The "Wow" Factor!
An Alternative Educational Technology Pilot Project

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Introduction of Project
by Betty Sedor, El Camino College

• El Camino College Community Education
Fee-based, short-term, not-for-credit personal and professional development classes and events, including career-training programs.
...with an emphasis on inspiring a sense of wonder and imagination for lifelong learning.

• #1 Career Training Program
Medical Billing and Coding

• Medical Billing and Coding jobs expected to grow 22% from 2012 to 2022.
Supply vs. Demand

Supply
• Limited availability of dynamic and qualified “rock star” instructors

• Top instructors are stretched thin—either teaching at multiple colleges or limited in contracted instruction hours

Demand
• “Help!” Students need more course offerings.
• And more classroom time.
 “I wish it were longer- more weeks to study and understand better.”

✓ More classroom time = higher class fees$$$$
✓ Delayed employment
Dilemma

• How do I clone my rock star teachers?
• How can I add more classes per year?
• How do I get more students trained?
• How do I bring that “Wow” factor into the classroom?
The “Wow” Factor!
Disengaged: Classroom Sleeper
Disengaged: Classroom Texting
It’s time to bring back the Sexy!
Ways to Engage Students

Disengaged Student = The eyes roll back, the mouth scowls, the fingers grip the not-so-secretly hidden cellphone, and the brain checks out.

#1 Use 1:1 Devices
✓ Tablets, Phones, & laptops allow students to work on an environment they’re comfortable with—the digital landscape is a more natural place for students to learn, explore, and create, than the traditional textbook, pen, and paper one.

✓ Giving students technology and knowledge at their fingertips can help them remain focused on the learning at hand.
Students value the ways in which technology helps them achieve their academic goals and prepares them for their future academic and workplace activities.

Technology helps me
- achieve my academic outcomes (76%)
- prepare for future educational plans (76%)
- prepare for the workplace (61%)

2/3 of students said most/all of their instructors...
- have adequate technical skills
- use technology effectively

E-BOOK USE IN COURSES
- Did not use
  - Used in one: 35%
  - Used in half or more: 26%
  - Used in a few: 17%

71% of students use open educational resources

54% of students say...
- e-books are important to their academic success
- wish their instructors would use them more

Students & Technology 2013
Educause.edu
Top Education Technology Trends

The Need to Develop Cultures of Innovation
A culture of innovation not only embraces the new technology and ideas re-shaping education.

Increasing Collaboration Between Institutions
The number and importance of educational consortia is growing. Technology is one of the catalysts of this on two very different levels:
✓ Tech is expensive, but also increasingly important.
✓ Schools can share resources. i.e. instructors

Increase in Blended Learning
✓ Blended learning may be the bigger innovation to come of the shift to online learning, as it combines the benefits of the technology of online learning with the accessibility of working with teachers face-to-face.
✓ Access to more online resources in whatever format students learn from best, accessible wherever and whenever they want, enables better learning outside of the classroom. Add to that a greater availability of teachers once in the classroom and you have a powerful tool that provides students with the best of both worlds.
What is a Blended Hybrid Class?

Hybrid classes or “blended learning” combines the best of face-to-face & online teaching/learning environments.
LERN Forecasts for 2016: Alternative Learning

“Information That Works!”

- We are in the second year of a 15 year period of educational change of total transformation of how classes and events are delivered: eTools, designing multimedia, neuro-education, learning styles, blended learning, and the flipped classroom among others.

- **Blended Now!** More teachers and programs will be experimenting with blended learning, combining in-person class meetings with asynchronous online classrooms to provide a combined experience that is superior in learning.
**Synchronous & Asynchronous Classes**

1. **What is Asynchronous Learning?**
   
   Asynchronous learning allows you to take online courses on your own schedule.
   
   Instructors provide materials, lectures, tests, and assignments that can be accessed at any time.
   
   Students may be given a time frame – usually a one week window – during which they need to connect at least once or twice.
   
   Overall, students are free to contribute whenever they choose.

2. **What is Synchronous Learning?**
   
   Synchronous online classes are those that require students and instructors to be online at the same time.
   
   Lectures, discussions, and presentations occur at a specific hour.
   
   All students must be online at that specific hour in order to participate.
The best practices for blended learning are still being developed, but as more colleges experiment with it and track what works best, it can only get better. –Edudemic *Top Education Technology Trends* By Kristen Hicks on May 13, 2015
Need For Alternative Learning Formats

The appetite for learning hasn’t changed, but the way people are learning has changed.

Education technology is evolving rapidly—the options can be daunting and the quality inconsistent.

- Multiple Online LMS systems: Etudes, Canvas, Blackboard

- Multiple Online Training Providers: Lynda.com, Udemy, Khan Academy, You Tube, eHow, Ed2Go, Knowmia
  ✓ Individual online course success rates are low.
  ✓ Many students inevitably return to the classroom supplementing their online experience with in-person teacher-student “social” interaction.
One Size Does Not Fit All

- Each Community & Community Education program is different
- Each instructor is different in how he/she uses teaching tools

Most video and online education providers do not offer flexibility in how their content can be used.
Solution

• Intelecom Medical Billing and Coding pilot is designed to offer flexibility of usage, either as a stand alone course, supplemental video content in the classroom, or as an “electronic textbook”:

An “electronic textbook” of key principles of Medical Coding and Billing that can be watched multiple times by students and substantiated, supported, and tested in-class by an instructor.

The “electronic textbook” will provide imaginative, engaging, and relevant content that is more effective than a textbook.

The “wow” factor! Inspiring wonder and imagination for learning!
Students & Technology 2013
Educause.edu

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1/2 of students say...
...e-books are important to their academic success
...wish their instructors would use them more
Community Education directors and instructors can choose how to use the Intelecom product:

- Flipped classroom
- Blended classroom
- Hybrid classroom
- Stand-alone course
- Electronic textbook
Presentation of the Pilot Videos/Site
by Sydnee Risk
Instructor’s Perspective
by Jo Moore
Q & A

How are you bringing the “Wow” factor into your job-training classrooms?

What are the pros and cons of alternative learning formats at your college?