



University of Illinois, Campus Instructional Facility

Photo Credit Ethan Buti

PRODUCT

Planar TVF Series

LOCATION

Urbana, Illinois

INDUSTRY

Education

APPLICATION

Student Experience
Presentation System

PARTNERS

C.V. Lloyd Audiovisual

Versatile LED Video Wall Enhances University of Illinois' Campus Instructional Facility

Opened in Fall 2021 on the campus of the University of Illinois, the Campus Instructional Facility (CIF) is a 124,000-square-foot building featuring innovative designs and the latest in classroom technologies to support active teaching and collaboration. Spanning five floors, the CIF offers capacity for over 2,400 students and features 23 flexible learning classrooms tailored for small group discussions, student engagement and peer-to-peer interaction.

The facility includes collaboration spaces on every floor as well as an in-the-round classroom that is designed to foster a more intimate setting for lectures. One of the key features of the building is the Monumental Study Steps, a two-story open study space for students to meet with groups or study individually. The centerpiece of the area is a large-scale LED video wall from Planar. Installed by AV designer and integrator C.V. Lloyd Audiovisual, the display is massive 36-foot-wide, 14.5-foot-high (18x13) Planar® TVF Series LED video wall with a 1.8mm pixel pitch (TVF1.8).

“The CIF is a very dynamic and unique space and the video wall at the Monumental Study Steps has contributed to the dynamic atmosphere of the building,” said University of Illinois CIF Manager Eric Vetter.



A Multitude of Uses

According to Vetter, the primary, day-to-day application of the Planar LED video wall is to serve as a digital message center for student communications including highlighting news and events taking place in the CIF and around campus. In the evenings and weekends, the video wall provides a vibrant canvas for Fighting Illini and Big Ten sports in addition to other types of programming and special events.

The Monumental Study Steps functions as a hub for large events and Vetter said the ability to use the Planar video wall as a backdrop presents a great advantage. Additionally, by routing classroom camera streams and content to the video wall, the space can be used to support class overflow. "We've also hosted end-of-semester class sessions in the Monumental Study Steps with students presenting projects on the video wall," Vetter said. "People can connect wirelessly and the display has multiple configurations. The Planar® WallDirector™ user interface makes it easy to create a custom layout on the fly."



“The size of the display combined with the crisp image brings a great ‘wow’ factor.”

— Eric Vetter,

Campus Instructional Facility Manager, University of Illinois

The CIF is certified as LEED Platinum owing to several energy-efficient and sustainable designs. Among these is a geothermal exchange system, which lowers the energy demand to heat and cool the building. In the future, Vetter envisions incorporating a live energy dashboard on the video wall to display real-time data associated with the geothermal system.

“We continue to find new and unique ways to use the video wall,” he said. “The size of the display combined with the crisp image brings a great ‘wow’ factor.”

About the Planar TVF Series

The Planar TVF Series is an award-winning family of fine pitch LED video wall displays that provide visual excellence for every application. Featuring a cableless and stackable design, Planar TVF Series video walls are assembled with a single-step process to connect embedded power and signal connectors from cabinet to cabinet, reducing the complexity of installation and vertical alignment. With front serviceability and a slim profile of less than three inches, the Planar TVF Series reduces the overall video wall footprint and servicing space required behind the wall—making it simpler to fit in more spaces compared to other video wall solutions.



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