



The University Of Toledo Deploys Room Booking Technology From NFS



The UT Health Science Campus Inter-professional Immersive Simulation Center™ (IISCTM) effectively manages and schedules training facilities, classrooms, and simulation equipment to turn out some of the country's best-educated healthcare professionals.

The Health Science Campus at the University of Toledo is home to the UT Medical Center Hospital and clinics, as well as many of UT's health-science research and education programs. The Health Science Campus strives to provide compassionate and cost-effective patient care while serving as a diverse, student-centered public research university with an over-arching goal of The University of Toledo to 'improve the human condition'.

The IISCTM is a 12,000 sq.ft. training facility located on The University of Toledo's Health Science Campus. This facility is designed to train all levels of healthcare professionals and students and incorporates inter-professional collaboration. However, there was a need to schedule the training spaces more efficiently.

The requirement to streamline the scheduling of rooms for training and meeting purposes was evident. Ben Stobbe, Administrative Director & Business Manager of the IISCTM, was determined to improve the scheduling and management of the facility, and he thought back to how he implemented this at another similar simulation training center.

Stobbe decided that what worked so well at his previous job – the room and resource scheduling software solution from NFS called **Rendezvous** – would work equally well for the IISCTM. Rendezvous not only schedules the room, it automatically releases the room when training sessions or meetings are finished thanks to **sensors**. In addition, Rendezvous offers options to set-up lighting, control temperature, lower window shades, order catering and bring remote offices into the session by **video conferencing** seamlessly for a timely start.

At UT, Stobbe wanted to move away from using printed paper for the scheduling process, improve internal communications among the scheduling team, and simplify the way people made scheduling requests and invited attendees – all of which can be done through **Outlook or Exchange** with Rendezvous. He turned to the NFS Professional Services team to provide best-practices guidance and back it up with solid technology.

The UT- IISCTM has training facilities, classrooms, and simulation equipment, all of which are in use constantly.

Natalie Appleton, Head of US Operations at NFS, says, "Stobbe particularly liked the fact that the simulation equipment could be effectively managed and scheduled in one system, alongside the more typical meeting and classroom space."

The simulation equipment is used by multiple healthcare students to help them train and provide a life-like experience as they learn to perform clinical procedures.

Since Rendezvous has the ability to manage any type of space as well as any type of resource, Stobbe and his colleagues felt it was flexible enough to support their unique equipment and set-up requirements. In fact, it was just a simple matter of configuring the simulation equipment into the **Rendezvous** database so it could be scheduled for use as needed.

Granular user rights, business rules, and other parameters can be put in place in **Rendezvous** in order to support the internal business processes and scheduling environment that best suits the Health Science Campus. UT's faculty, staff, and students will use the **Rendezvous** Self-Service module which allows them to request simulation equipment, along with training rooms and other space and resources available to them. Everyone involved in the scheduling process, including meeting hosts and attendees, as well as Stobbe's staff, will now benefit from streamlined operations and increased productivity – and substantial time savings.

"Management and utilization reports will be critical to insure the efficient use of the IISCTM facilities and resources", comments Natalie. Standard reports within **Rendezvous**, along with a query tool, will guarantee that Stobbe's team can easily access the data they need in order to make informed decisions about their facilities."

The IISCTM also looks forward to a speedy return on investment, with the **Rendezvous** system expected to pay for itself many times over within just the first year of use.