

7 myths about higher-ed facilities technology

When it comes to higher education, how your school looks — and, equally importantly, functions underneath the surface — can go a long way toward encouraging healthy enrollment numbers.

But with so many stakeholders involved in financial planning: top-level administrators, financial officers and budget committees, facilities folks can feel a bit left out of the conversation even though their roles are just as essential to the health, safety, and success of your institution.

Luckily, powerful solutions can be game changers that help higher education institutions use their data to get ahead of the multitude of facility and infrastructure challenges they face.

But as much as technology can help facilities directors proactively manage maintenance and costs, some urban myths and misperceptions persist. Let's start myth-busting!



Myth 1

I have no control over my institution's facility budget

When up against the whole panel of folks involved with deciding how funds are spent, it's understandable why higher education facilities directors feel they have no say over their budgets. Here's where data comes in. Asset management solutions like [Brightly Predictor™](#) and [Brightly Origin™](#) can gather asset data to provide insights (aka the right language) to influence resource allocation through strategic planning, data-backed budget requests, and detailed explanations that help forecast the impact of spending decisions or deferred maintenance.



Myth 2

Implementing a new system is complicated and time-consuming

No doubt about it: a new solution can take a bit of effort to get up and running, but the amount of work that will be saved once implemented is well worth the investment. Partnering with Brightly means you and your team get help with planning migration strategies, getting your software up and running faster and easier. Imagine your facilities team trading manual paper processes for on-the-go accessibility available in the [Brightly Asset Essentials™](#) mobile app to cover more ground and always have what they need anywhere on campus.



Myth 3

Gaining buy-in from employees to use new technology is impossible

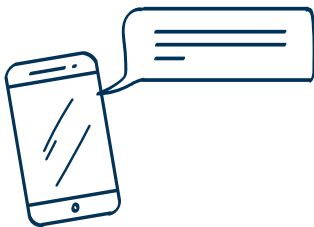
For many institutions, employee engagement can be challenging at first — especially for your longtime facilities employees. But, with intuitive software from Brightly, a little bit of clear communication, training, and demonstrating ease-of-use and benefits is all it takes to help secure buy-in. (Not to mention, if you're looking to hire new employees as your older ones leave for retirement or other reasons, having the right tech in place is a huge draw for younger generations). Showcasing the value of the software as a user-friendly mobile app which simplifies workflows and encourages real-time response will help secure buy-in from your staff. It will make their lives easier!



Myth 4

All I need is an IT ticketing/work order management system

If all you think you need is something to capture and dole out work orders, you're missing the big picture! While such systems are essential, a holistic approach to facilities management means you can consider preventative maintenance, strategic planning, asset management, and even sustainability to prioritize and strategically tackle those tickets — beneficial if you have a limited number of team members on deck or a lot of square footage on campus to cover.



Myth 5

Customer support disappears after a vendor sells a system

Go with the wrong vendor, and you can get stuck with an expensive product that just doesn't quite work the way you need it to (and with zero help to troubleshoot). But choosing an engaged partner like Brightly, who prioritizes your success and maintains open communication, means ongoing support that maximizes your value. (And did we mention that also means we know what features schools and colleges need). We started out in the educational space over two decades ago and will be there with top-notch support at every step.



Myth 6

Sustainability trends do not impact facilities management

Students and communities care about sustainability. So does your institution's bottom line, especially as costs for utilities continue to grow. Investing in sustainable processes and materials for both new construction and old facilities management can lead to cost savings and environmental impact. Software like [Brightly Energy Manager™](#) can help schools identify, track, and eliminate utility waste across your entire campus and report on sustainability efforts to your community and stakeholders.



Myth 7

Our school has events under control

Do you, though? For many universities and colleges, events can be their most significant revenue generator (next to large gifts and tuition, of course). Events can also have the most hidden costs. A tool like [Brightly Event Manager™](#) can help centralize all your events-related activities so you can easily manage community requests, recover costs, understand the true impact of facility rentals, eliminate logistical errors (not to mention administrative headaches), and even track payments and send invoices. All from one platform!

Brightly: Your first choice for higher education learning management software

At Brightly, we believe with the right learning management software, maintenance and operations tasks become easier, budgeting and planning can be more accurate and impactful, and ultimately, money can be saved. Our team has built a suite of solutions that can work together to enable your college or university to solve some of your most pressing asset, infrastructure, and facilities challenges — and we've been helping institutions do it for decades.

Ready to break free of the myths? Visit our [website](#) to explore our suite of educational solutions

About Brightly Software

Brightly, a Siemens company, enables organizations to transform the performance of their assets. Brightly is the global leader in intelligent asset management solutions. Brightly's sophisticated cloud-based platform leverages more than 20 years of data to deliver predictive insights that help users through the key phases of the entire asset lifecycle. More than 12,000 customers of every size worldwide depend on Brightly's complete suite of intuitive software—including CMMS, EAM, Strategic Asset Management, IoT Remote Monitoring, Sustainability and Community Engagement. Paired with award-winning training, support and consulting services, Brightly helps light the way to a bright future with smarter assets and sustainable communities. For more information, visit [Brightlysoftware.com](#).



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