

Case study

University of Bath

Lumens[™]
Brighter Teaching

The University of Bath began upgrading all its teaching rooms in 2014. Lumens visualisers are to be found in the majority of teaching spaces after the University decided to include them as standard equipment.

Visualisers in action

The University of Bath is based in the historic city of Bath in the South West of England and is home to more than 15,000 students of 100 different nationalities as well as around 4,000 academic staff.

The University campus overlooks the City, a UNESCO World Heritage site, famous the world over for its Roman baths and elegant Georgian architecture, built from the distinctive honey-coloured Bath stone.

The University is also one of the largest installations of Lumens visualisers in the UK. To date more than 80 Lumens visualisers have been installed in seminar rooms and lecture theatres, after the University opted to make them standard equipment for all teaching spaces.

The Lumens visualisers serve as digital overheads, after the University said goodbye to some old-style analogue kit including many of its chalkboards and all overhead projectors, much beloved by many of the teaching staff.

Rob Hyde heads up the University of Bath AudioVisual team, responsible for new and old media systems including video conferencing, digital signage, lecture capture, IPTV and off-air recording.

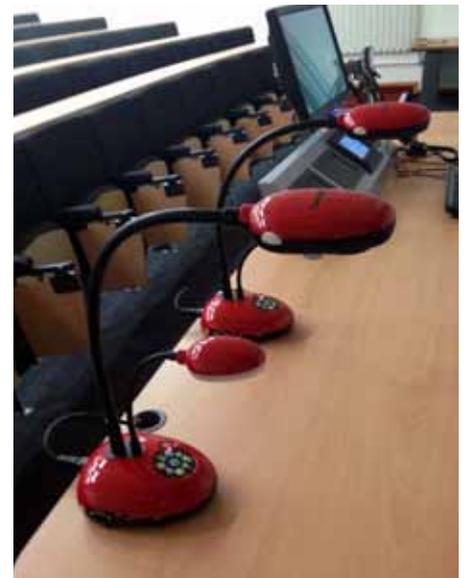


Digital overheads

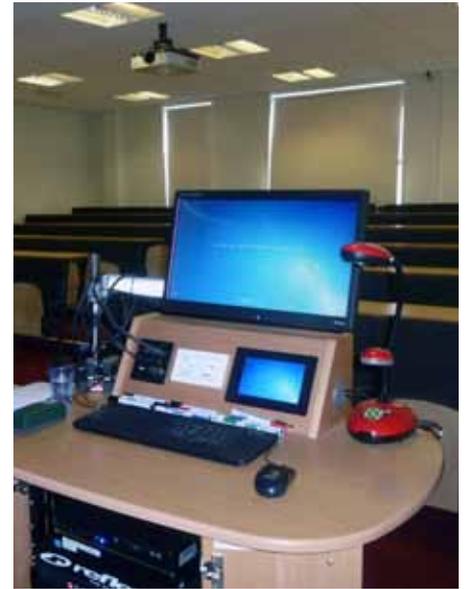
"It is essential lecturers can roll up and use these visualisers, or digital OHPs as we call them, in any room," Rob explains, "so we standardised on a single model to ensure consistency."

"Any lecturer can roll up to any one of the myriad of teaching rooms," he continues, "and be certain to find the same unit that works in same way."

After extensive research, Rob selected the Lumens DC192, a Full HD gooseneck visualiser with powerful 8x optical zoom, an adjustable LED side lamp to eradicate reflection, and autotune for quick and easy set-up.



www.lumenseu.com



Using visualisers as digital OHPs

Matching requirements

“The DC192 is easy to use,” Rob explains. “Set-up is automatic. Turn it on and then with one click of the autotune button, the visualiser will focus automatically and adjust the brightness and colour to suit the specific conditions – and it’s ready to use.”

Rob was also looking for a model that had VGA and HDMI inputs. This ensured that lecturers or students would be able to connect to legacy teaching spaces until those rooms are scheduled for refurbishment; and then work with the new digital setup once they are refurbished.

It needed to be Full High Definition (FHD), which is the resolution adopted as standard at the University and produce a good image, all of which the DC192 delivers.

Rob says even the bright red colour works in their favour:

“The colour wasn’t our first choice,” Rob explains, “but actually, the red

makes them instantly recognisable to all staff and students, so it worked in our favour.”

Excellence in teaching

Since 2012, the University has been engaged in a major campus investment programme to only grow campus capacity, providing additional residential and teaching space, equipped with innovative digital technologies.

The Lumens visualisers are being installed in all newly built and refurbished teaching spaces, which cater for a broad range of audience sizes, room layout and teaching styles, from formal lecture theatres to small seminar rooms and an active learning space.

In each, the visualiser sits on the lectern top, which includes a built-in preview screen so the lecturer can see at a glance what’s being displayed on the projection screen.

Larger lectern desks in lecture theatres are equipped with two visualisers the images from both of which can, with

Lumens visualisers are installed on lectern tops with preview monitors showing what’s displayed on the projection screen.



The DC192 have VGA and HDMI inputs to connect legacy and new devices.



some clever coding by Rob's team, be displayed side by side by a single projector:

Lecture content can also be captured, in most of the larger lecture facilities, using the University's lecture capture system, which records the live source.

Looking ahead

The Lumens visualisers are an integral part of the new technology being

deployed widely across the board at the University.

The new technology is accompanied by new furniture, lighting and decor with new muted colour schemes designed to set the appropriate atmosphere and focus the attention on the screen contents – all of which comprises the new design being rolled out across all teaching spaces in all of the campus buildings.



Clever coding by the Bath AV team enables images from the twin DC192 units in the larger lecture theatres to be displayed side by side by a single projector:



The first of the refurbished teaching spaces were unveiled to students at the start of the 2015/2016 academic term. The AV team provided drop-in days to enable staff to preview the new facilities and learn about the new equipment. Further support is available via the online user guides and in-house tech support provided by Rob's team.

Rob will also monitor usage, inviting student feedback and conducting research to assess the lecturer and student response.

Commitment to excellence

University of Bath is a top ten UK university with a reputation for research and teaching excellence and intends to keep it that way.

"For the coming year we have another five buildings to refurbish," Rob adds, "all of which will follow the same approach and design principles.

"We will continue to employ innovative digital technologies, so students get the best quality teaching and learning environment we can offer."

www.bath.ac.uk

About Lumens DC192

The Lumens DC192 has a Full HD camera and LED lamp mounted on a flexible neck with side lamp to ensure crisp, high quality images with vivid colour.

- one-click autotune for easy set-up
- LED side light prevent reflections
- flexible and jointless gooseneck gives 360° control
- Full High Definition resolution
- 30 frames per second for smooth dynamic images
- 8x optical zoom reveals fine detail