UC RIVERSIDE | Information Technology Solutions

Classroom Technology Standardization: A Proposal for Academic Senate Consultation

1. Purpose of the Classroom Technology Standardization Proposal

The purpose of this proposal is to improve the teaching experience for all instructors across UCR. UCR Information Technology Solutions (ITS) serves a diverse faculty community with varying technical needs, disciplines, and teaching styles. To support everyone effectively, our vision is a consistent, dependable technology setup in every general assignment classroom (excluding department-owned spaces). Faculty should feel confident in any room, with simple resources to get started quickly and fast, and responsive help from ITS whenever needed. Standardizing classroom technology lets instructors focus on teaching rather than adjusting to different hardware in each room. This memo outlines our current setup, responds to faculty feedback, addresses union contract requirements, and presents a clear path forward for general assignment teaching spaces.

2. The Current Classroom Technology Environment

Current State: UC Riverside has over 400 teaching spaces under a fragmented operational model. Equipment funding, AV configurations, and technical support are split across ITS, college-level IT units (e.g., BCOE and CNAS), and individual department IT teams. Without a unified campus standard, each entity independently determines hardware specifications, AV systems, and lifecycle refresh schedules.

Problem: The lack of standardized classroom technology in general assignment spaces creates an unpredictable teaching environment. Across campus, room setups vary widely. There are Zoom rooms and RISE rooms with modern technology, spaces with no technology at all, spaces with malfunctioning equipment that is over 10 years old and requires replacement parts no longer made, and spaces using non-standard hardware installed by an outside contractor that worked without knowledge of ITS and our campus standards. Instructors must constantly adapt to inconsistent hardware, varied AV controls, and unclear support paths.

Impact: We recognize that these technical hurdles disrupt your teaching and create unnecessary stress. Instructors lose valuable class time waiting for slow logins or navigating unfamiliar setups, and it is often unclear who to contact for support. Moreover, these classroom technology discrepancies result in an inconsistent learning experience for UCR students.

3. Pain Points Identified Through Faculty Feedback

We appreciate the feedback shared through the faculty survey, ITS support tickets, and committee discussions. We hear your frustrations clearly, and we understand the genuine burden these daily issues place on your instructional time:

Source	What We Heard
Faculty Survey (111 responses, December 2025)	Shared in-room PCs are the most frequently cited source of frustration: slow logins, unfamiliar or outdated software environments, and lost instructional time at the start of class. Half of the faculty preferred in room PCs, while the other half preferred to bring their own device.
Space Committee, IT Senate Committee and IT Strategy Council Meeting Discussions	See value in moving to one standard campus-wide for hardware and user experience. Faculty representatives described uncertainty about who to contact when classroom technology fails, and inconsistency in equipment and support quality from one building to the next.
Campus-wide Support Ticket Data	Shared in-room PCs are the single largest source of classroom-related support tickets across all of UCR's teaching spaces.

4. The Proposed Solution

Over roughly two years, ITS has worked with the IT Space Advisory Board, the IT Steering Council, and the IT Senate, to develop a proposed classroom technology standard. The core element is a shift to Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) as the primary computing model in general assignment classrooms, retiring shared in-room PCs from those spaces.

Under this model, instructors connect their university-issued or personal device (laptop, tablet, or phone) directly to the classroom AV system via USB-C, Wi-Fi, or an adapter. To ensure equitable access, the Lecturer Device Program will provide university-owned devices to eligible Unit 18 lecturers who need them. Additionally, a teaching assistant (TA) laptop loaner program will be available starting in Winter 2027 to ensure TAs have access to necessary technology.

The rationale for this direction is that it will give instructors the same, familiar experience in every room, eliminate the shared PC issues of slow logins and unfamiliar software, improve overall service, reduce security risks, reduce hardware and maintenance costs, and align UCR with the classroom technology model used at every other UC campus.

6. Request for Academic Senate Consultation

We request Academic Senate review and formal consultation on the following aspect of the classroom technology plan:

- **BYOD Hardware Standard for General Assignment Classroom Spaces:** The proposed standard classroom multimedia design features Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) connectivity via USB-C and wireless projection, integrated touch displays or projectors, ceiling and/or wireless microphones, document cameras, integrated audio, and centralized AV control systems. Does this standard effectively accommodate the instructional needs of the UCR faculty, or are there specific instructional or pedagogical activities faculty are looking to perform or support that are beyond the proposed design?

7. Next Steps

Please let us know how ITS can best support the Senate's review. We kindly ask that faculty provide their feedback in writing by November 30, 2026.

