

Technology Resources

1999 - 2000

Central Computer Equipment: In the fall semester of 1999, Southeastern purchased and installed a high-end computer system in order to support its new administrative system, PeopleSoft. The hardware configuration consists of three IBM RS 6000 machines, with an IBM S80 and 12 processors serving as the main database server for the system. Equipped with state-of-the-art copper-based technology and a new version of AIX, IBM's version of the UNIX operating system, this new RS/6000 Model S80 is a 64-bit system that takes full advantage of its leading edge design. The S80's increase performance and capacity, giving a significant boost to the complete range of mission-critical PeopleSoft applications important to Southeastern. Combined with the S80's are two additional machines, IBM H70's with 4 processors each, representing a large portion of the infrastructure upgrade Southeastern has undertaken in an effort to reach its strategic goal to possess a state-of-the-art technology infrastructure.

New Administrative System: Southeastern is in the process of converting its COBOL-based computer system to a new Windows and web-based system using PeopleSoft software and the Oracle database, revolutionizing the way the university does business. The system now powers the registration and records process for students, financial aid operations, staff time-keeping functions, human resources, and payroll. Soon to be added will be financial functions such as budget tracking and purchasing.

Network Upgrade: A significant network upgrade is in progress, with the first phase including an upgrade to the core network hub in McClimans Hall. Focus is also being placed on the offices that will be heavily utilizing the new administrative systems, including North Campus (Human Resources, Financial Aid, Enrollment Services), Dyson Hall, Sims Memorial Library, and McGehee Hall; eventually, the upgraded capabilities will be extended to all buildings and workstations across campus. The anticipated completion for the network upgrade is early fall, 2001, and will increase the speed of inter-building links from the current 10 megabits per second to 100 megabits or more per second.

Source: Office of Technology

Technology Resources 1999 - 2000 (continued)

Computer Labs: Southeastern now has fifty-two state-of-the-art computer labs, providing students a technology positive environment, enhancing their academic achievements and workforce preparation. The equipment in these labs range from multi-media super PCs, zip drives, printers, scanners, Read Only and Read/Write CD ROMS, LCD panels and Macs. Open labs, available to all students and majors, are available in McClimans and North Campus Building B, as well as Sims Memorial Library. Eight Southeastern dormitory labs were recently completely renovated, including new computers and monitors. Southeastern has a total of 1049 computers available for student use. Of these, 73 are in open labs, 70 in service labs, 549 in restricted labs, 347 in closed labs, and 63 are in the Sims Memorial Library.

Electronic Classrooms and E-Campus: A number of classrooms on and off campus have been equipped to handle e-learning activities, allowing faculty in many departments the use of computers and related peripherals to aid students in the learning process. Four compressed video classrooms have been added on campus, as well as one at our Baton Rouge site and one at our St. Tammany site. Work is progressing to establish additional sites in Slidell, Washington, Tangipahoa, Livingston, and East Baton Rouge. As a member of the Board of Regents audiovisual network for research, Southeastern utilizes one on-campus compressed video classroom to connect to other BOR universities, while additional video and data links have also been established through collaboration with other universities and Southeastern's remote campuses. Further expanding the list of e-learning activities is the number of online classes offered, such as developmental algebra, freshman composition, introduction to sociology or music, computer literacy, elementary statistics, telecommunications, and graduate courses in education and business, which 862 students enrolled in during the Fall 2000 semester.

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Linus A. Sims Memorial Library: Sims Library utilizes a variety of technologies to deliver services and resources to students and faculty, including the use of NOTIS, a statewide automated library system operated by the LOUIS office at Louisiana State University. Through membership in LOUIS, the Library's online catalog, electronic indexes, full-text databases, and electronic reserve system are available on the 70-plus computers located throughout the library, as well as at off-campus sites. The Library's webpage also provides links to resources and services, with online forms available for a variety of services. Internet access is available throughout the Library and a computer lab, partially funded by the Student Technology Fee, provides student access to a variety of application software packages.

Student Technology Fee Resources: Thanks to the Student Technology Fee, new computers and computer labs, staffed with student workers to provide assistance with technology, are available for students in numerous locations across campus. The fee also has enabled Southeastern to employ an average of 110 Student/Graduate Technology Assistants during the Fall 1999 semester and again in the Spring 2000 semester, with 75 Student/Graduate Technology Assistants employed during the Summer 2000 semester. Another added plus of the Student Technology Fee are laptops, projectors and digital cameras, available for students to checkout.

Center for Faculty Excellence: The Center for Faculty Excellence helps faculty assess and incorporate technology in their teaching through workshops, seminars, and individualized training. The Center offers software ranging from basic office applications to graphics and video editing programs, as well as a variety of equipment including scanners, color printers, and digital cameras. The knowledge and skills faculty gain through the Center are transformed into tools and strategies that enhance both traditional and Internet learning environments.

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