

LCB Technology Update

June 2015

We have begun implementing a **Virtual Desktop Infrastructure program** to replace our existing student facing machines (labs, classroom, tutoring center, and research institute). Some of the benefits that we are working toward are as follows.

- We can quickly add software to the lab/classroom environment, where it was previously cumbersome and required reimaging. Minutes versus at minimum hours, and with just a logoff/logon to implement the updates.
- We can allow students to access lab software virtually from anywhere in the world. This also allows us to repurpose our physical lab spaces for one off software demonstrations and tests, as students needing lab resources are not inconvenienced when those events take place.
- We can provide high compute resource systems on an ad hoc basis to researchers needing to process large datasets.
- We have configured the system to be multi-tenant, allowing other units on campus to take advantage of the platform that we have built. The library is interested in utilizing it for the Pharos system, and others have expressed interest as well.
- In the long run we will have a lower TCO for the environment, allowing us to focus spending on other areas.

We are utilizing **BlueJeans, a hosted web conferencing service**, for a multitude of student facing items.

- We are conferencing classes between Bend and Portland for our Executive MBA program, and have used it to bring in students who were facing weather difficulties.
- We have conferenced in speakers from companies and other institutions to provide valuable content to our students. For example, last week the CEO of T-Mobile was a guest speaker in one of our classes.
- Our Career Services area utilizes it to host recruiters and who may not otherwise have a presence in Eugene.
- Both the MBA and SPM programs are utilizing the tool for recruiting.