

CASE STUDY

THE UCLA ANDERSON SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

CHALLENGE

UCLA's Anderson School needed a wireless solution to blanket their campus while allowing faculty to control Internet access to individual classrooms. The solution needed to come in at a price that would not exceed a publicly-funded budget.

"5G Wireless made it happen, addressed everyone's requirements for the project, and made us look good in the process. Now we have an infrastructure that went from behind the curve to leading edge, in just a matter of days."

Bruce Willison, Dean of UCLA Anderson School

Learning and communications just became a lot easier at UCLA's business school! 5G Wireless provided this leading academic institution with a complete Wi-Fi solution. One 5G Wireless G-Force™ Base Station tuned to the school's boundaries covers all classrooms and common areas. The single rooftop-mounted radio provides full bandwidth coverage to 1,000+ simultaneous users inside and outside school buildings. A second group of Indoor Stations were installed inside 14 classrooms, enabling faculty to locally control Internet access. 5G Wireless provided UCLA with the system, a one year warranty, and a three year maintenance contract, saving the school tens of thousands of dollars in acquisition and radio maintenance costs. Strong performance advantages made it easy for UCLA to select 5G Wireless over brand name alternatives.



The UCLA Anderson School of Management was the first graduate business school to offer a fully wired campus when it moved into new facilities in 1995. The six building facility features eleven state of the art multi-level case study style classrooms, three flat classrooms, an auditorium and numerous breakout rooms, students and teacher lounges, indoor and outdoor common areas.

With the new facility opening prior to the Wi-Fi age, there were no immediate plans to go wireless. However, student demand for the convenience of wireless communications grew louder year by year until the IT department, led by Dr. Jason Frand, knew it had to act.

The school's professors acknowledged that wireless communications would allow students and faculty to operate and collaborate more effectively. However, several of the faculty were concerned about teaching students that might surf the Internet or check e-mails while in class.



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Moreover, "radio silence" was imperative during final exams, when professors felt it would be too easy for students to look up answers on the Internet. Still, the rest of the school was clamoring for "always on" capability, while the administration was in the midst of a severe budget crunch due to state cutbacks in the publicly funded portion of the school's budget.

5G Wireless' initial on-site demonstration showcased the coverage area and data rates. A G-Force Base Station with a single panel antenna was mounted in a non-optimal location and still provided coverage and simultaneous user capacity for the entire six-building campus, both indoors and outdoors. Full data rates were achieved through several walls as measured by a laptop with a standard 802.11b Wi-Fi PC card. Connections were achieved a quarter mile south of the campus, transmitting through two brick walls, interior structures and trees.

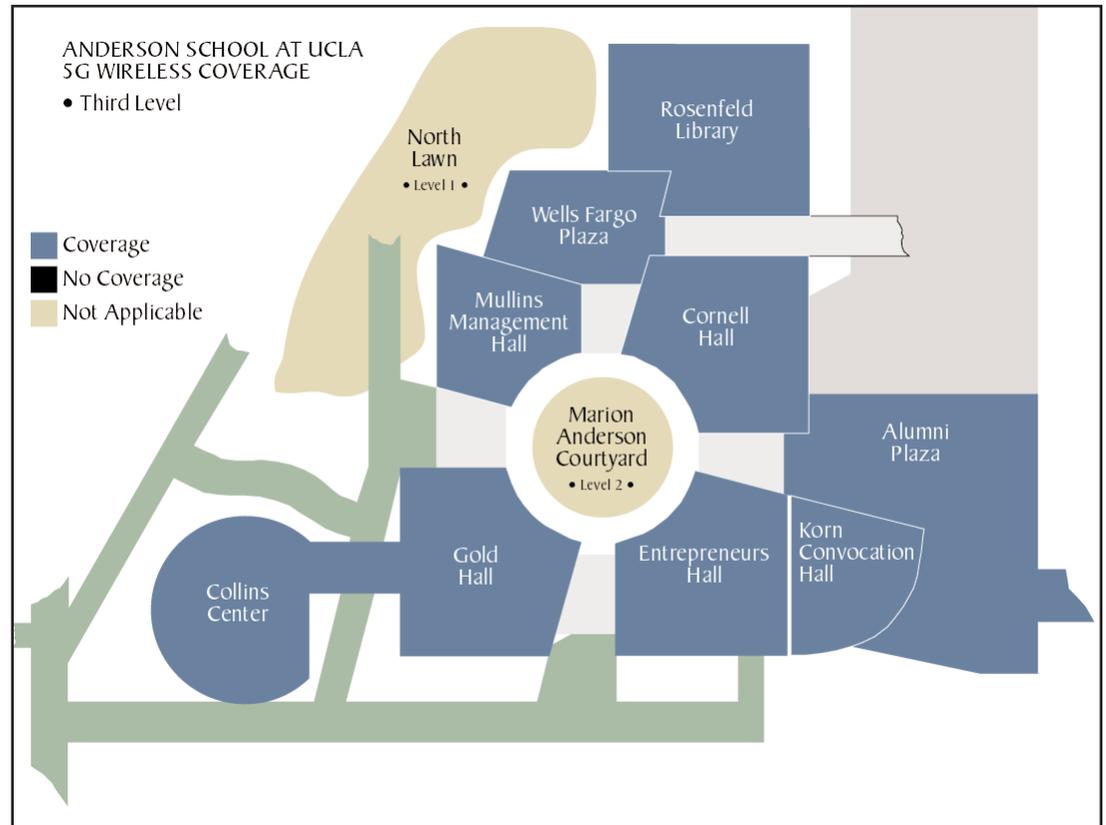
5G Wireless also broadcast a signal from within a classroom that was able to "drown out" the outdoor Base Station's waves. By connecting this signal to an IP address with a dead-end splash page, 5G Wireless provided total campus coverage and local classroom control by switching "on" the local radios to transmit over the outdoor signal.

THE RESULT

UCLA selected 5G Wireless' system for its non line-of-sight coverage and 1,000+ simultaneous users per Base Station at full data rate. The school also realized significant savings on the acquisition of the equipment. The ongoing cost advantage was validated by an ROI study that highlighted:

- 1) The reduced cost from a smaller amount of hardware to cover the area, compared to competing radios
- 2) Students could use standard low cost Wi-Fi PC cards or built-in 802.11b wireless laptop technology

The impact of the solution was immediately recognized by Mike Kusunoki, Director of Network Operations at Anderson. He said, "5G Wireless put us back on the bleeding edge of technology without all the bleeding." Bruce Willison, Dean of the UCLA Anderson School, praised 5G Wireless for helping him explain what incoming students would get in return for their



The UCLA Anderson campus consists of six buildings (A, B, C, D, E and F). The blue overlay shows the coverage area measured from a 5G Wireless four panel Base Station

tuition increases. "We were not able to spend a fortune on new infrastructure, and because we have public ties, this was going to be a one shot deal, we wouldn't get a second chance. 5G Wireless made it happen, addressed everyone's requirements for the project, and made us look good in the process. Now we have an infrastructure that went from behind the curve to leading edge again, in just a matter of days."



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