Quickstart Guide

- Walk up to the control panel on the teaching station and touch ‘Press here to begin.’
- Select a source (Zoom Room, USB-C, Doc Cam).
- Selected sources will display in single projection rooms. Select a desired projection display (Left and/or Right Projector) in dual projection rooms.

Wireless Sharing

- Press the **Zoom Room** button on the control panel.
- On your device (laptop, tablet, phone), launch the Zoom application.
- Click on the **Share Screen** button on your Zoom application.
- Enter the 6 letters **Room Code** displayed on the top right corner of the classroom monitor.
- Choose what you want to share (application window, entire desktop, etc.).
- Selected sources will display in single projection rooms. Select a desired projection display (Left and/or Right Projector) in dual projection rooms.

Wired Sharing

- Connect the **USB-C** to your device (phone, tablet, laptop)
    - If your device cannot project using USB-C, please use the **HDMI** cable for the document camera
    - Press the **Doc Cam** button on the control panel to select it as the source.
- Press the **USB-C** button on the control panel to select it as the source.
- If necessary, change your laptop’s display preferences to mirror or extend the display.
- Selected sources will display in single projection rooms. Select a desired projection display (Left and/or Right Projector) in dual projection rooms.

Zoom Meeting

- To start a new meeting, click **New Meeting** on the touch monitor in the classroom.
- To join an existing meeting, click **Join** and enter the meeting ID and password.
- This will run the zoom meeting from the classroom, using the room’s camera, microphone(s) and speakers.

Volume Controls

- Program audio is controlled by the virtual buttons located on the bottom of the control panel.

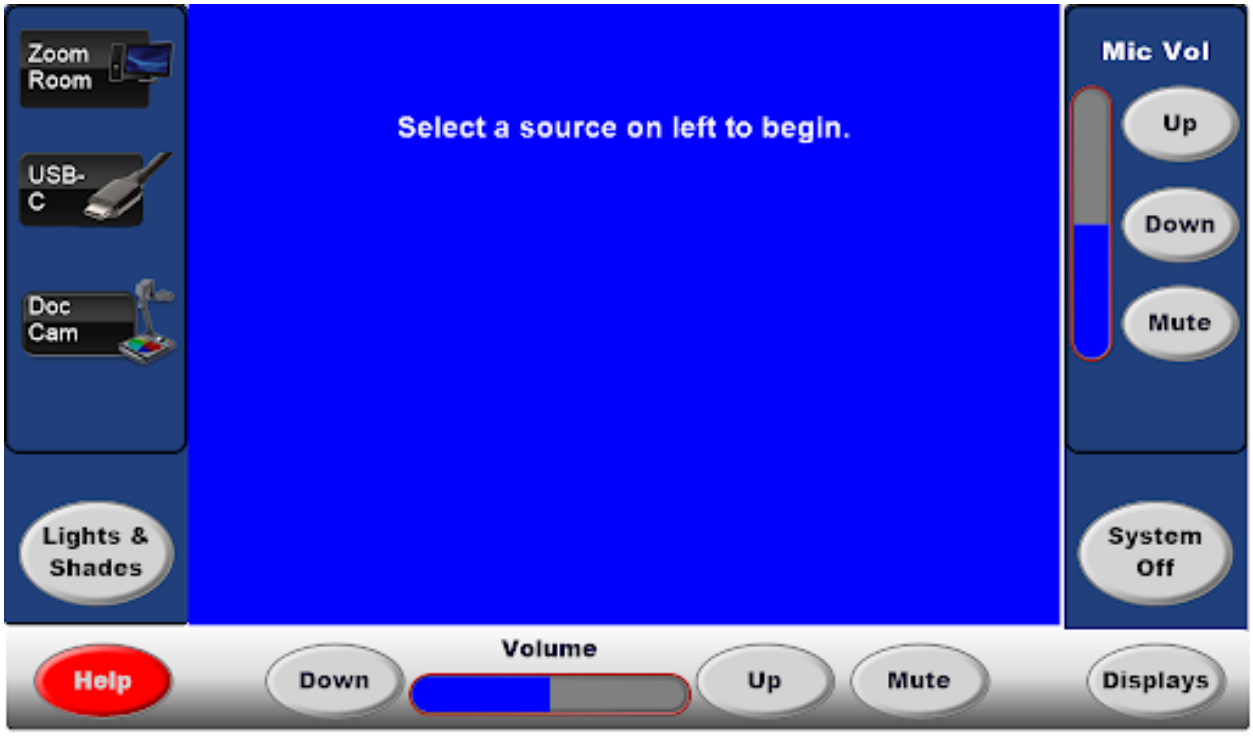
Help Button

- Press the ‘Help’ button for multimedia emergencies.

