

## LSU Media Technical Annual Report 2020-21

2020-21 has been a challenging year for many organisations which require a large amount of in-person activity, and LSU Media is no exception to this. LSU Media's technical division have been hard at work to ensure our volunteers and audience can enjoy our output despite the pandemic.

After last year's successful move into new office space, the last 18 months have thrown up new challenges which are yet to be fully addressed, and likely won't be for a considerable amount of time. Much of the LSUTV & LCR kit is not suitable for remote working, and as such we are heavily reliant on being present in the building – something which has not been possible for much of this year.

Instead, we have focused on being present at events outside the LSU building utilising the broadcast exemption, including Premier 15s and the AU/IMS All-Stars, whilst making events such as the LSU Elections and LCR live broadcasting possible.

Internally, the building is now capable at operating at full capacity (as demonstrated at the various events listed below), and has run some of the biggest live shows to-date, with the LSU Elections testing our resources to the limit and the Premier 15s coverage pushing our ingenuity and inventiveness in unfamiliar situations. One live show is still expected to run over the summer – the Education EO bye-election soapbox / results – which should take place in early/mid September.

Once again, Jack Connor-Richards has been invaluable to LSU Media's technical objectives, and has put in an enormous amount of work behind-the-scenes to continually upgrade our systems, and ensure they work for our volunteers (see table below). Without him, the maintenance and upgrades completed – and many of the events we have run – would simply not have been possible.

LSU Media now needs to address its skills gap – which has been slowly growing due to the coronavirus pandemic and a failure to recruit technically-minded volunteers over the last two years. Whilst current volunteers such as myself will continue to be available on a limited basis over the next couple of years, this skill gap needs to be met in the short & long-term to allow LSUTV and LCR to flourish. I recommend, when possible, to implement a Head of Training position (which potentially could be filled by an alumni / external) to help to this end.

### Key maintenance & upgrade work

Date	Project
Summer 21	Rollout of first phase of LCR Screen upgrades
Summer 21	Completion of LSUTV gallery upgrade
Summer 21	Implementation of new Media Centre DMX screen system
Spring 21	Completion of final studio baffles and panelling
Winter 20	LCR Cleanfeed integration & phone lines

Autumn 20	CasparCG server upgrade
Autumn 20	Teams video link implementation / OBS

### Key equipment acquisitions

Date	Equipment
Spring 21	Mini OB Kit (Hyperdeck, SDI & XLR patches, etc.)
Winter 21	Fibre Reel (Exec Fund)
Winter 21	16A Power Upgrade
Winter 21	Cable Ramp

### Key events supported

Date	Event
Spring 21	AU v IMS All Stars
Spring 21	LSU Elections
Autumn 20 - Spring 21	Premier 15s (DMP, Exeter, Worcester)
Autumn 20	Exec Forum

Joshua Gray  
2020-21 Technical Officer