

Duquesne University



SUMMARY

• **LOCATION**

Pittsburgh, PA

• **FACILITY SCOPE**

Lecture theaters ranging from 100 to 300 seats

• **OBJECTIVES**

The College of Medicine wanted a microphone solution for each seat in the lecture theater without disrupting the class by having to pass microphones around.

• **BIAMP SOLUTIONS**

- Crowd Mics™

• **OUTCOME**

The College is well-equipped to meet the Q&A needs of students in the lecture theaters now and far into the future.

• **EQUIPMENT**

- Crowd Mics

Nestled in the Allegheny Mountains of western Pennsylvania, Duquesne University is a private Catholic research university with an enrollment of 6,000 undergraduates. The College of Medicine is opening an osteopathic medical school and identified a need to enhance the communication capabilities in their lecture halls. Ranging in size from 100 to 300 seats, the theater-style auditoriums are equipped with standard tablet/armchair seating. Even with acoustical treatments already in place, when filled the lecture theaters would have a significant amount of background noise that may make it difficult for students to be heard clearly when asking questions. Additionally, instructors may not be able to identify which student the question came from. Due to the dense nature of the subject material and limited instructional time, passing around wireless microphones was considered too much of a disruption.



Crowd Mics was very easy for the students to use without any instructions.

LAUREN TURIN

Director of Classroom Technology
Duquesne University

SOLUTION

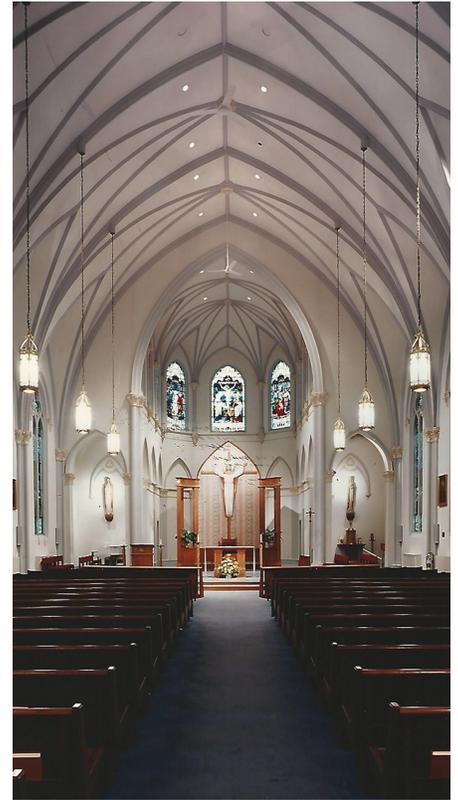
The initial request from the College of Medicine was to install individual microphones at each seat throughout the lecture theater. However, given the ubiquity of smartphone usage among college students, the university decided to explore a communication solution using already-familiar technology. Given the size of the user population, the university has deployed multiple VLANs to partition network traffic, so the microphone solution had to accommodate network traversal. "Students are on one VLAN and faculty staff are on another. So for universities to use it, the solution has to be able to work across VLANs seamlessly," said Todd Hughes, Senior Classroom Technologist at Duquesne. Crowd Mics fit the bill nicely.



CONCLUSION

Crowd Mics empowers audience interaction by putting a microphone in the pocket of every smartphone owner. The key to Crowd Mics adoption and acceptance at Duquesne was its simplicity. "Go to the app store, download Crowd Mics, and boom. The students already know how to do this and Crowd Mics was very easy for the students to follow without any instructions," said Lauren Turin, Director of Classroom Technology.

Crowd Mics provided a very cost-effective solution for enabling personal voice communications within lecture halls of varying size at Duquesne. Hughes confirmed "the price is absolutely right for what Crowd Mics can do and what it allows us to do in a large lecture hall."



ABOUT BIAMP

Biamp® is a leading provider of innovative, networked media systems that power the world's most sophisticated audiovisual installations.

Recognized worldwide for delivering high-quality products and backing each one with a commitment to exceptional customer service, Biamp's mission is connecting people through extraordinary audiovisual experiences.

Founded in 1976, Biamp is headquartered in Beaverton, Oregon, with offices and manufacturing facilities located around the world.

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