

### **About Portland State University**

- Fall 2016 enrollment of over 28,000 students
- About one-quarter of students take at least one course online
- 42% of entering freshman qualify for Pell grants and one-fifth of students identify as being members of underrepresented minority groups

### **Rationale and Goals for Participation in the PLC Grant Program**

- The Office of Academic Innovation (OAI) at Portland State University (PSU) was founded to provide leadership and support for the institution as it evolves to better serve its constituents in a changing world through curricular innovation, use of technology and more. The Accelerating Adoption of Adaptive Courseware grant is housed within the OAI as its “Active+Adaptive” initiative
- PSU seeks to scale adaptive courseware across multiple sections of nineteen high-enrollment courses during the grant term, reaching over 11,000 enrollments (15% of general education enrollments) by December 2019

### **Implementation Status as of 6/30/2017**

PSU's adaptive courseware implementation was delayed during Spring 2017 after facing multiple hurdles including changing departmental commitments to the grant program, staffing and leadership changes and faculty concerns over reduced autonomy and increased student costs. Despite these challenges, PSU remains committed to the program and is reporting its first implementations and enrollments during the Fall 2017 term.

During the Fall 2017 term, adaptive courseware was implemented in sections of four courses, reaching 260 enrollments. Through the 2017-2018 academic year, PSU plans to implement adaptive courseware in thirteen different courses either as a pilot (typically one section) or in a scaled implementation (typically across all sections). The thirteen courses span the biology, business, chemistry and mathematics disciplines. The Program Manager reports that discussions of adaptive courseware implementation are launching deeper conversations on learning, student engagement, the cost / value of a textbook or other course materials and open educational resources on campus.

## Implementation Challenges and Success Factors

Challenges	Success Factors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Leadership and Program Management turnover have delayed courseware implementation at PSU</li><li>• Collaboration between some departments implementing adaptive courseware and the OAI has been difficult to launch in support of the program goals, however, program management is adapting to better meet individual departmental needs</li><li>• Faculty bandwidth constraints are slowing or halting implementation in certain departments, in particular where significant course redesign is required to use the courseware effectively</li><li>• Adaptive courseware is being viewed by some faculty as an “add-on” to a course rather than an integrated component that supports redesign</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Existing relationships between the OAI and certain departments / faculty is providing grounds for department / faculty endorsement of the project - this helps build interest in participation</li><li>• Vendor demonstrations of the adaptive courseware products to faculty have been helpful to clarify what adaptive courseware is and how it can be used in a classroom. Faculty who attended at least one demo session are more interested in participating</li><li>• Connecting the adaptive courseware implementation to a goal / purpose that faculty relate to, like lowering cost of materials or improving student engagement, is a more effective way to engage faculty</li></ul>

### Implementation Impacts as of 6/30/2017

PSU will track the D-Fail-Withdraw (DFW) rate in sections adopting adaptive courseware to identify potential impacts of the adaptive courseware implementation on student outcomes. It will also collect data on the credit accumulation and completion, and retention and re-enrollment rates of students in courses using adaptive courseware as well as comparison groups.

Takeaways from this data will be included in future reports.

*To learn more about this adaptive courseware implementation contact:*

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