

About Timecruiser Computing Corporation®

Since 1995, institutions of higher education have relied upon Timecruiser to deliver innovative enterprise management solutions, backed by unrivaled customer service and technical support. Timecruiser's award-winning products are used by over 2.5 million students, faculty, and administrators at 90 institutions to

Improve Campus Communication

Implement Effective Course
Management

Streamline Faculty Workload

Build Cohesive Campus Communities

Increase Efficiencies Campus-wide

The company's flagship product, CampusCruiser® was launched in 1999. In recent years, Timecruiser has expanded to include CourseCruiser™ Learning Management System, which assists faculty in efficiently managing and delivering learning content and resources to students and CruiserAlert™, high priority and emergency mass notification system.

Learn More

Contact Timecruiser today for more information.

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Tarrant County College Embraces CampusCruiser®

"My CampusCruiser workshop included showing instructors how to set up an actual class in a live setting. The plan was to get them to set up one course to see first-hand how CourseCruiser was easy to learn and beneficial in managing a course. Well, once an instructor set up one class, they started setting up another. Many of them had all their courses set up by the end of the instructional period. They were sold on CampusCruiser."

Natalie Johnson, Associate Professor of Mathematics and District CampusCruiser Trainer

Challenge: Increasing usage of CampusCruiser

Tarrant County College District (TCC) is a comprehensive two-year institution established in 1965. TCC serves the citizens of Tarrant County, Texas, with four major campuses in the cities of Hurst (Northeast Campus), Fort Worth (Northwest and South Campuses), and Arlington (Southeast Campus). Administrative offices are in downtown Fort Worth at the May Owen Center. Total enrollment for the four campuses is approximately 38,000.

In 2001, Tarrant County College conducted a review of its course management practices and campus communications, and concluded that CampusCruiser from Timecruiser Computing Corporation® was the best solution for their multiple-campus college. "The ease of use, managed student email accounts, centralized location for online resources and its integration with Datatel's Colleague system made Campus Cruiser stand out from the pack," said Wanda Shelton, Applications Consultant, with TCC's information systems department.

CampusCruiser was introduced at TCC in 2003, however, the administration soon realized that CampusCruiser was not gaining users at the pace they expected. Students that tried the on-demand solution for campus-wide communication, community development, and learning management were impressed with its features. However, since many instructors had not yet adopted Campus Cruiser, students could not use the solution to obtain grades, download curricula, learn of course assignments and more. The administration of TCC decided to work closely with their Timecruiser Computing account service representative, Dave Lustig, and develop a comprehensive plan to bring faculty and students together under the CampusCruiser umbrella.

Solution: Gain support from instructors

Maria Shelton, Vice Chancellor, Information and Technical Services, and Dave Lustig put their heads together and devised a plan focused on TCC's instructors. Instructors were seen as key to expanding the user base. Get the faculty on board and the students would certainly follow their lead.

In the summer of 2006, a number of instructors were invited to dedicate a full day to learning about CampusCruiser. In return, they were given a small stipend and lunch was provided. These new users soon discovered that CampusCruiser not only offered a superior method to share grades, but was a comprehensive, faculty-focused learning management system. They were able to see first-hand how the CourseCruiser™ module

would help them effectively and efficiently manage and deliver learning content and resources to students, and enable them to guide their students through courses by organizing learning materials in accordance with a progressive learning path.

Instructors from each campus were challenged to become a “power user” for their campus, and provide support to other instructors as they joined the system. The selected instructors answered the call by becoming their campus’ resource, holding their own training sessions for new users, and providing ongoing support to faculty on their campuses.

One early adopter, Natalie Johnson, Associate of Professor in Mathematics, knew the system would benefit both instructors and students. The existing database system of recording grades was antiquated, forcing substantial importing and exporting of data, while CampusCruiser made the recording and dissemination of grades a breeze. This benefit alone brought many instructors on-board. Natalie became one of the first “District CampusCruiser Trainers” and has personally instructed many of her colleagues.

The trainers (or power users) were provided training tools, such as instructor manuals and a slide presentation on CampusCruiser. They then held workshops throughout the district for the entire faculty. The workshops were “active,” meaning the faculty set up their classes in real time during workshop. After the workshops, the majority of instructors agreed that CampusCruiser was a superior solution to their previous course tools.

Results: Two-thirds of students join CampusCruiser

Teachers embraced the system, and soon the students followed suit – just as planned. By the end of the fall semester (December 2007), approximately two-thirds of the students were using CampusCruiser.

Teachers embraced CampusCruiser because it:

- Saved time by eliminating ongoing student requests for grades in classes.
- Provided one source to access and post pertinent class information to multiple students and classes.
- Provided a “one-stop software” concept for instructors to issue assignments, versus using multiple programs.

As teachers used CampusCruiser for their course management, the system’s content and value simultaneously improved for the student users. CampusCruiser benefited TCC students by providing:

- Ongoing information on their average grade throughout the semester.
- Unlimited access to personal electronic communication (e-mail).
- Easy access to their classmates, courses and instructors.

Students (and faculty) also soon discovered the “community” features of CampusCruiser. Community provides a space for campus clubs, groups, and organizations to interact online, encouraging community growth and participation. The many popular campus clubs and active committees soon created their own virtual office space for enhanced collaboration, interaction and communication.

In the fall of 2007, CampusCruiser became the mandatory course management system for all instructors. Students and faculty now enjoy a uniform, simple and content-rich campus-wide communication, community development, and learning management system.

“Timecruiser Computing values our feedback. As instructors identify features they feel would improve CampusCruiser’s ability to support teaching and learning, they take our suggestions for possible inclusion in the base product.”

Maria Shelton, Vice Chancellor, Information and Technical Services