Time, energy, and people: the costs of fragmented AV

A guide to standardizing tech in higher ed for measurable ROI

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The call to modernize campus AV

Across higher education, faculty and students expect a reliable experience whether they are teaching from the lectern, joining remotely, or reviewing a recording later.

Institutions are investing accordingly. Among colleges and universities planning capital projects in the year ahead, 82% are prioritizing classroom improvements, while 80% plan to invest in meeting rooms—reflecting consistent expectations across learning and collaboration spaces.[1,2]



However, most of that investment still happens the way it always has: room by room, on separate budget cycles, with no campus-wide standard. Each purchase solves one problem in one space without adding to a system.

Not having a tech standard can actually cause problems that drive students and faculty away, leading to immense hidden costs in time, energy, expertise, and even people.



The hidden cost of a fragmented AV ecosystem

As campuses accumulate AV technology throughout their spaces over the years, inconsistency and poor experience become a hidden institutional cost. Support tickets multiply, faculty lose confidence in whether the tech will work, and IT teams end up managing a patchwork of vendors.

Support burden

Every room configuration has its own challenges. Rooms are set up differently to serve different uses, which creates more complexity and the need for more IT support.

Faculty report:

77%
face hardware malfunctions on a daily or weekly basis

66%
report video conferencing failures and software access issues

Meanwhile, for students:

61%
report connectivity disruptions

52%
report software access issues[4]

Institutional strain

Fragmented, unreliable technology has a cost beyond troubleshooting time. It costs the institution.

1 in 3 faculty and 1 in 4 students have considered leaving their institution because of poor technology.[3]

Each departure adds financial strain to institutions already managing tight budgets and shrinking enrollments.

Vendor sprawl

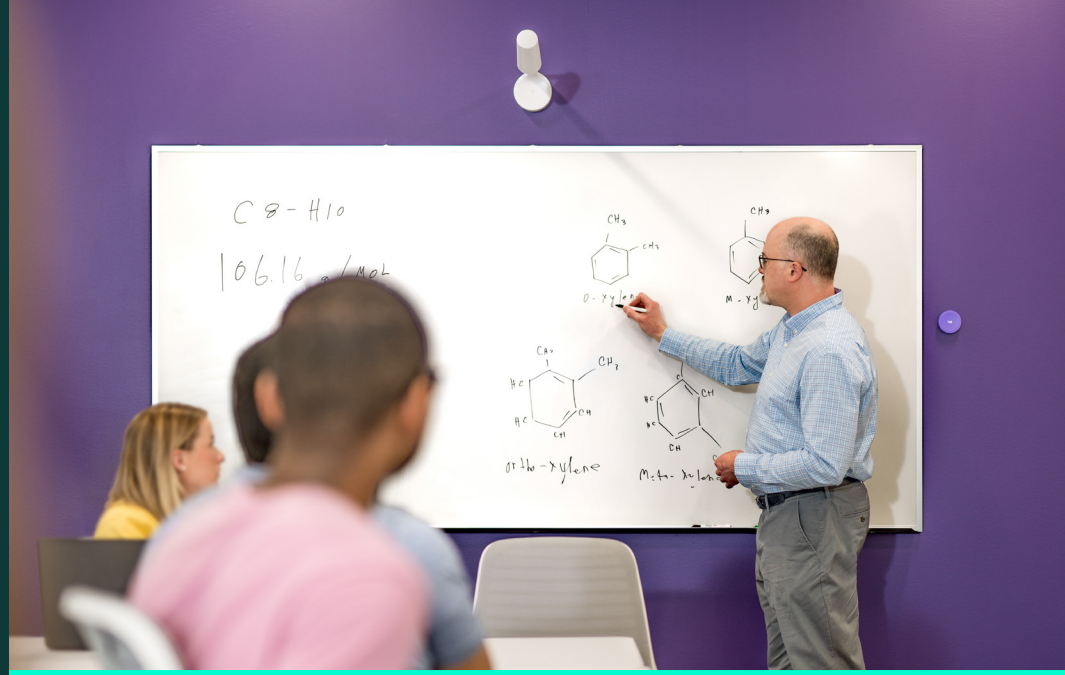
When devices accumulate in different parts of campus over the years, instead of managing one system, IT teams end up managing many contracts, device update cycles, and support paths.

