Closing the Circle:
Using
Assessment to
Identify and
Address Issues
Associated with
Peer Notetaking
Services



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Current Issues:

Peer-to-Peer Notetaking

Harder and harder to find notetakers

Especially true for Graduate programs small # of students in classes

Vet Med and Pharmacy Programs competitive programs courses are back-to-back (8-5)

Student requesting but not downloading or using notes

By week 4 of term - 50% of students had not downloaded notes

Assessment 2016-2017 Student Satisfaction Surveys

Do you feel your notetaker(s) and/or instructors have respected your confidentialy

"I have had them walk up to me in class and talk about the notes. I also received an email that had all the names of the people she was taking notes for..."

"For upper division by having my name appear on their uploading they know who I am and I am singled out".

"I do feel my confidentiality wascompromised. Because my entire cohort is randomly assigned one or two sections for the same class and only people in my cohort take those classes. Everyone knew that somebody in the cohort had a disability. It was easy to narrow down who needed notes".



Are your notetakers uploading notes for your classes within 24 hours of your class?

40% of respondents stated that notes are **not** being uploaded within a 24 hour period

"Some notes are hard to read due to photos being submitted sideways or with low quality scanning"

"Notetaker is taking very little notes for a longer class time"

Assessment 2017-2018 Faculty Satisfaction Surveys

From your experience, when DAS contacts you for assistance with recruiting a notetaker, are there ways that DAS can provide additional support to faculty for this process?

"Making the pay more attractive will make it easier to recruit notetakers".

"You need standards for your notetakers, I started publishing complete lectures to the internet because your notetaker was brutally incompetent in the subject, and only moderately literate. When I saw the notes that were going out to my disabled students from your incompetent notetaker, I was honestly terrified by the state of things. I tried to remedy it by publishing notes but students took that as a sign that they could passively manage materials in my class - which they cannot successfully do"

Do you make lecture notes available for all of your students? (not just blank PowerPoints)

"Notetaking is a means of personal meaning making, so often not possible to be done by others"



If technology was available that would allow you to make your lecture notes available to all students, would you be interested in using it?

53% of respondents identified they would be interested in using technology in this way.

What the Research indicated



Students need to be doing something with the material they are engaging with (reading, writing, discussing, solving problems) *Engagement with the material is critical*.

New technologies have potential, but students are not taught notetaking skills.



Recording technologies allows students to actively follow the lecture and later rephrase lecture points in their own words.



We need to help students understand the reasons for needing to take and interact regulary with their notes



- $\underline{\bullet} \underline{https://theconversation.com/whats-the-best-most-eff} \underline{ective-way-to-take-notes-41961}$
- •http://success.oregonstate.edu/learning/effective-note-taking
- •Boyle, J.R., Rivera, T.Z. (2012). Note-taking techniques for students with disabilities: A systematic review of the research. Learning Disability Quarterly 35(3) 131-143. doi: 10.1177/0731948711435794
- •Boyle, J. R., Forchelli, G. A. & Cariss, K. (2015). Note-taking interventions to assist students with disabilities in content area classes.
- Preventing School Failure 59(3), 186-195. Routledge Taylor & Francis Group. doi: 10.1080/1045988X.2014.903463
- •Reed, D.K., Rimel, H. & Hallett, A. (2016). Note-taking interventions for college students: A synthesis and meta-analysis of the literature. Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness (9)3, 307-333. doi: 10.1080/19345747.2015.1105894

What DAS changed

Added Sonocent technology subscription for 2 years

Purchased additional LiveScribe Pens 43 additional pens

All notetaking eligible, incoming students for fall 2017 were given a choice of notetaking technologies, with peer-to-peer being one of the last options available



Reassessed Spring 2018 students reported:

"The potential to record lectures decreases my stress levels"

"I'm thankful to have this technology. It has allowed me to get more from classes and I have felt better prepared then I was when trying to keep up with classroom peers".

"LiveScribe has really helped me and I have recommended it to friends that have struggled with keeping up in taking notes because of their disabilities".

"Livescribe is a good tool, but I've found OneNote is more effective for me in terms of comfort of use and note quality (can use multiple colors)."

70% of respondents using Sonocent stated they believe it positively impacted their grades.