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Technology and Teaching The Easy Button in the Classroom!

In today's classroom, there is an expectation that technology will be present. Technology and Information Services has been diligent to provide a technological presence in every classroom. Denton, Dallas, and Houston classrooms have AMX technology. This technology allows faculty to select what technology they would like use in the classroom. Through the interactive AMX touch panel, faculty select computer, document camera, DVD etc. They can also adjust the volume. What has really been wonderful is the direct connection to the I.T. Help Desk. When faculty push the Help button, the I.T. Help Desk is alerted. The IT Help Desk then interacts with the faculty. Sometimes the I.T. Help Desk can fix the problem right away and sometimes a classroom support representative needs to be called in. At any rate, for the faculty in the classroom help is just a touch away!

Clickers in the Classroom

Student learning outcomes are key to every faculty. How does a faculty member connect with their students in large classrooms? How do they keep students engaged? One particular tool at TWU is the Clicker technology. Clicker technology, also called classroom response systems, has been in use since the Fall of 2007 at TWU. These devices, resembling a remote control, help students answer questions or polls the instructor puts up on the screen. The student response is anonymously represented to the class in an opinion survey or the instructor can gather feedback pertinent to each student's comprehension of the material. The nice thing about the Clicker technology is that it frees up the student from being self-conscious. They don't have to raise their hand! They can participate and contribute through a variety of strategies with the Clickers, thus, each student easily connects with material and concept.

For more classroom technology news bytes visit <http://www.twu.edu/classroom-support/default.asp>

Or visit Kim Grover-Haskin, Ph.D. Director, Instructional Operations, to arrange a tour. kgroverhaskin@twu.edu, 940-898-3498