

University of Massachusetts Medical School

eScholarship@UMMS

---

Library Posters and Presentations

---

2000-05-01

## Laptops: No Dragon Wires with Wireless Technology

Deborah Sibley

*Thomas Jefferson University*

*Et al.*

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Follow this and additional works at: [https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/lib\\_postpres](https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/lib_postpres)



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

---

### Repository Citation

Sibley D, Piorun ME. (2000). Laptops: No Dragon Wires with Wireless Technology. Library Posters and Presentations. <https://doi.org/10.13028/zaz7-8t89>. Retrieved from [https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/lib\\_postpres/1](https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/lib_postpres/1)

Creative Commons License



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 License](#).

This material is brought to you by eScholarship@UMMS. It has been accepted for inclusion in Library Posters and Presentations by an authorized administrator of eScholarship@UMMS. For more information, please contact [Lisa.Palmer@umassmed.edu](mailto:Lisa.Palmer@umassmed.edu).

# Laptops: No Dragon Wires with Wireless Technology



**MLA/CHLA 2000  
Vancouver, B.C.**

**The Lamar Soutter Library  
University of Massachusetts Medical School**



# Why Wireless?

- Wireless: Inexpensive, Easy to Install, Easy to Maintain.
- Exceeded the Number of Physical Network Ports Available
- Needed to Increase the Number of Network Connections in the Library

# Implementation Time Line

## January 1999

- Discussions with IS
- Identified Equipment Needs
- Identified Vendors

## February 1999

- Wireless Quotes Received
- Wireless Vendor Selected
- Laptops Ordered

## March 1999

- Network Specifications Received
- Wireless Equipment Ordered

## April 1999

- Laptop Use Policy Written & Approved
- Discussions with Students Held
- Layout of Network Mapped
  - Additional Work Needed
    - Power & Cabling to Power Access Point
- Storage Cabinets Ordered & Received





## May 1999

- Laptops Arrive and are Imaged
- Training Program Developed
  - Staff & Students
- Network Layout Finalized
- Accessories Purchased

## June 1999

- Rollout
- Student Training

# What We Have

- 5 Access Points with Antenna
  - 2 Installed
- 30 Network Cards
- 29 Laptops
  - 25 IBM 770X Think Pads
  - 4 Power Book Macs
- 29 Carry Cases
- 58 Power Cords
- 2 Storage Cabinets



**Network: \$18,000**

**Laptops: \$112,000**

**Total Cost: \$130,000**

# Selecting Hardware

- Cabletron Wireless Solutions
  - IS Department Made Recommendation
  - School uses 100% Cabletron Network Products
  - Functionality
  - Committed to being Standards Compliant
  - Competitive Pricing
- 2 MB Network Cards
  - New Product: 10 MB.

# Setting Up Hardware

- Installation of Access Points
  - Network Connection
  - Network Card
  - Antenna
  - Electrical Connection
- Placement for Optimal Coverage

# How it Works

The wireless network is integrated into the regular school network. The access point is a node on the physical network, all devices connect to it via 2Mbits wireless connections. Traffic is passed to the single 10Mb connection at the access point.

# Policy Highlights

- Must be a Student of UMass - Medical School
- 3 Hour Circulation, 1 Renewal
- User Sign a Use Agreement Form
- User is Responsible for any Damage or Theft
- Laptops Can Not Leave the Library
- Fines



# Training

- Circulation Staff
  - Circulation Policy & Procedures
  - Over View of Machines
    - Checkout and Storage.

# Training

- Reference Staff
  - Circulation Policy
  - Overview of Machines
  - First Line of User Assistance.
- Students
  - Circulation Policy
  - Overview of Machines.

