LTI CERTIFIED BLUEPULSE 2 - STUDENT SUCCESS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

CHALLENGE

The student population entering higher education is getting increasingly diverse – working adults, returning veterans, first-generation students, international students, students from low-income families, etc. Such a diverse student population, combined with the changing performance-based funding landscape, is creating significant pressures for institutions to address long-standing issues of access and completion with results. Institutions are putting student engagement and success at the forefront. Students say that the single most important factor in their success is their relationship with faculty and indicate that they thrive when instructors use feedback and assessment during the learning experience. In particular, timely two-way formative feedback plays a key role in boosting student learning experience and success.
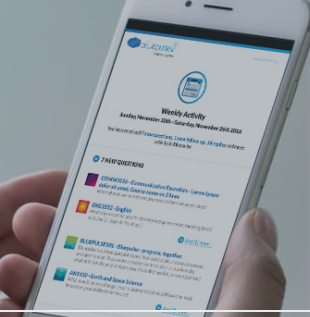
SOLUTION

Bluepulse 2® is an online social feedback platform that drives student success. Meeting all the criteria for an effective formative assessment channel, Bluepulse 2 enables confidential two-way communication between instructors and students to promote an open dialogue. Bluepulse 2 gives students a voice and enables instructors to communicate with all students, not just those who are comfortable speaking out. With Bluepulse 2, all voices are heard and instructors get a comprehensive view of student learning and progress.

HOW IT WORKS

Bluepulse 2 enables instructors to check how students are learning, adjust delivery pace, and offer support anytime, anywhere as courses are delivered through three easy steps. First, instructors can check-in with students by asking a quick question or by scheduling automatic weekly questions to follow challenges and progress. Second, instructors listen to and respond to confidential student feedback as needed throughout the semester. Lastly, instructors can send tailored follow-up questions, take necessary intervention actions, and provide support when students need it most.

TECHNOLOGY

Bluepulse 2 is a Cloud-based solution that can be set-up to meet an institution's needs either through the standalone web version or via LMS integration (Blackboard Learn™, Canvas by Instructure, Brightspace by D2L, Moodle, or Sakai). Bluepulse 2 is LTI v1.0 Compliant and IMS Global Certified, and appears as an LTI tool within courses. Intuitive and accessible, Bluepulse 2 can be used through any web browser, smartphone, laptop, tablet, screen reader, or input device and used on-the-go with the downloadable mobile (iOS and Android) or LMS app. Ensuring an equivalent experience for all, Bluepulse 2 is compliant with accessibility standards and is WCAG 2.0 (AA) and VPAT 508 (ADA).

Protecting confidentiality at all levels, students are not identified through any personal information and the data gathered is the sole property of the institution.

LEARNING IMPACT OUTCOMES

Bluepulse 2 benefits both students and instructors alike resulting in increased engagement, continuous improvement, learning analytics, and better end-of-term course evaluation results. For example:

Bluepulse 2 "gives the quieter students an opportunity to lend their voices, without necessarily having to speak out in class. Having students feel like they have more influence over class direction is very, very meaningful. It makes them feel more engaged." - Taiwo Ande, Assistant Provost for Institutional Analysis and Effectiveness, University of Mary Washington.

> *"Bluepulse 2 has definitely reduced the number of surprises we see at the end of semester on course evaluations. It provides real data that faculty can use for their own professional development in addition to their pedagogical improvement."*
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> **Taiwo Ande**, Assistant Provost for Institutional Analysis and Effectiveness, University of Mary Washington

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

When institutions implement Bluepulse 2, the result is a better understanding of student expectations, needs, and progress. The learning interaction feedback data can be used to close learning gaps and enhance outcomes. This is particularly helpful to institutions and instructors addressing long-standing issues of access and completion with results, as the student population is getting increasingly diverse. "By facilitating direct communication between teachers and students and providing learning feedback data, Bluepulse 2 enables instructors to better understand and address students' expectations" - Professor Geoffrey Crisp, Dean of Learning and Teaching, Academic Portfolio, RMIT University. Other benefits from instructors' perspectives include reaching and engaging all students in the learning process, the ability to act on student feedback in a timely manner, improving end-of-term course evaluation results, and using the data for continuous improvement (enhancing instruction, shaping course content, and improving delivery mechanisms). Thus, the ROI from Bluepulse 2 is the ongoing improvement of student success by tapping into feedback with a focus on outcomes, retention, and wellness throughout the student lifecycle.