CAPSTONE NOTES

10/20/14: Meeting Dr. Dickens at Neville 120 at 5:30 to boot the computer for the first time in three years. My intention is to reformat the computer and install Ubuntu 14.04LTS and get all the basic software/drivers installed tonight. Booted the computer and made sure it was in working order. It booted and Dr. Dickens signed into his account where we verified each monitor was displaying correctly.

10/24/14: Came in alone to install Ubuntu alongside the Debian and Windows 7 partitions. Once installed only one display was receiving output. Spent three hours trying to setup the NVidia Server X settings to allow the other monitors to no avail. The monitors were correctly connected and powered, they were all displaying a blue light telling me that they are being recognized but not receiving output. The settings seemed to have corrupted the OS so I had to reinstall Ubuntu and try coming in on another day to try.

10/29/14: Brain and I attempted to get the display wall working again by installing a fresh copy of Ubuntu onto it and trying to configure Xinerama. Upon enabling Xinerama and rebooting the system the whole configuration corrupted Ubuntu to the point where once you logged in you wouldn’t see your launch bar or any other interface options, only your desktop image. We spent the next three hours trying to repair the OS to no avail.

11/3/14: This is my final attempt to get the display wall functioning within Ubuntu. The issue resides in which NVidia drivers to use and the NVidia Server X settings program that enables external monitors. When enabling Xinerama on a multi-GPU system Ubuntu’s header files and Unity seem to get corrupted essentially forcing you to reinstall the entire OS. My fingers are crossed that I am able to get it working this time, because if I don’t I fear I must resort using Windows for the OS.