

Microphones usage in classrooms

From: Jenny Gluck
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2020 5:27 PM
To: Eileen Lantier; Michael Morrison; Mike O'Mara
Subject: Re: Educational Technologies Advisory Council

Hi Eileen,

We hope you and your family are doing well. I agree, there seems to be some confusion about the microphones in the Registrar scheduled classrooms. As you know, all of the classrooms will have a microphone ranging from a Lavalier/wireless transmitter model to a webcam.

The ones that seem to concern most faculty are the Lavalier models, which include a microphone that attaches to a radio frequency transmitter/battery pack. The entire system has a specific radio frequency that is used to make sure it doesn't conflict with other radio frequency devices in adjacent rooms or even different microphones in the same place. The conflicts between radio frequencies limit our ability to move the entire unit from one location to another quickly.

The Lavalier microphone includes a cable, which will disconnect from the transmitter, and we have attempted to source additional Lavalier microphones, which typically range in cost from 90 to 130 dollars. Unfortunately, these microphones are fragile, especially the part of the cable that connects to the transmitter, and will likely break if not handled gently in a classroom. Also, it isn't easy to purchase enough of these unit to give them to every instructor.

We have, fortunately, found a spray that can be used to sanitize the microphones. Facility Services has ordered a large quantity of the material for use by instructors. In talking with EHSS and Facility Services, we plan to make sure that the spray is available for faculty to use. We are also working with EHSS on a sanitizing protocol document for the technologies used at the teaching station.

Would it be helpful if we EHSS, Facility Services, and ITS talked to the faculty member(s)? Do you think it makes sense to order Lavalier microphones for all the faculty?

Best,
Jenny

Jenny Gluck (Pronouns: she, her, hers)

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From: Eileen Lantier
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2020 4:33:51 PM
To: Jenny Gluck; Michael Morrison; Mike O'Mara
Subject: RE: Educational Technologies Advisory Council

Hi all,

Does anyone know the actual plan for microphones in the classrooms? We have some faculty who are pretty adamant that they won't use a microphone that has been used by someone else. Any direction helpful!

Best,
Eileen

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