STRENGTHENING YOUR CAMPUS INFRASTRUCTURE: WHERE TO START

New uses for technology are surfacing in higher education —digital learning, 5G, Internet of Things, in-flight security — that push standard networks to the wall. Here's what *Campus Technology* learned when we asked IT, security and other college and university professionals about the current state of their institution's networking infrastructure and how well positioned it is for supporting next-generation demands.

SECURITY, BANDWIDTH AND ADAPTIVITY LEAD...

Where do you want to strengthen your network?

1 Cybersecurity

2 WiFi

3 Capacity

4 Adaptability

...WITH AGILITY AND FACILITY ON THE WISHLIST

What campus respondents said: "I want to:

- ...quickly accommodate new service requests"
- ...reallocate capacity on demand"
- ...master micro-segmentation"
- ...enhance remote site connections"
- ...get more bandwidth and manage it properly"

NETWORK TRAFFIC DEMANDS NOW & ON THE HORIZON

Traffic for operational activities will be replaced by a mix of traffic dedicated to learning and operations.

	Top Consumption Today	Where Growth Will Be Greatest in 1 Year	Where Growth Will Be Greatest According to IT Roles
1	Student learning data	Streaming video	Voice-over IP
2	Streaming video	Student learning data	Streaming video
3	Virtual conferencing	Virtual conferencing	Student learning data
4	Voice-over IP	Training simulations	Virtual conferencing
5	Surveillance cameras	Virtual reality	Surveillance cameras

INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING

9 Most Common Topics Showing up in Network Strategic Planning

1. Cloud services
2. Managed WiFi
3. Disaster recovery
4. Voice-over-IP
5. Big data analytics
6. Managed IT services
7. Fiber infrastructure
8. Unified communications
9. IoT support

WHERE'S THE BUDGET? (AND OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE CHALLENGES)

No. 1 Budget Issue

For **7 in 10** institutions, budgetary constraints reign supreme as the top challenge; that's at the top of the list for 75% of IT roles and 62% of non-IT roles.

	All Colleges	2-year	4-year public	4-year private
UP	12%	6%	31%	9%
FLAT	61%	50%	57%	74%
DOWN	27%	44%	12%	17%

While **2-year colleges** are losing budget ground, **4-year publics** are gaining

For **2 in 10** institutions, hurdles also include:

- Lack of IT people with the right knowledge or experience
- Non-stop phishing/ransomware/data breaches
- Siloed operations
- Governance
- Too many manual processes
- Limited network capacity

THE SOLUTION: PREPARE FOR THE LONG RUN!

Infrastructure modernization is **no longer a one-step process**. Choose an adaptive network solution that...

- Emphasizes open standards to work with what you have in place.
- Prioritizes flexibility to accommodate what you will need in the future.
- Focuses on opex requirements, not just one-time capex restrictions.
- Delivers management automation through data intelligence, software control and a programmable interface.
- Can continue accelerating to keep pace with your ever-changing needs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

http://www.centurylink.com/public-sector/discover/smart-campus.html
https://www.ciena.com/insights/research-education/