System Shutdown

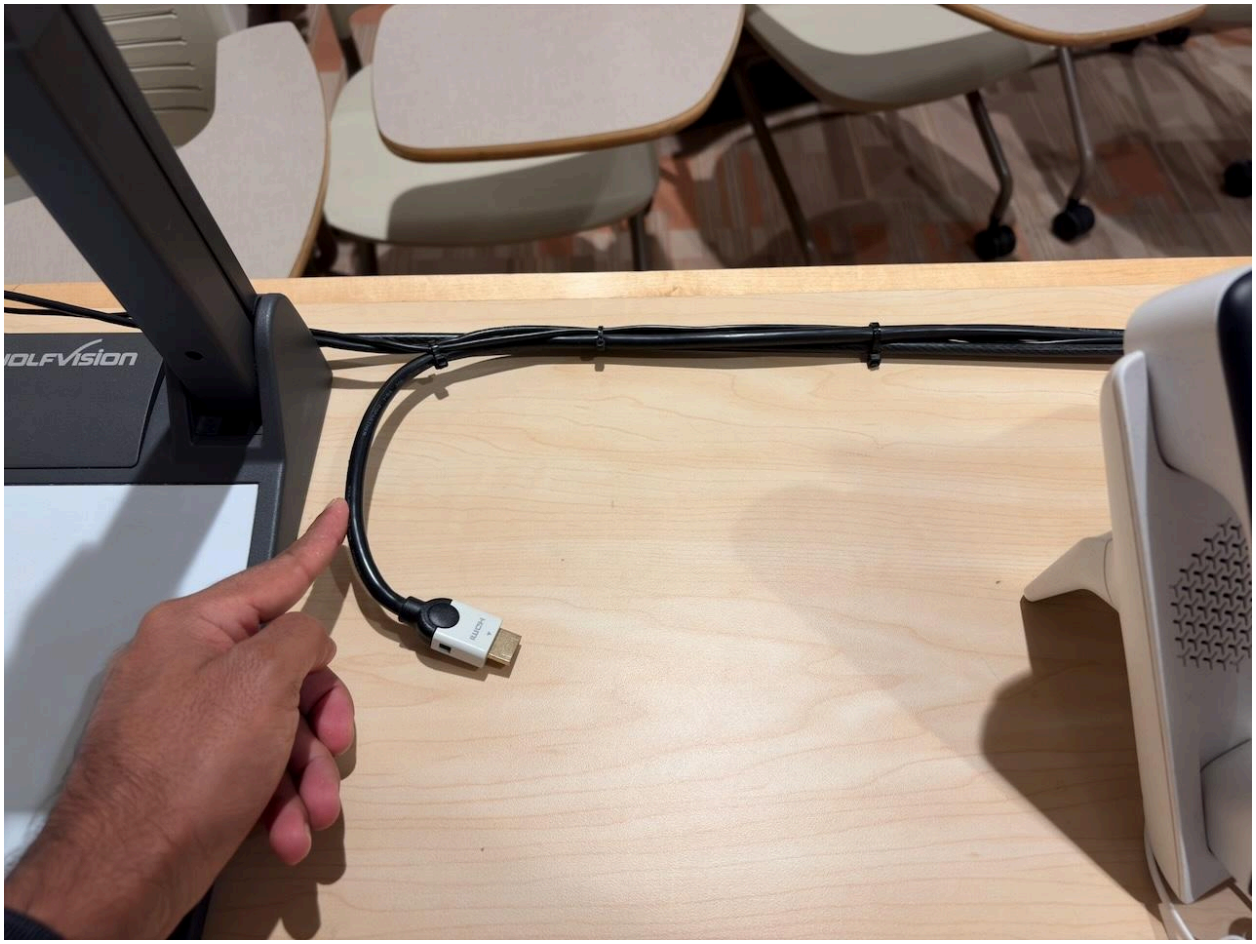
- Press the ‘System Off’ button to shut down (or select a single projector to power off in dual projection rooms).


4:32PM
zoom
DELL
Extron
Extron
AAP 104


Zoom Room
USB-C
Doc Cam
Lights & Shades
Select a source on left to begin.
Mic Vol
Up
Down
Mute
System Off
Help
Down
Volume
Up
Mute
Displays


Sproul-2212
Room code M B G D O G
4:31PM
Wednesday, July 15
New meeting
Join
Whiteboard
Share
Contacts
zoom
DELL


NEW


OLFVISION