



Splashtop Enterprise Helps Goshen College Inspire Innovation in the Classroom

At first glance, you might not expect to find a cutting edge technology environment at Goshen College. Located in northern Indiana, the small Christian college is widely recognized for its commitment to promoting compassionate peacemaking and global citizenship, along with its academic achievements. But perhaps not so well known is Goshen's pioneering role in technology. For example, Goshen College was one of the first higher education institutions in the world to put mobile computing at the foundation of its core curriculum.

"We believe that technology is a strategic tool for improving the way we teach, learn, deliver services, and operate the college," says Michael Sherer, director of information technology services.

Sherer is a driving force behind Goshen's iCore Technology Initiative. Launched in September 2012, the iCore Technology Initiative provided all full-time, first year students with iPads (and 32 GB storage) to use for their Goshen Core, a set of required classes for all freshmen. The iPads were the technological foundation for the Core general education program and eTextbook platform. In addition to the 180 freshmen, faculty members who were involved in teaching courses in the Goshen Core also received iPads.

Case Study - Higher Education

Goshen College transforms the classroom experience with iPads and anytime, anywhere remote desktop access for teachers and students



The Challenge

Goshen College is one of the first higher education institutions in the world to bring mobile computing into the classroom. Through its iCore Technology Initiative, 180 incoming freshmen and their faculty members were given iPads to explore the device's potential as a learning tool. Goshen was looking for the right mobile app that would enable faculty to remotely access their classroom and office computers quickly and easily, while providing a secure environment that enabled IT administrators to manage and monitor user access.

The Solution

The IT staff at Goshen selected Splashtop Enterprise and deployed it in every multimedia classroom on campus. Splashtop Enterprise provided enterprise management capabilities, enabling IT staff to limit remote access to authorized users. Faculty quickly got up-to-speed, thanks to an intuitive and easy-to-use interface.



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Professor Christine Willard Noria

Mobilizing a Campus

During the previous summer, Goshen College hired a team of students to evaluate mobile access solutions for the iCore Technology Initiative. After testing several different apps, the team determined that Splashtop was the most intuitive and easiest to learn of all the competing products.

But in order to maintain control of about 200 users—and hundreds more when the iCore Technology Initiative is eventually introduced campus-wide—Goshen College needed a solution that enabled them to manage security, users, devices, and groups.

Not Just the Head of the Class

The professors were given their iPads during the summer of 2012 to enable them to get familiar with the technology and revamp their lessons for a mobile classroom. After early adopters gave a thumbs up for Splashtop 2, Sherer negotiated a license for Splashtop Enterprise to cover all faculty and campus classrooms.

"Splashtop Enterprise gives our professors the best user experience," says Sherer. "They tell me that it's very easy to use. It's The iPad and Splashtop has empowered them to cut the cord and move about the classroom. They are working with their existing programs as if they were in front of their computers, but they can engage with the content in a more interactive way."

Professor Christine Willard Noria uses her iPad to teach developmental psychology, statistics, and research methodology courses.

Noria uses Microsoft Office PowerPoint presentation software to create lessons for the freshmen class that demonstrate a visual comparison of different



developmental theories. In the classroom, Noria uses Splashtop Enterprise to remotely access the presentations with her iPad, projecting them onto a SMART board. Her students are also able to view the lessons on their iPads. Noria is able to move freely around the classroom to see how students are engaging with the lesson, while still controlling the presentation remotely via her iPad.

"I'm more efficient because I no longer have to run back and forth from the students to the projector or chalk board," says Noria. "I can interact with my students to see how they are solving problems, and yet maintain control of the classroom with my iPad."

"Everyone now has a front row seat to the lesson," she explains. "Now that I'm mobile in the classroom, I have a closer presence to my students. Even though I know my students, the iPad has enabled me to more closely monitor their progress."

"Technology can do a lot for the academic experience," says Sherer. "Watching the faculty and student-driven innovation flowing out of the iCore Technology Initiative has been very exciting. Splashtop Enterprise has allowed us to make iPad remote control a standard feature of all our multimedia classrooms. And now, with the recent addition of whiteboard and annotation capabilities, Splashtop has demonstrated that it is a platform for quickly delivering innovative new capabilities into the classrooms, just by downloading the latest version."

"We tried other remote access solutions, but Splashtop was by far the easiest and fastest solution. When we learned that the enterprise version was in beta, we signed right up," explains Sherer. "Nothing else provides the same ease of use, with a comprehensive on-premise management framework. Other products didn't scale to a campus-wide deployment with the tools and security we required."

Michael Sherer, director of information technology services

Transforming Higher Education

The inaugural year of the iCore Technology Initiative has been a resounding success, with positive feedback from both faculty and students. Splashtop Enterprise provides a secure gateway for fast access to programs and files through the iPad, enabling the professors to more actively engage with their students and transform the learning experience. Next year, another group of incoming freshmen will receive their iPads, and in time, the entire campus will be mobile.

"We've gone to great lengths to create a technology infrastructure that is worthy of the finest colleges anywhere," says Sherer. "We make substantial improvements to our computing environment every year to keep up with rising expectations and the rapid pace of technological improvement. Splashtop Enterprise is an important part of our iPad technology foundation."

About Goshen College

Founded in 1894, Goshen College is a small, private Christian college located in the city of Goshen in northern Indiana. Affiliated with the Mennonite Church USA, Goshen promotes peace, justice, service, and leadership, combining excellent academics with a global perspective. The college serves around 1,000 undergraduate and graduate students and offers degree programs in many disciplines, including business administration, nursing, social work, organizational leadership, and environmental education. Goshen consistently makes the top tier of the US News and World Report's ranking of America's best liberal arts colleges.



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