

# 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

Success Factors	Looking Ahead
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student success is NAU’s primary strategic goal</li> <li>• The time to connect and learn among faculty, administrators and staff at the annual professional development conference is a key support mechanism</li> <li>• Innovative learning practices which lead to effective pedagogy have considerable support</li> <li>• Creative relationships with vendors to redesign content address customization needs of some disciplines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing mission to develop solutions to challenges and to drive innovation</li> <li>• Incorporating accreditation requirements for competency based learning allows for the use of adaptive learning tools</li> <li>• Geology, Mathematics, Nutrition, Philosophy and Intro Psychology will join the ranks of adaptive courses in Fall 2018</li> <li>• NAU is building an evidenced based culture so that it can address impact on student success data when adaptive technologies are employed</li> </ul>

### 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:

**PLC Grant Program Manager**

Don Carter

[Don.carter@nau.edu](mailto:Don.carter@nau.edu)

928-523-1605

*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).*

Contact: PLC Program Manager Susie Freedman, [sfreedman@aplu.org](mailto:sfreedman@aplu.org)