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LEARNING LOG

Mobile Learning Initiative

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DETAILS

MAKING IT WORK, UNDERSTANDING WHAT WORKS, AND SHARING WHAT WORKS

TITLE

Mobile Learning Initiative


SOLUTION

Digital Learning and Next Generation Digital Courseware

CAPACITIES

Information Technology

Owner

 [Muhammad Hossain \(/education/s/profile/005360000047BI6AAM\)](/education/s/profile/005360000047BI6AAM)



Record Type

Monthly-Current 2017



INSTITUTION

Claflin University

REFLECTION

SITE INITIATIVE

In an effort to reengineering the first year experience and integrate technologies into teaching and learning, we have implemented the mobile learning initiative pilot in Fall 2016 with deployment of about 60 iPads to two groups of students in General Education courses. We also have faculty that are working on developing digital books that will be distributed to those devices replacing the textbooks for those courses.

PROGRESS TOWARD STUDENT SUCCESS

We have made progress in this initiative by deploying the mobile devices to two groups of students and creating an access environment where different learning styles such as flipped classroom and so on can take place.

Some of the steps we took are:

1. Upgrading the learning spaces with more Wi-Fi access points for better Wi-Fi connections.
2. Procuring and distributing about 60 iPad devices to two student groups where we are still assessing the learning impact it had.
3. Procuring a Mobile Device Management system to manage all iOS devices on campus including the 60 iPads we deployed and going through training IT personnel how to operate this system.
4. Identifying apps for in and out of classroom application as it relates to collaborative and active learning.

IMPACT

The mobile learning initiative is part of our mission to prepare students for a 21st Century workplace. Recent studies in mobile technology ownership and learning practices in higher Ed show that mobile device ownership is high and continues to increase among students. In our pilot group, students were instructed using iPads in the classroom where they would access class materials using the iPads, use learning apps and Apple TV for collaborative and active learning and communication. This initiative has allowed students to access materials on demand and beyond the classroom. There are technical issues that we are still working to minimize. But, once successful, we will plan a program specific or campus-wide initiative for mobile learning. As we are still learning the proper pedagogical applications using these mobile devices, I think the impact will be enormous on our faculty and the overall student success.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL RESOURCES

We identified that our Information Technology Services is a critical internal resource for this pilot to succeed and the initiative to progress. We have also

identified that adequate faculty development in integrating these technologies is another critical internal resource. To that regard, we have been working with our ITS support services for a proper deployment and seamless experience for our students and faculty in using these devices and also providing training workshops to our faculty that is part of this pilot. As external resources, we researched and had a site visit at Jackson State University, one of our frontier set partner institutions and Lynn University to get an insight into their iPad initiative. Both of these institutions have a program or campus-wide mobile learning initiatives that are transforming their campuses and impacting student success positively.

NEXT CRITICAL STEPS📌

Next critical step is to see whether we can expand our mobile learning pilot into a larger group of students or programs. We are assessing whether our IT infrastructure will allow us to move beyond the current endeavor and make progress towards our mobile learning initiative.

OPPORTUNITIES/CHALLENGES📌

The opportunities are great for our overall student success if we can expand beyond the pilot, but the challenges are monumental too as we have been running into issues with an inadequate IT infrastructure to support all these mobile devices wherever the students are. Poor bandwidth in our Wi-Fi connection in most locations on campus and in particular the learning spaces have been hampering our progress. We understand that if we don't upgrade our IT infrastructure, it will not be possible to expand the initiative beyond our pilot program.

QUESTIONS/REQUESTS📌

We would appreciate learning about other mobile learning initiatives in similar size institution as Claflin University and how they are addressing and overcoming technical and pedagogical challenges.

STATUS

Final

Completion Date📌


5/31/2017

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Muhammad Hossain (/education/s/profile/005360000047BI6AAM) (Claflin University) updated this record.
[May 31, 2017 at 2:22 PM \(/education/s/feed/0D53600001OUUMgCAP\)](#)

STATUS

Draft to Final

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