As a result, insufficient funding for maintenance and interoperability problems across systems rank among the three biggest challenges institutions report, alongside limited staff resources.[5]

Visibility gap

Scheduling data isn't the same as utilization data. If IT doesn't have tools to see how spaces are actually being used, rooms often sit idle when someone changes their mind about a reservation.

Meanwhile, leaders are left making budget decisions without a clear picture of problems or opportunities.



The solution: standardized AV ecosystem

A standardized AV ecosystem is about making everything on campus work the same way, everywhere. Well-designed systems keep complexity to a minimum and elevate teaching and learning across a wide range of use cases.

Consistent video and audio across room types

Standardized video means every room, whatever its size, shape, age, or quirks, delivers the same high-quality visual and audio experience.





Rally Bar 2

- All-in-one video bar that scales from huddle spaces up to extra-large lecture halls with up to 46 participants
- Built-in RightSight and RightSound keep every participant seen and heard
- Runs in appliance or BYOD mode, so one device fits how each room is actually used
- Certified for Microsoft Teams, Zoom and Google Meet, so IT isn't locked into a single platform
- Centrally monitored and updated through Sync across every room on campus



Rally AI Camera Pro

- Dual-camera system with 15x hybrid zoom for large, complex spaces
- AI-based RightSight 2 automatically frames groups, individuals, and presenters
- Works alone or in multi-camera setups for lecture halls and training rooms
- Sets up quickly over USB or a single CAT cable
- Managed and monitored directly in Sync alongside every other room device



Rally Board 65

- 65-inch all-in-one touchscreen combines display, camera, microphones and speakers in a single unit
- Sets up in minutes with included mounts and remote configuration, minimizing onsite IT support
- RightSight 2 and RightSound 2 keep every participant seen and heard in open or enclosed spaces
- Mounts to a credenza, wall or cart, with the camera above or below the screen for natural eye contact
- Built-in radar sensor drops to a low-power sleep state when rooms are empty

Consistent video and audio across room types

Standardized video means every room, whatever its size, shape, age, or quirks, delivers the same high-quality visual and audio experience.





Rally System 2 Pro

- Gives every participant an equal chance to see, hear, and engage
- Delivers high-quality video and audio for classrooms, lecture halls, overflow spaces, and large campus meeting rooms
- Modular design with remote management simplifies deployment



Tap IP 2

- A single PoE cable delivers both power and data, simplifying installs in older buildings
- One-touch join starts meetings without hunting for cables or remotes
- Built-in motion sensor wakes the display as people approach and saves power when idle
- Works as the touch controller for Teams and Zoom Rooms deployments
- Centrally monitored and updated through Sync

Specialty capture for teaching spaces

Beyond the primary room camera, a standardized ecosystem gives faculty purpose-built tools for the moments a single field of view can't cover.







Scribe

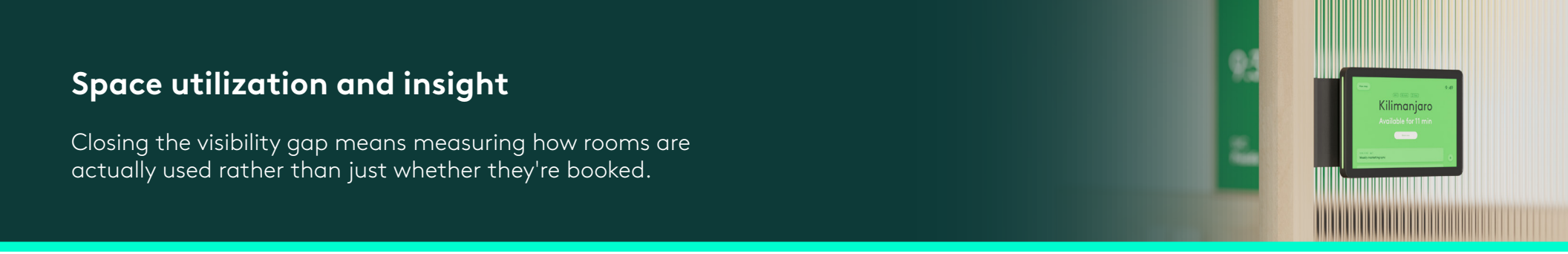
- AI-powered whiteboard camera broadcasts dry-erase content into Teams and Zoom meetings with outstanding clarity
- Presenter Removal lets remote participants see through the presenter to the board
- Works with any whiteboard surface up to 6' wide by 4' high and any dry-erase markers
- One-touch wireless share button, or launch sharing from a Tap controller
- Monitored and updated through Sync alongside the rest of the room

Reach

- One-hand horizontal, vertical, and full 360-degree rotation puts any surface or object on screen
- 4.3x lossless zoom brings small details into full view for the whole class
- Plug-and-play over USB-C, working with the video platform already in the room
- Switches between full desktop mode and a compact, clamped stowed mode
- Addresses a documented pain point: 42% of teachers report students struggle to see material from across the room[6]

Space utilization and insight

Closing the visibility gap means measuring how rooms are actually used rather than just whether they're booked.







