Oregon based Community College invested in customized technology to facilitate faster knowledge and information sharing between teaching staff and students.

Ray Hoyt, Title III Project Director
Tillamook Bay Community College, Tillamook, OR

“One of the big reasons our DocuWare roll out was such a success was because our IT vendor worked with us to develop a customized training and implementation ‘ramp-up’ approach that allowed us to continually roll out the solution to our departments.

The process reinforced TBCC’s development of a learning community around documents and DocuWare.”
Tillamook Bay Community College (TBCC) is a small accredited college, located on Oregon’s rural coast, offering degree programs to a diverse student body. College staff are trained in and required to follow Lean methodology, which identifies ways to minimize wasted time and resources.

In this spirit of streamlining and improved efficiency, when the college received a $2.5 million Title III grant from the US Department of Education, the goal was to use part of this to improve business processes and increase efficiency. The college carried out an independent Lean analysis to determine the impact an electronic document management like DocuWare would have. The results showed a significant time and organizational savings and DocuWare with its flexibility and customizability was their solution of choice.

Basic affordability and seamless integrations
TBCC needed an affordable Document Management system allowing them to electronically share information, manage student registration, offer faculty fast access to student files for advising purposes and be easily adaptable for departments such as payroll. They also required that the system should integrate with their ERP and Student Information System (Jenzabar).

Scanning, saving, retrieving and triggering workflows
Digital workflows and customized electronic filing cabinets were created. Roll out was staggered across four departments over a twelve-week period. Staff were trained on how to scan, index and file historical paper documents and electronically import new records directly into DocuWare.

“As each department came on board, we discovered we were building an in-house DocuWare user group that could assist new departments as they onboarded,” said Ray Hoyt, Project Director for Tillamook Bay Community College.

Immediate benefits and increased efficiency was noted by the departments as everything from payroll files to endowment agreements and financial aid documents were securely filed with fast access by authorized staff to review, retrieve, share or trigger workflows.

DocuWare’s adaptability allowed it to provide solutions across multiple departments
DocuWare’s adaptability was key. For example, TBCC wanted to provide instructors with standardized curriculum and guidelines - DocuWare was customized to meet these requirements. The college was spared the work of implementing a separate solution, leading to a savings of $40,000.

“We thought moving our documents would be a long process. But we’ve exceeded our 5 year Title III grant goal of number of documents digitized at year 3. This means we’ve made a 332% improvement!”
With DocuWare, the Instructional department had the flexibility to archive current and out-of-date curriculum, thereby maintaining the connection between past student and curriculum records.

The new college-wide initiative of enhanced advising was made possible because student information could be shared electronically between Student Services, Financial Aid, Registration and Faculty Advisors.

**The speed of digitization was faster than expected**

DocuWare was implemented in a customized and staggered rollout, which worked extremely well for all departments involved.

Hoyt said: “We thought moving our documents into DocuWare would be a long process, but with the ability to customize our approach we’ve exceeded our five year Title III grant goal of number of documents digitized at year three. This means we’ve made a 332% improvement in digitizing our documents. Which makes us all very happy.”

“DocuWare has saved us weeks of time, in terms of finding needed information.”

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