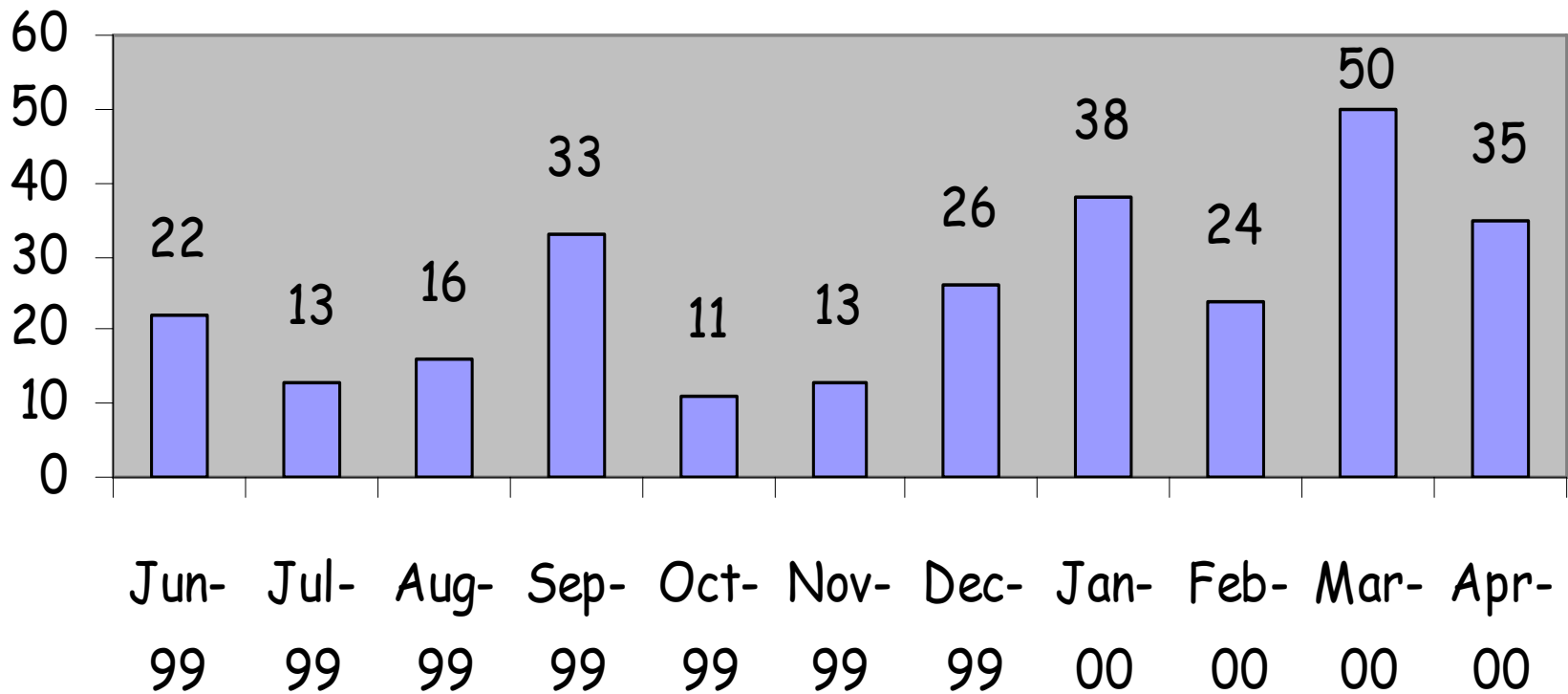
# Rollout

- Presented the Project Policies at a Student Council Meeting
- Advertised via Posters and E-Mail
- Offered Training Classes

