

State-of-the-Art Meteorology Classroom

Over the summer, one of Millersville's meteorology classrooms received an impressive upgrade that elevated its status to state-of-the-art. Our students now have access to a cutting-edge learning environment that merges content, visualizations, and virtual collaboration into a truly integrated classroom experience.



This new capability was made possible through the combined vision of members of the IT department and the Department of Earth Sciences. The new ©Oblong Industries Inc. Mezzanine 3™ System is a software that controls eight seamless monitors, a smart screen known as the corkboard, and a white board with projection capability. The Mezzanine systems emerged from the gesture-based interface created for director Steven Spielberg and used by Tom Cruise in the popular 2002 cyber-thriller *Minority Report*. A new desktop PC powers the whole system, which also includes two touch-screen monitors for console-level control by the instructor, and two remote wands for gesture-based control.

“Instructors and students can now share multiple streams of live content from multiple locations, all at the same time,” explains Dr. Richard Clark, Chair of the Earth Sciences Department. “This provides opportunities for pedagogical innovation and makes possible more effective ways of learning. We are still fascinated by its capability and continue to explore new ways to excite students with this technology, says Clark.”