

Clarke Theater Technology Being able to work wi

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to:

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Cc:

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Mike -

Per our conversation, the last round of audio purchases will close out the update of the Clarke Theater sound system.

At this point, we have replaced the audio console and associated input and output boxes, the signal processing system and the majority of the speakers in the theater.

As part of the chiller replacement project, we also replaced the vast majority of the fiber, copper and network infrastructure in the building, much of this was done to support our move to fully digital audio and network distribution of theatrical lighting control.

The last round of purchases added input and output cards to the stage box on stage, added some additional signal processing engines to the console itself, and replaced all the power amplifiers for the space. The signal processing engines were especially important, because we couldn't add enough effects in the console (i.e. reverb) to support some of the student a cappella groups that perform as part of the music program.

The only open issue on the audio side will be an evaluation of our existing wireless microphone system, which presently consists of 24 channels of wireless mics, once again used by student performance groups. In the next year or so, the FCC will be repacking the channel spectrum in Los Angeles, this has the potential of drastically reducing the amount of spectrum for our mic systems, which use the "white space" in the current television spectrum to broadcast their signals. By switching to digital microphone transmitters, we will be able to pack more channels into less spectrum, with the added benefit of keeping the whole signal chain of the wireless mics in the digital domain. I couldn't even begin to guess on the cost for this change, but it will be in my PIE for next year.

Also, our wireless headset system in the building is actually operating in a frequency band that is technically no longer legal for our use. We haven't had any issues with this so far, but we may in the future, so I will include that in the wireless mic package as well.

We also have a rigging upgrade project running through scheduled maintenance this summer, this will add motorized line sets to the building for some of the heavier loads that we have on stage, this will be a great safety and operational improvement.

Finally, we hope to be running another scheduled maintenance project next year to replace the brains of our theatrical dimmer system and replace the primary lighting console in the Clarke.

Instruction just funded a new lighting console for the Studio Theater, so we will be in good shape in the lighting control world as well. Being able to team up with Facilities Management on these scheduled maintenance projects has been a HUGE plus for the building and further reinforces the teamwork principle in Administrative Services.

Bill