



## THREE WAYS CLOUD COMMUNICATIONS CAN BENEFIT HIGHER EDUCATION

### IMPROVE STUDENTS' EXPERIENCES, STAFF PRODUCTIVITY, AND OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY – ALL WITH ONE COMMUNICATIONS PLATFORM

Universities, community colleges, and vocational schools are under constant pressure to increase services, do more with less, and make sure every constituent group – from students to staff to alumni – feels informed and engaged. One of the most valuable tools in meeting these objectives? Transparent, effective, and timely communication.

A fully integrated cloud communications platform goes a long way toward improving student, staff, alumni, and community experience, outreach, and engagement – regardless of whether classes are in person or online. Plus, it increases professor and administrative productivity and improves operational efficiencies.

Let's look at three key use cases for higher education – along with the benefits and capabilities needed to implement each.

## ENGAGEMENT AND COLLABORATION

### **Engage in the channels that your students, staff, and administration prefer.**

Communication preferences vary as widely as learning styles. Students may appreciate a text or email. Staff probably need virtual meeting and collaboration capabilities. And alumni may welcome a phone call. When all communications channels are supported and integrated, your interactions can move seamlessly across channels, empowering you to build relationships and form communities from orientation through to graduation.

Intermedia Unite helps you connect with students, staff, administration, and the broader community more efficiently and effectively. Your educators and administrators can interact across multiple channels, supported by integrated chat, SMS, video conferencing, phone, screen sharing, and more. Students can use the platform to form groups and communities that further their educational experiences. With Unite, you can switch between channels as circumstances dictate and people prefer, encouraging engagement and collaboration at all levels.

### Benefits



#### **Always-on communication**

Take advantage of every opportunity to communicate and educate. Call or text at any time and from any device, keeping your students, faculty, and campus connected and informed.



#### **Build community**

Use the channel of your choice to easily collaborate across the classroom or campus, building relationships and community, from prospective student through to alumni.



#### **Unique, seamless experience**

Whether assigning homework, scheduling an out-of-class help session, or running a booster meeting, your student, administrator, educator, or alumni gets the same seamless digital experience.

## STAFF PRODUCTIVITY

### **Work from wherever with integrated, mobile communications.**

Your professors want to spend more time teaching – and less time worrying about behind-the-scenes admin tasks. And you want them connected, whether they're in the classroom, teaching remotely, or anywhere else.



Intermedia's integrated cloud communications platform allows your teaching staff to easily connect with students, assistants, and colleagues. Need to finish an internal department call on the commute home? No problem: You can move seamlessly between your office phone or PC to mobile. Important meeting with alumni in different locations? Online video conferencing is a great answer. Our feature-rich set of tightly integrated and intuitive cloud communications solutions empower your staff to easily manage call queues, transfer callers, log important interaction details, and share files. They'll be ready and able to answer questions through any channel on any device from any location.

## Benefits



### **Connect from anywhere, anytime**

Integrated cloud communications allow you to stay connected regardless of location. Teaching virtually from home? No problem. Want to share work in an online student conference? Easy to do.



### **Work smarter, not harder**

Switching between channels and functionality with different applications takes time and can be frustrating. When your educators have integrated chat, SMS, video conferencing, phone, screen sharing, and file backup, they can spend more time teaching and less time on administrative tasks.



### **Increase productivity**

Provide the tools for a more flexible, effective, and productive staff that communicates and collaborates anytime, from anywhere, and on any device.

## OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY

### Easily scale and flex as your teaching needs change.

Relying solely on landline phone systems for higher education is an outdated model that's expensive to maintain and hard to move. University and community college campuses need phones in classrooms and offices – each with its own number – that are secure, trackable, and portable.

Investing in a cloud communications platform allows educators to materially increase operational efficiency. If you have plans to build new facilities or simply shuffle classrooms, cloud communications platforms make it easy to scale in a budget-friendly manner without the need to rewire or purchase new on-site hardware. And mobile apps make connecting with roaming instructors a snap.

### Benefits



#### Scale and flexibility

Cloud-based communications platforms are simple to scale and manage. As classroom or department sizes flex, it's easy to create a new account, port numbers, and drop ship new phones – all from a central account.



#### Increased control over privacy

With our mobile app, instructors can control access, increase privacy, and field student or alumni calls – without having to reveal their personal phone numbers.



#### Budget-friendly operations

Our attractively priced Unite version lets you keep phones in every classroom and office.

Contact us today to find out how a fully integrated cloud communications platform can help your campus deliver on its educational mission.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US TODAY!

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