



Owens Community College Manages Across Silos with Daptiv PPM

“We’re spending 80% less time generating and communicating reports with the automated Daptiv PPM reports functionality.”

Scott Coffman, Associate Director of Applications & Programming

AT A GLANCE

KEY FACTS

- Owens Community College began rolling out Daptiv PPM by assigning tasks across departments and initiatives—and there was quick impact on how they were able to execute on important projects.
- Daptiv PPM is being used across departments to auto-generate reports, create project request forms and keep track of who is mandating different projects.
- Because of Daptiv PPM, there is increased communication among the college departments, along with an overall improvement in task execution.

Founded in 1965, Owens Community College offers education to those who are seeking an associate degree, continuing education courses and professional development. The college is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and has two campuses in Toledo and Findlay, Ohio. Over 45,000 credit and non-credit students are served annually.

ORGANIZATION NEED

In July of 2008, Scott Coffman came aboard as Associate Director of Applications & Programming at Owens Community College. Daptiv PPM had already been chosen to replace Microsoft Project Server and other spreadsheet-based applications in the Information Technology arena. “It became evident that Daptiv PPM could be a valuable resource to several committees and departments across the college,” says Coffman. “When accepting a new project, we make sure that everyone is able to log into Daptiv PPM to manage their department’s tasks. Invariably, those involved in using Daptiv PPM, request additional Daptiv PPM resources. We are

now introducing more agile development techniques in the programming environment. By reducing documentation and focusing on activities that complete projects, Daptiv PPM is helping us keep up with an ever-changing priority list.” To kick things off, there was an onsite Daptiv training to get everyone on the same page and up to speed. “It can be a slow process to introduce change but by assigning tasks across departments, updating project status, and using Daptiv reports for meeting agendas, project members have followed the lead and are beginning to see more unified execution on important initiatives,” says Coffman.

SIMPLE BUSINESS SOLUTION FOR MULTIPLE DEPARTMENTS

“Across departments, we are taking advantage of Daptiv PPM’s auto-generated reports and we’ve also created project request forms and Daptiv Dynamic Applications to track who is mandating different projects,” says Coffman. “The beauty of Daptiv PPM is that it is flexible and simple enough to use that people are effectively using the software due to its benefits rather than being mandated.”



“We are gaining 50% of the time it took to update the old spreadsheet-based program for status reporting. Since we are in Daptiv PPM working on our tasks daily, updating the project status is a cinch.”

Scott Coffman, Associate
Director of Applications &
Programming

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Daptiv reporting in particular has increased awareness of what critical issues and tasks must be addressed. “I used to hate Gantt charts but I really like Daptiv’s Gantt charts and the reporting capabilities,” says Coffman. “They’re valuable from an analysis standpoint at meetings but they also work as an auto-generated reminder of what needs to be done.” Daptiv reports have even become the basis for recurring meetings. “Our Systems Analysts uses Daptiv reports to help rank project and task priorities from a collegiate perspective. We have created custom fields to drive projects depending on the particular project’s escalation requirements.”

A few examples of how Daptiv PPM is used to track projects and work:

Grants Department: At any given time, the college may monitor 200–300 active grants that they need to monitor for funding purposes. The requirements for this process involve reporting, tracking request deadlines and planning out future events for reporting, documentation, communication requirements and renewal time frames of the grantor.

Contracts Across Multiple Departments: The college has many contracts that they need to manage with technology and other vendors, such as Microsoft, Fujitsu, Oracle, etc. Owens Community College needed a way to monitor and stay aware of contract due dates, how many licenses they have with each vendor, as well as manage preparation work for renewal negotiations. Each contract has its own project created with license agreement data and renewal dates created with associated tasks.

AQIP (Academic Quality Improvement Project): A project was created to manage AQIP, an initiative to improve student learning. A project has been created for this initiative and reports are generated to help monitor the progress of meeting the AQIP goals.

OVERALL DAPTIV VALUE

“Daptiv brings you back to reality. In using the software, you realize just how much you have going on and what you need to accomplish,” says Coffman. “With all of your project information in one place, you can gain clear insight and perspective you didn’t have before...it really opens your eyes to why there’s a critical need for this type of solution and we’ve seen great improvements in communication.”

With Daptiv PPM, even the small projects have surfaced whereas before they might have been buried or pushed out further in the project pipeline. “It has become easier to see how the small projects stand out as the “low hanging fruit.” We are able to consciously give them priority to increase project completion and reduce the list of projects we are juggling, while still applying resources to our major initiatives,” says Coffman.

Lastly, Coffman says, “There are so many ways in which different individuals and departments can take advantage of Daptiv PPM—one idea we’re currently exploring is using the software to manage new build-outs and construction projects going on around the campus.” Daptiv PPM’s flexibility means that the solution can apply to many different types of work, regardless of division and easily spread value.

CREATING NEW BUSINESS APPLICATIONS WITH DAPTIV PPM

Since no two businesses are exactly alike, Daptiv PPM lets users—without technical skills—build and provision Dynamic Applications™ that function within your PPM environment and collect custom data in the way that your teams need it. This custom data becomes part of your Work Intelligence™, accessible to your reports and dashboards.

Daptiv PPM's dynamic data model changes every time you add or modify a field in your Dynamic Applications. This lets you leverage the power of the Daptiv platform, meaning you can create ad hoc or dashboard reports, charts, or graphs on any combination of native or custom data with Daptiv Work Intelligence™. You can make Daptiv PPM the single source of truth for work in your organization.

ABOUT DAPTIV

Founded in 1997, Daptiv is the leading provider of on-demand Project Portfolio Management (PPM) solutions. Daptiv has helped thousands of companies improve their strategic planning and business execution by offering adaptable PPM solutions and expert professional services. Daptiv's customers include world-class organizations such as Beam, Chase, Coach, Harvard University, Honeywell, International Hotels Group, and Virgin Australia. For more information about Daptiv's PPM solutions, please visit www.daptiv.com.

