

OLLI @ GMU
AV Support Committee

December 2009 Update

Things have been pretty quiet on the AV front since the installation of music quality speakers in TA3 on November 16th. Several [pictures](#) that Carol Rosenhock took of that effort are on the committee web site. Like all such tasks, it seemed to take about twice as long as planned, but the results look pretty good, IMHO, and we shouldn't have to worry about anyone bumping into the speakers – barring visits by NBA players.

Carol's also prepared a [drawing of the Reston audio AV connections](#), since the upgrade of systems there this Fall, accessible on the web site.

New Equipment: Two local computer groups, [NCTCUG](#) and [WACUG](#), have partnered with OLLI in the purchase of audio equipment as a “proof of concept” trial for use with “collaboration / remote meeting / distance learning” technology.

These items include a Phonic AM 442D audio mixer, a JK Audio THAT-2 telephone tap / audio hybrid, and several audio connecting cables to get audio signals in and out of the hybrid and laptop computers. Manuals for these items will be linked from the AV Support Committee web site. Photos of the new equipment will be found in the matrix with the user manuals.

I've found several web sites with worthwhile explanations about using audio mixers:

<http://www.mediacollege.com/audio/mixer/>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xdq7KI19MdU>

Wireless Mic Systems: We've recently acquired three Audio Technica 3000 series mic systems, and two more have been ordered, which should be received before year-end. These purchases will put the same, current technology system in all our classrooms, and reduce the training and support issues of having three different systems in active use at the same time across OLLI. A manufacturer's \$30 rebate per system was part of the reason for acquiring these systems this year. Systems will be installed as follows:

Head-worn mics: Reston, Rm. 2, Loudoun 1 & 2, Tallwood TA2

Hand-held mic: Tallwood “Road show” kit

Acquiring the second hand-held system for the “road show” gear was suggested as a way to improve programs at the Church of the Good Shepherd (CGS) during the speaker installation session noted above. We'll acquire access to an input to the CGS sound system, and send the output of the “road show” mixer to that input. We'll then be able to hook up the presenter with a head-worn or lapel / lavalier mic, and have two hand-held systems to cover the audience, during the Q&A. Please volunteer to assist Bill Walsh as a “mic runner” if you're taking those classes.

A possible use for the replaced mic systems might be to install them in a portable case, and use them for presentations by the OLLI Players / Reader's Theater, such as at the annual Holiday party.