

San Jose State University

San Jose State University students learn mobile computing first-hand with HP

"HP mobility products are exceeding my expectations, particularly the HP Tablet PC TC1100. The design is perfect for helping both students and professors process the huge amounts of information they encounter on a daily basis. The connectivity makes it easy to conduct research on-demand and the screen resolution is such that I can really work with it as a paperless book. I'm beginning to see this as a multipurpose tool that can replace the PDA, my laptop, the whiteboard, and all of my stacks of paper. I think of it as a portable whiteboard. It can have a huge impact on education."

-- Malu Roldan, Assistant Professor, Management Information Systems, San Jose State University

San Jose State University wanted to explore ways in which it could more closely engage with the local community and businesses to expand their students' learning opportunities.

Located in the heart of Silicon Valley, San Jose State University (SJSU) is known for its cutting-edge programs, award-winning faculty, and private sector collaborations. Above all, it is committed to educating its students to compete in, and contribute to, today's increasingly complex global economy.

Given its unique stature in what is considered "the high tech capital of the world," it is not surprising that SJSU has a strong focus on technology.

"We really want to equip our students with the skills they will need in today's and tomorrow's business world," commented Malu Roldan, Assistant Professor, Management Information Systems at SJSU. "Our students need to be capable of working with technology in a business setting and working in teams, across functions, to apply technology to solve business problems."

Help from HP

According to Roldan, "In 2002, SJSU started to explore ways in which it could more closely engage with the local community and businesses to expand our students' learning opportunities. We wanted to explore how mobile computing could facilitate the breaking down of barriers to collaboration within the campus and with the general community, and how that might impact education."

Community involvement has been a mainstay of HP's corporate objectives since the company was founded in 1939. The objectives of HP's Applied Mobile Technology Solutions in Learning Environments grant initiative was a perfect match with SJSU's goals. This initiative was designed to influence teaching and the learning experience of students on campus through the innovative application of mobile technology. SJSU received its first grant from HP in 2003.

Challenges

- Equip students with skills to work in today's and tomorrow's business environment

- Teach students to be able to apply computing technology to solve business problems.
- Help students explore how mobility solutions can be deployed to make everyday processes more efficient and easier to execute.
- Explore methods to make conventional paper-based text more useful and accessible in the education environment.

Solution

- 48 HP Tablet PC TC1000s
- 20 HP Tablet PC TC1100s Adaptive Book software TextCENTRIC, Inc.
- 42 HP iPAQ Pocket PC model 5450s
- 10 HP iPAQ Pocket PC model 4350s
- 10 HP iPAQ Pocket PC model 1945s
- Two HP Applied Mobile Technology Solutions in Learning Environments grants
- One grant from Engineering Projects in Community Service (EPICS), a Purdue University program supported by HP and the National Science Foundation.

Results

- Students can multi-task and be more efficient with mobile technology.
- HP Tablet PCs and HP iPAQ Pocket PCs used to solve business challenges.
- Both teaching and learning benefit, via the HP Tablet PC and Adaptive Book software, by being made more efficient, by experiencing an enhanced educational environment, and by massively reducing the need for paper.