

# Feng Chia University builds a service-oriented campus cloud for mobile applications



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—Lee Wei-Bin, chief information officer, Office of Information Technology, Feng Chia University



**HP customer case study**  
HP CloudSystem builds a service-oriented cloud for mobile applications

**Industry**  
Higher education

## Objective

Become more service and learning oriented by increasing IT mobility through cloud architecture

## Approach

Conducted in-depth assessment of various cloud solutions

## IT improvements

- Developed a new mobile platform to better meet the requirements of users’ everyday applications
- Increased system stability and performance to meet the ever-expanding needs of users and administrators
- Expanded the use of resources and services both on and off campus

## Business benefits

- Changed the development model of the university and information system from management orientation to service and learning orientation
- Enabled all administrative to units launch new service features through the Feng Chia University (FCU) Mobile application platform
- Allowed staff and students to use information more conveniently and enjoy a mobile service that closely reflects their life



Feng Chia University (FCU) is one of Taiwan’s leading educational organisations, with 1,700 staff and an average of 20,000 students.

The university has seen a steady rise in the informatisation for staff and students over the past 10 years. Deciding it needed to introduce greater mobility, FCU began work on a mobile application platform using cloud computing.

“Good cloud architecture means users will be unaware of its existence and yet be able to use all cloud services anytime, anywhere,” says Lee Wei-Bin, chief information officer of Feng Chia University. “We knew that using a campus cloud for our FCU Mobile platform would transform the everyday lives of both staff and students.”



Building the cloud to support the new platform required the reliable hardware to enable virtualisation and deliver superior performance. FCU assessed several options and chose HP CloudSystem, an integrated and open platform for building and managing cloud services across private, public and hybrid environment, based on market leading HP Converged Infrastructure. This decision was due to the excellent performance delivered by the built-in Intel® Xeon® processors, says Wei-Bin, the system stability and the management mechanism.

### **Reliable hardware security**

“It is essential the backbone cloud architecture is scalable and flexible,” says Wei-Bin. “HP CloudSystem satisfies our needs. The Intel Xeon processors deliver leading performance and reliable hardware security features. The HP cloud architecture is not only extremely stable, but, most importantly, the management mechanism enables us to understand the latest system use status anytime, anywhere. We’ve also seen the benefit of technical support and advice from HP experts.”

### **Increased mobility creates a more service-oriented environment**

Wei-Bin says, since the launch of the FCU Mobile application platform, the biggest change has been the participation of teachers and students. In the past, most university administrative application systems were promoted from top to bottom. The majority of information applications, dominated by the Office of Information Technology, were passively accepted by users, often affecting the effectiveness of a launch.

“Current requirements have been flipped,” says Wei-Bin. “We’ve used students’ experience to design and improve the university system. The use of this outside to inside development means students are more willing to use the system because it’s a better fit for their needs.”

### **Off-campus support**

Wei-Bin highlights the ‘close to life’ application as a major feature of FCU Mobile: “For example, if a student sees a new book in a bookstore, before deciding whether or not to purchase it he or she can use a mobile phone and the book’s code to directly query whether the university library has the book. For students, saving on the cost of textbooks is an attractive feature.”

Wider usage has been encouraged by increasing the wireless infrastructure, meaning the number of people using the university’s wireless network has increased tenfold in a short period of time. Members of FCU with personal university accounts can also use university resources off campus thanks to wireless hot-spots and IP network segments. These hot-spots are provided by fixed-line telecoms companies collaborating with FCU.

## Customer solution at a glance

### The CloudSystem Solution:

- HP CloudSystem integrated with HP BladeSystem and HP Matrix Operating Environment
- HP BL460c G7 servers with built-in Intel Xeon E5650 processors
- HP Enterprise Virtual Array storage device
- HP CloudSystem Implementation Services

## High satisfaction rate

Student reaction to the new services is positive. About one of third of the students who could use the services rated the satisfaction assessment at 4.5 or higher out of a possible score of five.

Wei-Bin points out: "FCU has over ten years of software development experience. The FCU Mobile application platform can provide teachers and students with a service they're willing to use.

"Although not all services for students and teachers have been completed, the content of FCU Mobile is becoming more specific. The blueprint for future development is clearer. A virtual campus is gradually forming behind the physical one, where mobile applications truly permeate everyday life."

## For more information

To read more about HP CloudSystem solution, go to [hp.com/go/cloudsystem](http://hp.com/go/cloudsystem)

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