

Education NEWS & NOTES

It's Not Your Mom And Dad's Classroom Anymore— Demystifying The Learning Tools Of Today

(NAPSA)—Even the most staid and traditional American universities are seeing changes in the way students are learning. The new learning tools they're using to do their course work and make the most of their educational experience would have been unimaginable to John Harvard or Leland Stanford.

No matter how futuristic these tools might seem, however, today's students know that digital textbooks, virtual tutors, online libraries, customized tablet PCs and other high-tech tools are here to stay. Today when freshmen purchase their textbooks, they're getting much more than just a book, they're getting an entire learning program.

For example, when buying a book, students can now get access to an entire online library that can be accessed anytime, anywhere. They can get a virtual tutor to answer their questions at 3 a.m. Such technology helps students learn faster and more effectively. With new tools in the classroom, everyone wins.

How and why did this marvelous transformation take place? Regarding the how, as technology and learning have converged, many publishers have evolved their learning tools to keep pace with the technologically advanced curricula. As such, they strive to provide a variety of suitable choices for instructors and students.

As far as the why, it's important to recognize how dramatically the academic environment has changed in the last decade. Enrollment and class size continue to grow—as do financial pressures—forcing institutions



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and instructors to take on greater workloads. Student demographics also continue to change, requiring instructors to address a broader variety of learning styles, achievement levels and cultural expectations. Technology advancements have positively impacted how students learn, how instructors teach and how course materials are developed and presented.

Today's students, raised on steady diets of high-tech innovations ranging from e-mail to instant messaging, increasingly look for dynamic, visual learning tools to engage them. Now instructors, administrators and publishers have banded together to offer exciting new materials to help everyone make the most of the college experience. A whole new world of opportunity awaits today's college students as they walk into classrooms and discover the new learning tools of the future. For more information about teaching and learning tools available today, visit www.newtexts.com.