

OEI: STUDENT FOCUS BRINGS EFFICIENCIES

FOCUS ON EFFICIENCY

The Online Education Initiative (OEI) will ensure a significant increase in the number of students able to complete their educational goals. OEI will accomplish this by increasing both access to and success in high-quality online courses and programs.

Launched in December 2013 with a \$56.9-million, five-year grant from the California Community College District's (CCCCD) Chancellor's Office, the OEI represents a comprehensive and collaborative program leveraging best practices and technology to significantly increase opportunity for higher degree attainment in California.

Through the initiative, California Community Colleges have the opportunity to access free and negotiated low-cost resources to support a robust online learning ecosystem.

A key component of this work is the development of an exchange that gives students greater access to high-quality online courses at participating community colleges that are recognized for transfer to UC and CSU programs.

The California Community College system is composed of 113 colleges in 72 districts with a philosophy of local control. The initiative's goal is to provide opportunities for collaboration, investment in technology, shared resources and systemwide efficiencies that were never possible before.

Erik Skinner, the system's interim chancellor, says "This project is changing the face of California's 113-college, 2.1-million student community college system."

OPPORTUNITIES AND SOLUTIONS

Because of the OEI, colleges can choose resources to fit their needs, including:

- Professional development and other resources.
- Participation in the OEI Consortium and Exchange.

OEI offers colleges systemwide negotiated contracts for services, including:

- Online tutoring platform from Link-Systems International, free to CCCs.
- NetTutors from Link-Systems International, free to the 24 pilot colleges.
- Online proctoring from Proctorio, 20 percent cost savings.
- Online plagiarism detection from VeriCite, 46 percent cost savings.
- Online counseling platform from Cranium Café, free to pilot colleges and systemwide volume discount.

MILESTONES

Fall 2016

- Online counseling platform and resources available.
- Exchange pilot for spring 2017 classes launches.

Spring - Summer 2016

- Academic integrity resources initiated.

Oct 2015

- OEI Consortium launched.

Jun 2015

- Accessibility (ADA) tutorials and resources made available.

Mar 2015

- Underprepared student resources commenced.

Spring 2015

- Instructure's Canvas is selected as the statewide common course management system.

Fall 2014

- Peer review of online courses aligned with the rubric began.
- Online learner-readiness tools (Creative Commons) opened.
- Link-Systems' online tutoring platform and 24/7 online tutoring launched.

Aug 2014

- Quality online course rubric and online design and delivery system started.

QUANTIFICATION AND RESULTS

Halfway through the five-year grant cycle, OEI is already showing significant impact. Independent evaluations of OEI pilots from the educational consultant RP Group reports:

Students believe online readiness resources will positively impact their chances of success in their online courses;

Students who have never used tutoring are taking advantage of online tutoring and students have found online tutoring easy to use; and

Instructors believe the course review process will benefit students and student learning.

Colleges are eager to participate:

96 percent of the 113 colleges in the system have benefited from the initiative;

After just one year, 90 of 113 colleges have declared their intent to migrate to Canvas and more than 60 have started the migration process. This is at least two years ahead of expectations;

Colleges are already realizing benefits from greater access to course design resources, professional development, and online student support service; and

Technology purchases alone are estimated to be saving the system more than \$8 million annually, and offering colleges access to resources they couldn't afford on their own.

By working together, the community college system will benefit from increased efficiencies:

OEI will save the system at least \$8 million annually and will significantly increase access to online technology and resources.

Demonstrating the state's faith in further significant impact, the OEI recently received an additional \$20 million in one-time funding to further accelerate expansion.

OEI is expected to receive continued funding at an increased level that continues beyond the 5-year grant period.

IMPACT AND BENEFITS

OEI Benefits

- Provide resources to colleges to allow for the addition of quality online courses;
- Improve student success and retention by preparing students and faculty and providing quality course design and content resources; and
- Provide students with opportunities to take classes when and where they need them.

PROJECT TEAM

OEI EXECUTIVE SPONSORS

Joe Moreau
Foothill De Anza Community College

Tim Calhoun
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California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office

OEI Steering Committee

OEI Consortium and Pilot Colleges

OEI EXECUTIVE STAFF

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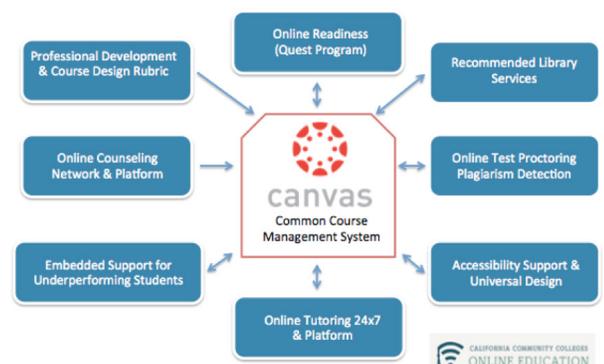
Autumn Bell
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Jory Hadsell
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Steve Klein
OEI statewide program director, Tech Center

Bonnie Peters
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Current Online Education Initiative Ecosystem



LESSONS LEARNED

Our guiding philosophy is to:

- 1 Always consider what is best for students.
- 2 Engage in 'agile' project management.
- 3 Consider the big picture.
- 4 Leverage systemwide agreements.
- 5 Students prefer a consistent online experience.
- 6 Involve everyone in the project.

REFERENCES

[CCConlineEd.org](https://ccconlineed.org)

Foundation for CCCs
College Buys:

[https://foundationccc.org/
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Canvas Implementation
Guide:

[https://ccconlineed.
instructure.com/
courses/90/pages/home](https://ccconlineed.instructure.com/courses/90/pages/home)