Spot

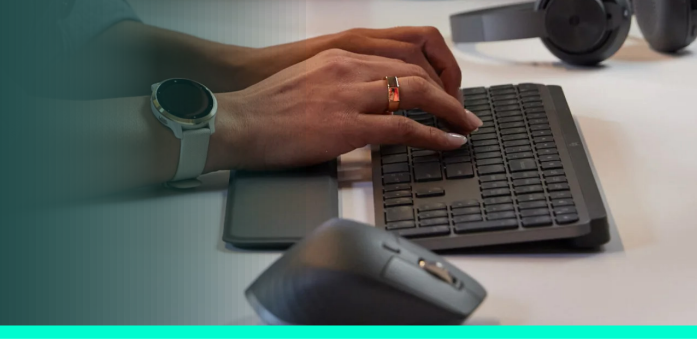
- Peel-and-stick presence and environmental sensor installs without an electrician
- Tracks occupancy plus carbon dioxide, particulate matter, temperature, and humidity
- Pairs with Tap Scheduler 2 or Rally Bar 2 to power automatic room booking and release
- Runs up to 4 years on a single battery, or connects to USB-C for continuous power
- Feeds occupancy and room health data straight into Sync Insights

Tap Scheduler 2

- 10.1-inch touchscreen shows room details and lets people claim spaces on the spot
- Green or red LED lighting signals availability from down the hall
- Certified for Microsoft Teams, Zoom Rooms, and other leading scheduling platforms
- Mounts to glass, wall, or mullion for placement outside any room
- Monitored and managed remotely through Sync

Personal workspace continuity

The same standard that governs a classroom should carry through to the faculty office and shared workstation.







MX Keys Combo 2

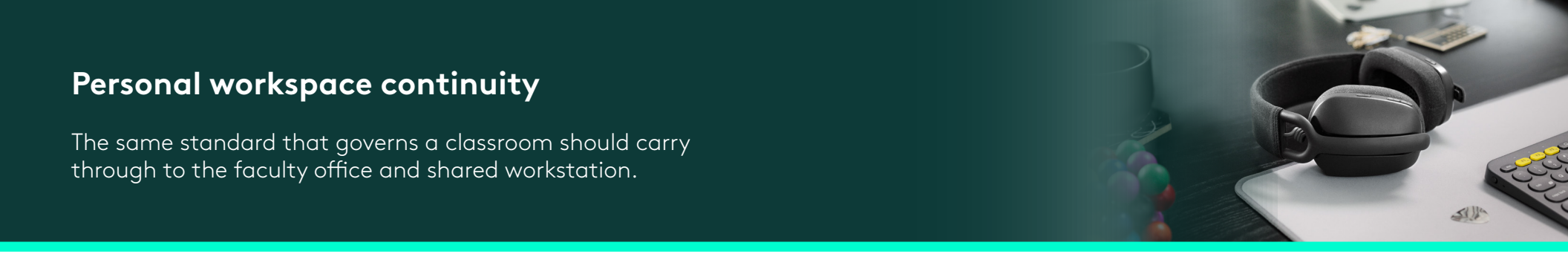
- Keyboard and mouse are pre-paired to a single Logitech Bolt receiver for fast, secure deployment
- Logi Bolt wireless technology holds a stable connection even in congested campus buildings
- Smart backlighting and a near-silent Quiet Click mouse suit shared offices and libraries
- Easy-Switch lets one person move across up to three paired computers

MX Anywhere 3s

- Compact wireless mouse designed for mobile work
- Customizable button mapping with Smart Actions
- Logi Options+ software allows IT to manage devices remotely
- Easy deployment on most major OS across desktops,laptops and tablets

Personal workspace continuity

The same standard that governs a classroom should carry through to the faculty office and shared workstation.





