The Collaborative Dining Table

Staff:

Steve – Our project lead and my direct team leader, I've been mentoring under him since I began my career. Steve's primary focus is on the computer network side but has an excellent understanding of the desktop side as well (having previously been in my role for 10 years).

Karen – Part of the health and safety team of the organization, since the project was directly related to staff safety, her knowledge of policies and best practices were quite valuable as she offered insight that would have otherwise never surfaced until after the project was completed.

Melissa – Representing the nursing side of project, she offered valuable insight into what was allowed and what wasn't allowed based on the College of Nurses guidelines that we had to adhere to.

Phil – Was the vendor assigned to our project from the company, his understand of the system we ultimately went with along with the input from all project members allowed Phil to successfully assist our organization with its implementation.

Randy – Our maintenance guru, he oversaw the installation of conduits and cabling for any of the tech resources required, Randy provided a great wealth of knowledge of conduit and internal cabling structures and in return, I provided him with more knowledge about how the technology at the end of his cabling runs were going to interact.

Communication Methods, Patterns and Gaps:

Our bi-weekly meetings (moved to weekly near the projects end) served as the best tool, these meetings ensure that everyone was an active participant and could voice their concerns and suggestions.

Zoom calls were like our bi-weekly meetings but the participation level wasn't nearly as engaged, staff attending could be focused or distracted on other work going and discussions would often fall flat and be moved to the in-person meetings.

Hallway meetings and 1 on 1's was spur of the moment things whilst out working on project tasks, while they would often yield fruits for those in attendance of them, information wasn't often shared or made readily available for other staff to offer opinions on.

Being a publicly funded company (which are often unstaffed and unfunded) makes the projects challenging as often, individuals are required to wear more than one hat (so to speak) to meet deadlines and remain under budget. For future projects, it would be nice to see an increase in staffing available for projects like this both for more insight and to lessen the workload of other staff (during this project I was still required to complete my day to day operational tasks as were the other staff on the project).

Jonathan Cobb - 10/30/2023