Accelerating Adoption of Adaptive Courseware at Public Universities

Northern Arizona University Update, Spring 2018

Moving From Scaling to Sustainable

- Northern Arizona University (NAU) will include active and adaptive learning in 25 courses
- Provide orientation sessions for departments, chairs, program coordinators and faculty about active and adaptive learning and student success to ensure a clear understanding

Creating a Culture of Faculty Success

- Active and adaptive learning builds on a faculty culture of teaching innovation with technology, leveraging enthusiastic learning communities, professional development summer conferences and regular opportunities for faculty to showcase success
- Faculty are motivated to find ways to help students better prepare for class and adaptive learning addresses this pedagogical need. Faculty support is available from both e-Learning Center Instructional Designers and adaptive courseware vendors
- In-semester check-ins with faculty provides continuous support

Challenges and Lessons Learned

- Challenges include role requirements for instructors new to active and adaptive, and some concern about the quality and timeliness of vendor support. Systems to address these include:
  - Making resources and contacts available
  - Ensuring internal and external faculty support is well designed and seamless
  - Communicating that adapting to these changes takes time
  - Advocating to retain support of two instructional designers on adaptive courseware team

BY THE NUMBERS

3 vendors, 6 courses

NAU faculty are currently using 3 vendors for 6 courses in biology, business, chemistry and psychology

5,211
Fall 2017 enrollment

The NAU trajectory for reaching targeted number of adaptive courseware enrollments is on target
## SNAPSHOT

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<tr>
<th>Success Factors</th>
<th>Looking Ahead</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Student success is NAU’s primary strategic goal</td>
<td>• Ongoing mission to develop solutions to challenges and to drive innovation</td>
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<td>• The time to connect and learn among faculty, administrators and staff at the</td>
<td>• Incorporating accreditation requirements for competency based learning allows for the use of adaptive learning tools</td>
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<td>annual professional development conference is a key support mechanism</td>
<td>• Geology, Mathematics, Nutrition, Philosophy and Intro Psychology will join the ranks of adaptive courses in Fall 2018</td>
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<td>• Innovative learning practices which lead to effective pedagogy have considerable support</td>
<td>• NAU is building an evidenced based culture so that it can address impact on student success data when adaptive technologies are employed</td>
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<td>• Creative relationships with vendors to redesign content address customization needs of some disciplines</td>
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### About Northern Arizona University

- **31,057**
  - total Fall 2017 enrollment, with 22,376 students at the Flagstaff campus
- **8,000**
  - students study online, with 40% of all students taking at least one course online
- **36%**
  - of entering freshman qualify for Pell grants
- **32%**
  - of students identify as being members of underrepresented minority groups

### Learn More

To learn more about Northern Arizona University’s adaptive courseware implementation, contact:

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*The APLU Personalized Learning Consortium (PLC) is a membership organization of public universities leveraging collaboration and scale to advance the use of technology to improve student learning, retention, and graduation through personalization. To learn more, go to [www.aplu.org/plc](http://www.aplu.org/plc).*

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