

## At A Glance

### Washington State University



**WHERE:** WSU Tri-Cities Campus in Richland, WA  
**WHEN:** Installed 2016  
**WHAT:** Three FSR HuddleVU Collaboration Systems;  
Two Dugout models and one standard HuddleVU  
**WHO:** Aaron Brumbaugh, Director of Campus  
Information Technology and Veterans Advisory  
Coordinator

### Challenge

Washington State University (WSU) is committed to providing an extraordinary student experience that includes a vast range of academic programs, small class size, and a creative and supportive learning environment. The school recently decided to create a dedicated area on its Tri-Cities Campus located in Richland, WA where students and faculty could work on projects together, collaborate with others outside of their majors, conduct study groups and host small classes. The space, named the "Student Success Center" located on the second floor of the library, would include both writing and learning centers and would offer collaboration stations for the students and faculty.

Working within a tight timeframe - initial designs, approvals, equipment, material orders and installations had to be complete and ready for use before the fall semester. The school's IT department, headed by director Aaron Brumbaugh, sought a solution that could be installed swiftly and utilized with little or no training. Equipment also needed to be programmed easily and changed quickly if necessarily.

### Solution

Brumbaugh discovered FSR's HuddleVU family of collaboration products when he tasked the school's Integrated Academic Technology department supervisor, Dave Fassler, with finding a table box that would allow students to connect and display their personal devices on a monitor. Initially Fassler was happy to discover FSR's HV-T6-Flex collaboration system on the Company's website, but upon further investigation he struck gold when he uncovered FSR's complete HuddleVU range and knew he had found the perfect solutions.

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Brumbaugh and his team selected and installed two Dugout models with dual monitors that could each seat up to 12 users in the school's "Student Success Center", and a single monitor HuddleVU solution on the same floor in an adjacent area

WSU's Tri-Cities IT and Facilities staffs worked together to accomplish a straightforward installation that took approximately one week from the time the units were delivered to the time they were put into use. All components and instructions were included for the team to easily assemble all 3 systems, install and wire the electronics and program the FLEX control panels.

"Although FSR tech support was always available, there wasn't a need for it," said Brumbaugh, "If we had a question that Gina Sansivero – FSR Director of Business Development, Education - could not answer, she asked an engineer who responded quickly with a solution. The only time that FSR tech support was contacted was when Dave Fassler took a FLEX controller training session, and the trainer was very knowledgeable. We knew that we could call if we ran into any problems, but we did not have any issues with installation."

## Results

"The students, faculty and staff really enjoy the units and many times throughout the day all three are in use," says Brumbaugh. "Within five minutes of our first demo to a group of staff and faculty, that same group moved to another HuddleVU station and had a meeting using the system."

"Since the units have been installed, they have been used every day that the space is open, including spring break. We have had groups of students using them to study, watch recorded lectures, and eat lunch while watching YouTube or a movie from their laptop. Faculty has held breakout sessions, office hours, study groups, and even a small class. The staff has used them to hold small meetings."





Brumbaugh also credits the FSR team and its invaluable support, following the purchase of the systems. *“I have had no problems, but whenever we needed anything at all, the entire FSR team was very responsive throughout the entire purchase and installation process.”*

*“The systems are great,” adds Brumbaugh. “More than I expected. From a ‘programming of the touch panel’ standpoint, they are much more elaborate than I’d expected.”*

*“We were trying to find a collaboration station that didn’t require special instructions for the end users,” emphasizes Brumbaugh. “We found that with these units. Our students, staff and faculty simply walk up, open the FLEX cover and use the systems. After the first day, the units were operational and my Integrated Academic Technology department has not had a single call asking for help using any of the HuddleVU systems. To me, that equates to a very successful project.”*

## Looking Forward

Brumbaugh says that WSU would really like to see more of the collaboration units installed around campus, and that he has already been thinking of areas where he could place single monitor HuddleVU stations.

## About the HuddleVU System

The HuddleVU system allows for multiple users to share and view their laptops, tablets, and smart phone screens on a main display. Unlike conventional presentation systems, anyone participating can be a presenter or a member of the audience at any given time at the push of a button. LED's indicate which user is currently active and when the system is busy.



The “Dugout” features expanded seating; up to 12 users can be accommodated and share their information on one or two large monitor screens. The dual height tables seat the users at two viewing levels to maximize space, reduce visual obstructions and provide seating comfort.

## About Flex

The Flex-LT is a self-contained control system that has a vast number of features and an appealing price point. The unit presents an easy-to-use color touch screen that enables users to choose and control the source, change the volume and much more! Using the built in scheduler, the Flex-LT can automatically shut off displays that have been accidentally left on and also alert the support staff if there is an issue.

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## About FSR

FSR established in 1981, manufactures a wide variety of signal management and infrastructure solutions for the AV/IT Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), corporate, education, hospitality, government and religious markets. Products include floor, wall, table and ceiling connectivity boxes and wireways, as well as a full line of interfaces, distribution amplifiers, matrix switchers, seamless scaling switchers and HDBaseT signal delivery solutions. FSR offers live 24/7 technical and sales support throughout the country from expertly trained technicians and sales representatives. The Company is also an HDBaseT Alliance Adopter Member.

**For more info: [fsrinc.com](http://fsrinc.com).**



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