Zone Vibe Wireless

- Noise-canceling mic isolates voice from classroom or office background noise
- Up to 18 hours of talk time with three wireless connection options: Bluetooth, USB-C receiver or USB-A adapter
- Certified for Microsoft Teams, Google Meet, Google Voice and Zoom
- Lightweight, over-ear design built for all-day, all-campus use
- Monitored and managed at scale through Sync

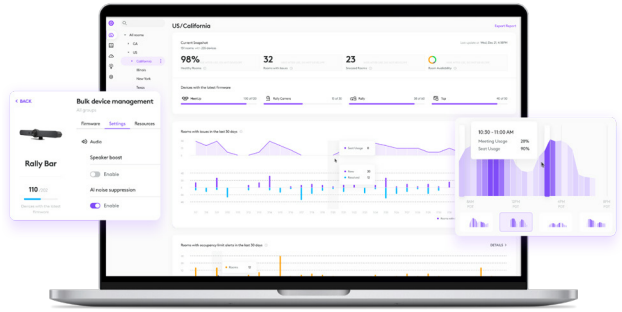


Brio 305

- 1080p webcam certified for Microsoft Teams, Zoom and Google Meet
- Auto light correction and a noise-reducing mic keep every remote participant clear
- Integrated privacy shutter with an indicator light gives users visible, physical control
- Made with at least 48% recycled plastic
- Remotely managed and updated through Sync

One point of management

Every device above reports into the same place, so IT manages a system instead of a mess.



Sync

- Monitor every connected room and device from one browser-based dashboard
- Push firmware updates to hundreds of rooms on the same schedule, overnight, with no site visits
- Pinpoint problems like a disconnected cable before a support ticket is even filed
- Track room and seat utilization to justify space and budget decisions with real data
- Supports multitenancy, so different buildings or colleges can be managed separately within one platform





Benefits for IT and AV leaders

As higher education IT leaders juggle dozens of classrooms, lecture halls, and hybrid learning spaces, standardized AV systems provide a number of crucial advantages:

- Predictable deployment and a single support model across campus
- Lower total cost of ownership than maintaining mismatched systems
- Faculty adoption that doesn't depend on room-by-room training
- Data to defend the next budget request

73% of IT leaders say faculty satisfaction is their primary measure of success, which is exactly what a standardized experience is built to protect.[7]

59% of IT leaders report that enhanced user interfaces reduce troubleshooting.



Real-world application: UC Berkeley

UC Berkeley's School of Optometry & Vision Science needed to bring hyflex learning to more classrooms, but the campus's electrical retrofit queue for non-critical requests, such as AV power outlets, can stretch up to 18 months. Rather than wait, the school built its standard around technology that didn't need new construction.

Standardizing without rewiring the building

The school deployed the Logitech Rally Camera Streamline Kit, which runs power and data over a single cable, letting classrooms go hybrid without an electrical retrofit.



Rally Camera Streamline Kit

- A single category cable carries power and data up to 100 meters from the camera to AV equipment
- Wireless preset buttons let faculty switch camera views mid-lecture without leaving the front of the room
- 15x lossless zoom keeps detail sharp across small discussion rooms and large lecture halls alike
- Certified to Higher Education Technology Managers Alliance (HETMA) standards

Piloting the way to a campus standard

Rather than a single sweeping rollout, the UC Berkeley team tested a handful of rooms with tech-comfortable faculty first, then used the results to win leadership approval for a larger deployment.

Supporting rooms without walking to them

Through Sync and Zoom Room portals, the team monitors every system from a single view and can troubleshoot from the office rather than walking to the classroom.

Scaling the model

With pilot results in hand, UC Berkeley extended the deployment to a new clinic, with ten exam rooms, six breakout rooms, and a lecture hall. That building was built on the same standard from day one.



One room experience for faculty to learn

"This solution allows me to provide a standardized, consistent learning space experience, so a faculty member can enter a room and know exactly how to use the technology."

— MATTHIEU KAMINSKI
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF LEARNING INITIATIVES, UC BERKELEY

Build for today, define tomorrow

The next era of higher education depends on campus spaces designed for consistency and flexibility. Strategic technology standardization makes every room easier to use while creating a more reliable experience across campus.

Learn more about building a standardized AV ecosystem with Logitech for Education.

www.logitech.com/education/highered



logitech® for education

[1] Logitech and AVIXA. 2024. "When AV Tech Fails, Students & Faculty Leave." https://xchange.avixa.org/documents/when-av-tech-fails students-faculty-leave?channel_id=business-of-av.

[2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7] Logitech and AVIXA.

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