How Universities Are Using the **Meeting Owl**

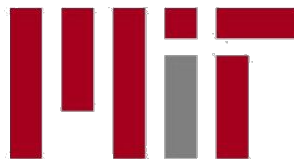# MIT Sloan: Connect a Distributed Team

Customer: Cyndi Chan Gately, Associate Director of Finance, Administration and Planning at the MIT Sloan School of Management.

What does your team do? We are the Office of Executive Education and are responsible for the non-degreed program that provides education to mid-level to senior-level executives.

How do you use the Meeting Owl? We use the Meeting Owl internally to better communicate with each other. Our Meeting Owl is part of any internal staff meeting where team members are attending remotely. We also use it for meetings with other MIT staff, faculty, and clients.

What does a typical meeting using the Meeting Owl look like? We typically have four to eight people in the room on campus with the Meeting Owl, and one to five people dialing in remotely.

Why is the Meeting Owl the solution for you? The Meeting Owl is significantly easier to use than our existing built-in room system. Both are available, but the Meeting Owl is easier to quickly start a meeting. It is also small enough to carry for when we have meetings in rooms that are not equipped with a built-in system.

MIT Massachusetts Institute of Technology

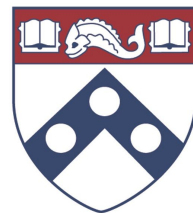# UPenn: Conduct Research With Other Universities

Customer: Frederic Bushman, Chairman of the Microbiology Department at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania

What does your team do? We conduct research across the field of microbiology.

How do you use the Meeting Owl? The Meeting Owl is available for teams to check out, and is used across the department by a number of different groups.

One of the the teams using it most heavily consists of five researchers on campus. This group is working with a number of other universities and international collaborators to research human gene therapy.

Why do you like the Meeting Owl in your classrooms? The Meeting Owl allows our remote contributors to better see and hear our researchers on campus, which leads to better and more productive conversations.

Kansas State: Enable Synchronous Distance Courses

Customer: Nate Scherman, IT Manager at the Kansas State University Olathe Campus.

What does your team do? We are responsible for supporting the IT and audio visual needs for the Olathe campus.

How do you use the Meeting Owl? We use the Meeting Owl primary for synchronous distance courses. Most often, we have eight to ten students in a classroom on campus, connecting to an instructor and other students at our main campus in Manhattan, KS.

We also have classes where the instructor and a handful of students are in a Olathe meeting room using the Meeting Owl to connect with 15+ remote students who are joining via their personal devices.

Why do you like the Meeting Owl in your classrooms? Over 85% of our classes meet with external instructors and/or students during the current Spring 2018 semester. The classes that use a Meeting Owl enjoy the improved interaction over a standard camera at the front of the room.

Additionally the ease of setup, portability, compatibility with Windows and Mac OS, and seamless integration with Zoom are all benefits of the Meeting Owl over the alternative solutions we also have at our campus.

KANSAS STATE
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USC: Collaborate in Theatrical Production Meetings

Customer: Els Collins, Associate Professor of Theater Practice and the Head of Production at the University of Southern California School of Dramatic Arts

What does your team do? We are responsible for producing 20 theatrical productions each year.

How do you use the Meeting Owl? The Meeting Owl is used by our on campus teams to collaborate with guest designers, as well as conduct interviews with prospective students.

What does a typical meeting using the Meeting Owl look like? A production meeting using the Meeting Owl will typically include two to fifteen students, staff and faculty in the room, and a remote guest designer.

Why is the Meeting Owl the solution for you? Before using the Meeting Owl, we would include our remote designers by holding up a cell phone. We would struggle to hear the person's voice, and the experience was alienating for them as their presence was minimized.

Since adding the Meeting Owl to our meetings, guest designers are able to effectively be at the production meetings even when they are remote. The sound quality and tracking of the speakers makes it more inclusive and it has dramatically improved our meetings.

USC School of Dramatic Arts

University of Kentucky: Support University Expansion

Customer: Stephen Welch, Manager of Academic Technology for the College of Medicine at the University of Kentucky.

What does your team do? We provide academic technology support for the medical school as well as web programming.

How do you use the Meeting Owl? We use the Meeting Owl for small meetings and small group teaching activities. We are expanding our medical school to remote campuses, and need to be able to easily communicate to remote locations.

As our expansion continues, we will be using the Meeting Owl for admission committee meetings, curriculum meetings, and also for student small group activities with remote learners.

Why do you like the Meeting Owl? Previously we had a different 360° solution which cost around $4,000. Our original plan was to outfit our small meeting rooms with three or four of these solutions, and we would move them around to rooms as we needed them.

When we tested the Meeting Owl, participants liked its automatic speaker focus and 360° panorama better than the more expensive alternative. The audio is also great. Due to its reasonable price, we decided to purchase ten Meetings Owls to outfit each small group room at our remote campus. We also have a couple at our main campus and will likely be purchasing more in the future.

Mount St. Joseph: Conduct Remote Interviews

Customer: Joe O'Neil, Client Service Representative in the media services group at Mount St. Joseph University

What does your team do? We are responsible for all mobile media support at the university. This include delivery, setup, testing, take down and storage of all media equipment.

How do you use the Meeting Owl? The Meeting Owl has been used for conducting interviews for positions at the university. Most recently this was for an open cabinet potion on our President's Cabinet board.

What does a typical meeting using the Meeting Owl look like? An interview with the Meeting Owl generally includes five to six search committee members and a hiring manager in the room, as well as the candidate who is being interviewed remotely.

Why is the Meeting Owl the solution for you? The Meeting Owl has two benefits. First, it allows us to use a smaller conference room where the search committee members can sit around a conference room table, as opposed to being lined up in front of a webcam. This gives a more natural feel to the meeting.

Second, there's less equipment to bring and less set up. We used to set up a webcam, tripod, USB extension cables, computer speakers and audio extension cables. We'd also had to rearranging the conference room furniture. Now we just bring the Meeting Owl and a computer.

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Chadron State College: Connect Classrooms

Customer: Jereme Patterson, IT Analyst with the Teaching and Learning Center of Chadron State College.

What does your team do? We are responsible supporting the technologies used in teaching and learning at Chadron State College. I provide oversight for the hardware and software used for synchronous learning on campus.

How do you use the Meeting Owl? The Meeting Owl provides several unique opportunities in education that we continue to explore. Thus far, we have used it in various team & department meetings in conference rooms as well as for distributed learning in classroom environments. It's been used across all academic departments including education, counseling, social work, math, and others.

What does a classroom using the Meeting Owl typically look like? A typical distributed learning classroom will have both faculty and students in the room, as well as remote students in virtually connected student classrooms. There are generally between 5 and 15 people in the room with the Meeting Owl and anywhere from 1 to 10 remote students in multiple locations.

Why do you like the Meeting Owl in your classrooms? The voice-tracking camera functionality is non-distracting and it eliminates the need for traditional (often complex) PTZ controls. In addition, the integrated speaker creates an all-in-one device that is both portable and cos