

Maryville University ST. LOUIS. MISSOURI

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CASE STUDY

Introducing iPad as a modern tool for success

When it comes to providing students with an education that prepares them for today's competitive, modern world, educators at Maryville University believe they're setting their students up for success. Though uncommon in higher education, a 1-to-1 iPad program, supported with Apple School Manager, allows Maryville educators the opportunity to challenge the historical norm and deliver a hands-on experience that allows each student to thrive with their own unique learning style.



UNDERSTANDING WHAT'S POSSIBLE WITH APPLE

"We're the leading disrupters in the space of higher education," said Mark Lombardi, Ph.D., president, Maryville University. "We're leading a revolution, changing the entire model of higher ed for students. We're taking what's an old and antiquated way of providing higher education and making it vibrant and alive in the 21st century." Lombardi said the decision to implement a 1-to-1 iPad program began in 2014 while on a trip with some colleagues to Cupertino. It was there that a series of Apple presentations about learning theory and the future of learning opened his mind to what was possible at Maryville. "It was a fascinating experience and was game changing in terms of our philosophy."



Maryville University gives an iPad and Apple Pencil to every incoming, fulltime student at no charge. Uses Jamf Pro to manage 3,600 iPad, 350 Mac and 110 iPhone devices. Adds 3,000+ classes to Apple School Manager each semester. Saves between \$50,000 and \$70,000 on app purchases every semester.

The same experience on a desktop would cost the school \$500,000+, not including the device. Witnessed higher student engagement in the classroom through use of the iPad devices. Lombardi said. "We brought that back and began really high-level discussions about what a 1-to-1 initiative would look like. Within the span of about six weeks, we made the decision to go ahead."



which focuses primarily on how to enhance teaching through technology. She is also a member of the Digital Methods Club, a group of educators who help colleagues learn different ways to use the devices. And as one of the university's five Apple Distinguished Educators, Kline even holds office hours to mentor other faculty on how to elevate their classroom with iPad.

In an effort to further enhance the level of comfort all faculty feel with the devices, Maryville added two weeks of paid time to every educator's contract. During this time, they learn tips and tricks on how others are using technology in their given fields. Lombardi said, "It's a great, wonderful, organic environment where they really can try and experiment and learn from each other, and also learn that everybody's not going to be an expert in these new pedagogies out of the box."



ELEVATING THE CLASSROOM TO MEET STUDENT NEEDS

Since the program's inception, Kline said she's seen dramatic differences in how the iPad impacts the classroom. "The device, and using it as a teaching tool, enables me to see how different learners can demonstrate their knowledge in ways other than traditional essays and multiple-choice exam formats," she said. "Furthermore, as an instructor, students can learn from my experience and my counseling techniques. By showing their work on screens in class synchronously, we can learn from each others' styles."

Prior to the iPad program, Kline said it was difficult to get students to work together in groups. "Now I can use specific apps on the device to get students across the classroom to collaborate, to get to know each other, to get to talk about content in ways that we were a little limited in before," she said. Kline

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IMPLEMENTING A VISION THROUGH FACULTY LEADERSHIP

Upon returning to campus, Lombardi asked for help to make his vision a reality. He explained, "We put together a great group of young faculty and staff who were already doing amazing things like this, and we said, 'Look, we're going to do this. And we're going to fund it, no matter what it costs. Your job is to plan it out.' And they did a fantastic job."

Katherine Kline, Ph.D., assistant professor of Rehabilitation Counseling, Maryville University, helped kick off the school's Digital World Initiative, added the ability to save, download and share a student's work with the entire class in a matter of minutes has also helped create a more engaging classroom.

Dustin York, Ed.D., assistant professor and communication program director, Maryville University, said he's also thrilled with how the 1-to-1 iPad program changed what's possible for students. "With the iPads, every single student can create and shoot their own Facebook ads. And with the new apps we download, we can have the most up-to-date video software every single semester, and every month as they do updates. Pair that with tripods, they now have a recording system and editing program right in front of them at all times," he said, referencing the cost savings, time savings and overall elevated experience that Apple technology brings to the classroom.



UTILIZING APPLE CLASSROOM IN HIGHER EDUCATION

York said the classroom looks completely different than it did just five years ago when he started at Maryville. This is largely in part to Apple Classroom, a tool that allows him to push content to individual devices. "So if I want students to see a video, and leave feedback or discussion on a video, I can just push that video to all of their devices at the same time," he said. "This saves an immense amount of time and is much easier for the student to engage with that content."

Though Apple Classroom and Apple School Manager aren't common within higher education, Maryville University faculty and staff say they should be. Since they first learned about these tools at the Jamf Nation User Conference (JNUC) in 2016, they believed transitioning the tool from a K-12 setting into university classrooms would help them succeed with their synchronized learning initiative. And it's helping in more ways than one.



"We're no longer interrupting other people's classes by playing on their Apple TVs by accident, because Apple School Manager lets us put a timer on the class," said Taylor Bell, instructional technology specialist and digital world coordinator, Maryville University. She further explained that it also allows instructors to lock student iPad devices into a single app, which is perfect for facilitating quizzes or exams." And getting new apps is a breeze. Once requested, York said he typically receives new apps within an hour. He explained, "It's much more quick, efficient and financially stable to do it that way compared to the old ways without the iPad." Bell attributes those quick turnarounds to Jamf Pro, a mobile device management (MDM) solution that allows her to easily manage the school's Apple implementation with little to no interruption for users. She said, "The combination of Jamf and Apple has really made the process possible. Our 1-to-1 would not be where it is without the ability to use Jamf to integrate information we get from our learning management system (LMS) into Apple School Manager and then populate classes so our instructors can really connect with our students in different ways. I actually can't imagine doing this job without Jamf Pro."

"The biggest way Jamf contributes to our success here is through customer support and familiar interfaces. Everything is just so easy to use, and it's so intuitive. I could probably take any non-IT person and teach them to use it in an hour and have them deploying apps."

- Bob Tschopp, manager of IT Services, Maryville University







SEEING HUGE COST SAVINGS

While time is nothing to scoff at, neither are the financial savings. Since implementing Apple School Manager, Bell said, "When you look at all the apps that we've given our faculty and our students, we are saving no less than \$50,000 on apps alone, per semester, thanks to the Apple EDU discount.

Based only on software, the savings are even greater. She added, "If we were to provide that same experience for students on a desktop, we could spend up to \$590,000 annually. And that is without providing them with a personal device."

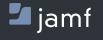


EQUALIZING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS

While cost is always on the mind of administrators, Lombardi said providing an equal opportunity for students to learn is most important. "Trying to educate people like one size fits all in a warehouse doesn't work anymore," he said. "And really, that's been the great tragedy of education, not just higher ed, but K-12 historically. So many people fall through the cracks. Not because they're dumb. Not because they're lazy. Not because of any of those things. Because the way they're being taught doesn't fit their learning style."

Lombardi added, "The 1-to-1 iPad initiative allows students to access content, information and knowledge in the way their brain works. That allows them to process it. It allows them to grasp it. It allows them to learn and move forward. And it's amazing when you see the impact of it." At Maryville, they provide that access to their students on an iPad.

In the fall of 2018, every freshman will receive a 10.5 inch iPad Pro and Apple Pencil. Lombardi said this gift to the students is no longer a bonus – it's a necessity. He said, "What really matters, simply, is that the student is able to have that device, have the content and then can access it and be taught how to do it. That's all that matters. And in that sense, it's one of the greatest democratizing forces of education that I've ever seen."



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