

University Selects Parallax for Light-Filled Library

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Challenge

As a dynamic, growing institution, Lindenwood University strives to create the best possible learning experience for students. The 15,600-student university in St. Charles, Mo., has been committed to educational excellence for nearly 200 years, since it was founded in 1827.

When it came time to update the library facilities for students, Lindenwood wanted to create an inviting, technology-rich environment with a wealth of amenities and resources to help students succeed. To do this, they announced construction of a new 100,000-square-foot building called the Lindenwood Library and Academic Resources Center (LARC).

"It's a library, of course, but in this day and age, libraries are shifting significantly," explains TJ Rains, Lindenwood's Vice President for Information Technology and CIO. "Print materials have gone down significantly. In its place, we're pushing a lot of digital subscription services for content, areas for students to study, and collaboration spaces within the facility to encourage student, faculty and staff to work together on projects."



In addition to a variety of academic support services, the LARC would include student community spaces, a multi-media lab, gaming spaces, a theater, group study rooms, classroom spaces, a Starbucks location and more inside the gorgeously designed, open-concept building.

For the collaboration spaces, Lindenwood added 20 general-use classrooms for teaching spaces to gather and work together when needed.

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Solution

To help bring their technology-rich library to life, Lindenwood worked with Mike Chitwood, Systems Sales Manager and audio-visual designer at Schillers, their preferred AV partner. According to Rains, Schillers has helped maintain a high-quality experience in all of the university's classrooms and specialty spaces for many years, so they were confident the company could go the extra mile to find the best solution and deliver the cutting-edge AV experience they needed in the LARC.

For the classroom spaces, Lindenwood looked to Schillers to find a projection solution that provided a crisp, bright image in areas with an abundance of light.

"We really wanted to emphasize openness in the LARC, so as such, you'll see that many of the spaces are wide and open in their design with a lot of light which often times can cause challenges with projection," Rains said.

Chitwood, saw Da-Lite's ambient light rejecting (ALR) screen Parallax at InfoComm and was wowed by the performance. Parallax blocks up to 96% of ambient light while offering extremely wide viewing angles.

The original wish list of the client would have included large flat panel displays in each classroom. However, based on viewing distances and cost constraints, Chitwood knew he had to bring another option to the table. Initially, Chitwood kept an open mind and tried other ALR solutions. In the end, however, he was confident in the Parallax solution, both because of the performance and his longstanding relationship with Da-Lite.

The Schillers team implemented Parallax 0.8 in all 20 classroom spaces.

Results

The LARC opened in fall 2017 and received rave reviews from the Lindenwood community.

According to the Schillers team, installing the Parallax screens in the community spaces was a breeze, and the solutions performed exactly as expected.

"The first thing that I want to happen when I'm testing a system is to walk in and say, 'That's what I was going for, that's what I wanted to deliver to the client.' And Parallax did that," Chitwood said.

As for Lindenwood, the school was thrilled with Schiller's work and the performance of Parallax.

"The feedback has been very positive," Rains shared. "Often times I hear that it's better than an LCD or LED display. The crispness and vibrancy of the image is top notch."





TJ Rains, Lindenwood Vice President



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