly from faculty members requesting assistance with presentation setup in classrooms. The time had come to develop a plan to completely transform their AV systems university-wide.



The solution

The IT department required an advanced AV solution that would be reliable, easy-to-use, provide a standardized and consistent user experience, foster collaboration, and provide remote monitoring and management of all technology and spaces. This would ensure that all technical issues could be resolved quickly, and thereby not impose on students' class time. Because

Crestron technology had been so successful in past deployments, the IT department named Crestron its standard for AV integration across all of its campuses.

They then developed a plan to install Crestron technology in more classrooms and lecture halls during summer and winter breaks to avoid any disruption of classes during the academic year.

All the renovated classrooms and lecture halls now feature Crestron AirMedia® wireless presentation technology and an all-in-one 3-Series® DigitalMedia Presentation System. Students and professors can now present wired or wirelessly from their laptops and mobile devices, which has fostered a more dynamic and collaborative learning environment that professors can tailor to their teaching style.

A new world-class amphitheater, designed to seat up to 200 students, can transform from one large space into multiple smaller spaces to accommodate breakout sessions of small groups. There are six learning pods, each with access to a personal monitor where students can share their computer displays through an input or AirMedia connectivity and discuss their findings.

At the front of the class, professors can control each display and share an array of content with others on multiple displays around the room.

Crestron DigitalMedia™ technology is also installed in a variety of event spaces and specialized facilities throughout the university, including the newly renovated Marillac Auditorium which can seat over 500 guests and easily transform from a traditional style auditorium into a large interactive learning environment.

"Crestron has reinvented my approach in the classroom. AirMedia has freed me from the podium, and afforded me the opportunity to move around the classroom and share content from my iPad tablet as I lecture and engage with my students."

Marc E. Gillespie, Ph.D

Associate Dean Graduate Education & Research of the College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences



Results

Knowing that the physical and academic environment has a significant impact on the decision making process for prospective students and professors, St. John's University decided to aggressively incorporate cutting-edge Crestron technology in more than 150 spaces across multiple campuses: classrooms, auditoriums, student centers, conference rooms, and event spaces. The investment has paid off. It's enabled the university to stand out from competing schools with a cutting-edge, collaborative atmosphere that keeps students and faculty connected. Better still, the IT department has seen a dramatic decrease in support calls and received a virtual avalanche of positive feedback from students and staff.

"As our Crestron footprint expands we immediately recognize the impact the technology has on the university and the rewarding results that follow the completion of each project," said Joseph Tufano, Vice President and Chief Information Officer, Information Technology.

Products Used

- **3-Series DigitalMedia Presentation System 300**
DMPS3-300-C-AEC
- **AirMedia Presentation Gateway**
AM-101
- **7" Touch Screen**
TSW-760
- **DigitalMedia Transmitter 201**
DM-TX-201-C
- **DigitalMedia Receiver & Room Controller**
DM-RMC-SCALER-C
- **Crestron Connect It™ Cable Caddy**
TT-100-B-T
- **32x32 DigitalMedia Switcher**
DM-MD32X32
- **64x64 DigitalMedia Switcher**
DM-MD64X64

