

## Evaluation of IVC's Wireless Network

**Goal:** To develop a campus-wide wireless network that would be available for students, faculty, and staff.

**Timeline:** The project was to be completed by Fall 2009

**Evaluators:** According to the 2009-11 Technology Master Plan, the Distance Education Committee would evaluate the network no later than Fall 2009

**Process:** The DE Committee discussed the network at its December 3, 2009, meeting.

**Evaluation:** The committee was happy that the network was in place. For many years, IVC lacked wireless network, and its absence hindered the use of technology on the part of faculty and students alike. The committee was also pleased that the network was secured, accessible only by employees and students. There was also a high-level secure network available to staff, faculty, and administrators exclusively

The committee expressed its concern regarding the wireless network. The initial goal was for a campus-wide network. However, the network that was unveiled in Fall 2009 was not campus-wide. Significant portions of the campus—including many classrooms—are outside wireless range.

Further, many committee members expressed confusion over the login process, particularly with the IVC Wireless (accessible for students and staff alike). It was also felt that more training in how to login—especially training for students—would help make the network more popular and better utilized.

**Conclusion and Recommendations:** The network is in place, it works, and it is being used. These are positives for the college. However, the network does not cover all areas of campus, and the login process needs to be better explained to users.