TOP 6 ISSUES FACING HIGHER EDUCATION WI-FI NETWORKS

Managing a college or university’s always-on Wi-Fi® network can be a challenging endeavor for IT professionals. From students, staff and visitors with their diverse range of devices to the sprawl of the campus infrastructure over hundreds of acres, the demands on an IT department are considerable. To maintain a robust and reliable network requires constant vigilance and stamina. Following are our top six issues and how RUCKUS Networks solutions can alleviate them.

1. **Limited personnel**
   
   In a world where “do more with less” has become the norm, university IT departments are challenged with a staff that’s small, remote or both. RUCKUS AI™ is like your virtual assistant that never quits. This AI-driven network assurance and business intelligence platform enables you to easily manage a converged multi-access public and private enterprise network, make better business decisions and deliver exceptional user experiences—all from a single pane of glass.

2. **Bandwidth bottlenecks**

   What’s the use of having high-speed internet delivered over fiber backbone if it can’t sustain the performance? With the RUCKUS ICX® family of form-factor switches, higher-ed IT departments can benefit from a low-latency, non-blocking architecture that provides excellent throughput for the most demanding applications. Best of all, these high-performance, stackable switches are easily upgradable.

3. **Outdoor connectivity**

   Whether they’re roaming from building to building or from one side of the campus to the other, students and staff alike demand non-stop connectivity. RUCKUS® access points (APs) feature BeamFlex®, a smart antenna system that utilizes multiple high-gain polarization diverse antenna elements with patented software algorithms to deliver the strongest signal performance at any given location to evolve with change over time.

4. **Indoor interference**

   When a vast number of client devices move throughout a large campus building, devices can encounter a number of obstacles that reduce their signal strength, including co-channel interference. With RUCKUS Dynamic RF Management (DRFM), APs automatically adjust their settings to provide the best possible Wi-Fi performance, regardless of location. RUCKUS offers a broad range of interference mitigation solutions, including Cloud Based Radio Resource Management (C-RRM), which optimizes RF channel selection based on the number of neighboring APs and the historical capacity of each channel.

5. **Instant onboarding**

   Accessing the campus network can sometimes become a frustrating challenge that can create a pile of support tickets. RUCKUS Cloudpath® Enrollment System, campus IT professionals can seamlessly onboard thousands of devices (for BYOD, guest, and IT-owned devices) using the latest security techniques.

6. **Device security**

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   With each new school year comes a deluge of student devices—from Xbox and PlayStation consoles to smart TVs and smartwatches—not to mention smartphones, laptops, tablets and printers. The RUCKUS Dynamic PSK™ system enhances security access by automating the provisioning of unique per-user or per-device encryption keys.

Ready for a network that’s easier to manage and maintain? Visit us online to learn more about how our innovations were created to make your life easier.