



Dynamic HyFlex Classrooms

UNC-CH SCHOOL OF EDUCATION | Chapel Hill, NC

THE CHALLENGE

UNC-CH School of Education wanted to provide the best education and learning experience for their students and the most effective teaching tools for their educators. Even before the pandemic drastically changed the face of education, UNC was encouraging their educators to think critically about implementing HyFlex (Hybrid/Flexible) methods. The challenge of engaging students had become more complicated, with increasing numbers of students joining the classroom remotely. Educators needed to equitably relate to both the in-person and remote students. KONTEK brought our expertise to the table and changed the game entirely with a custom implementation of AVoverIP.

OUR SOLUTION

Remote students need to be seen and heard in ways that allow the educator to interact with them directly and allow them to interact with every other student in the class, too. Using Extron NAV technology, we built two hyper-connected rooms where content shown on any display can be routed to any other display—even in different rooms. With four displays and four projectors in each room, and configurable furniture that can be arranged as needed, we had the hardware in place—but the back-end is where the magic is. Unlike anywhere else on UNC's campus, the educator can break out the students into multiple Zoom Rooms, taking full advantage of Zoom's capabilities.

The School of Education brought vision to the project, but KONTEK brought their expertise in the technologies available. Things got done the way KONTEK said they would get done.

— Calvin Groves

Director of Information Technology
UNC School of Education

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Fully scalable AVoverIP system.** Unlike previous systems that required heavy-duty equipment racks, AVoverIP is a light-weight, low-profile solution. When the School of Education wants to expand to new rooms or even across campus, they'll be ready.
- **Four projectors and four displays in each classroom,** and fully customizable through a user-friendly interface. There are pre-sets like "Basic" mode where everything comes up showing the same source on every screen. "Dual Content" mode shows one thing on the left display, another on the right. But these pre-sets just get the educator started—any arrangement of sources is possible with this system.
- **An iPad controller** provides an ultra-portable option for familiar Zoom Room control, regardless of where the educator moves. Total room control can also be accomplished when needed. Two more iPads, dedicated to Zoom Room control, are mounted at each breakout-capable display area.
- **Flawless and invisible audio management** ensures that the sonic complexity of multiple break-out Zoom Rooms is handled with precision. The zoned audio automatically accommodates the location of the speaker(s) and adjusts for individual voice levels.