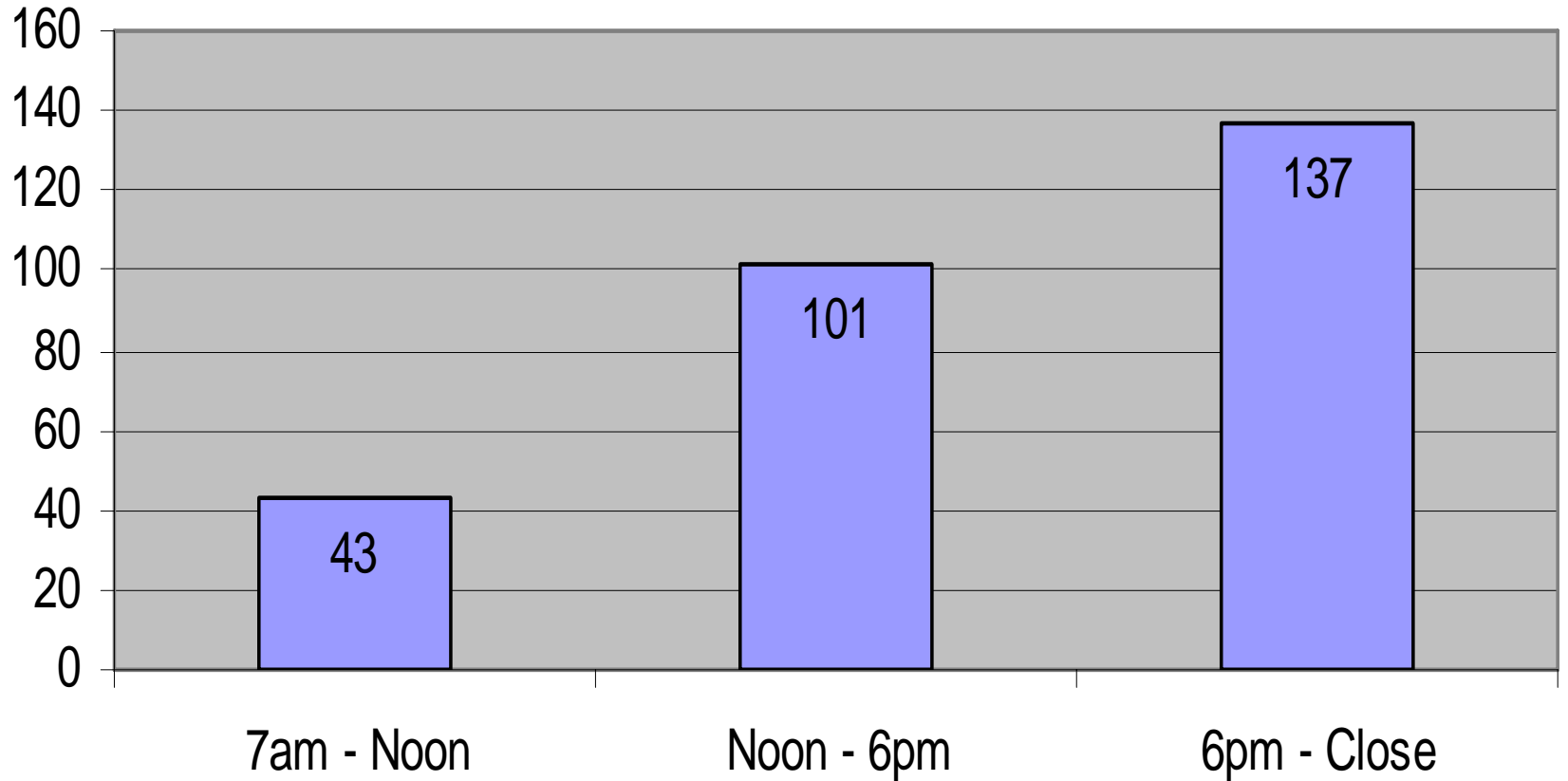
# Statistics

- Gathered from the Use Agreement Form
- Stored in an Access Database
- Gauge success of Program

## Circulations to Date : 281



# Time Usage



# Changes to Program

- Increased Circulation time from 2 hours to 3 hours
- Able to Circulate Mac Laptop on the Wireless Network

# Unexpected Benefits

- Laptops are Fastest Machines in the Library
- High Student use During Exam Time
- Laptops are not "Locked Down"
- Expanded to a Faculty Loan Program
- Staff Usage
  - Training Sessions, Demos, Meetings



# Future Plans

- Expand the Coverage Area
- Upgrade Software for Access Points and Drivers
- Upgrade to 10MB Cards
- Continue Promoting the Program

# Additional Information

- [mary.piorun@umassmed.edu](mailto:mary.piorun@umassmed.edu)
- [maryann.slocomb@umassmed.edu](mailto:maryann.slocomb@umassmed.edu)
- [deborah.sibley@umassmed.edu](mailto:deborah.sibley@umassmed.edu)

<http://library.umassmed.edu/~mpiorun/mla2000.html>

PowerPoint Slides and Laptop Policy