RULES TO LIVE BY

1. Approach will be based upon client needs, room architecture, and ambiance

2. Keep It Simple...
   ...for example, don’t use more specialized AV equipment than you have to

3. Keep support firmly in mind...
   ...always aim for reliability
QUESTION 1: PROJECTOR OR DISPLAY?

• How big is the room?
  • old “rule of thumb” (farthest distance x [constant] = diagonal screen size) no longer applies
  • many more factors - best to use an online screen size calculator
  • NOTE: screens are measured DIAGONALLY, just like televisions

• Sightlines

• How much light (i.e., from windows or artificial light sources) is in the room?
  • additional factors involved (e.g., throw distance from projector, lumens)

• Are writing surfaces required?
  • if so, what is the writing surface’s physical proximity to the AV display?

• What are the mounting options?

• What is the client’s preference?

• Audio considerations might also be a factor

• Ask me about laser pointers...
QUESTION 2: WHAT ARE MY SOURCES?

• Laptop? VGA? HDMI?
• Installed computer?
• Blu-ray player?
• Cable television?
• Other devices?
• Auxiliary inputs?

The more devices, the more complexity... and the greater need for a control system.

Don’t discount the possibility of using alternatives (streaming via computer vs. cable).
QUESTION 3: WILL I NEED A CONTROL SYSTEM?

- Dependent on number of sources
- Dependent on projector or display chosen
- Will add cost, both initially and at replacement time
- Requires decision about where to put the controls
- May require programming
- Will require rack and a place to put the rack

But could be simpler than teaching users how to use the remote control...
QUESTION 4: CONTROL PANEL LOCATION?

• Podium vs. Wall vs. Table – advantages and disadvantages dependent on “Rule 1”

• Podium
  • provides location for rack, auxiliary inputs, and control panel
  • may be more costly

• Wall
  • provides flexibility
  • need to take room architecture into consideration

• Table
  • provides easy access to auxiliary inputs and control panel
  • placement is key
  • may allow wired keyboard, mouse, and USB connection to installed computer
  • may require more infrastructure work
  • client may not want table “damaged”
QUESTION 5: AUDIO CONSIDERATIONS?

• Are an amplifier and speakers necessary?
  • with a projector, almost certainly
  • with a display, dependent on number of sources

• Are microphones necessary?
  • support implications
  • ADA considerations
QUESTION 6: AUDIO/VIDEOCONFERENCING?

• Will depend on client needs
• Significant increase in costs – microphones, speakers, cameras, support
• Consider “Rule 2” – are there simpler options?
  • computer-based solutions
  • “traditional” teleconferencing infrastructure
• How often will the systems be in use? What is the ROI?
QUESTION 7: OTHER CONSIDERATIONS?

• Future-proofing
  • collaboration/wireless projection?
  • annotation (e.g. “Smart Board”)?

• Infrastructure
  • power location and circuits
  • pathway, i.e., wiring, coring
  • Internet access
  • power for user laptops
  • lamp-free vs. lamped projection
  • computer monitor
  • firewall
WHAT HAVEN’T WE DISCUSSED?