



Improving student success by implementing educational technology

Mike Sauter

Alternative Media Specialist, Saddleback College

Dave Tucker

CEO, Sonocent



www.sonocent.com

This is Gaby. She's about to start college. She faces some challenges, but she's determined they won't hold her back.

Name: Gaby

Age: 25

Course: Business Studies

Challenges: Concentration, organization, working memory, handwriting, spelling

Strengths: Communication, collaboration, creativity, self-motivation, charisma



Gaby decided to work after high school and is equal parts excited and nervous about being a student again.



Gaby enjoys her classes but struggles to follow sometimes
The information just won't stick.



She knows that she needs to take notes in class in order to get the most value from them.

But there are problems...

She struggles with:

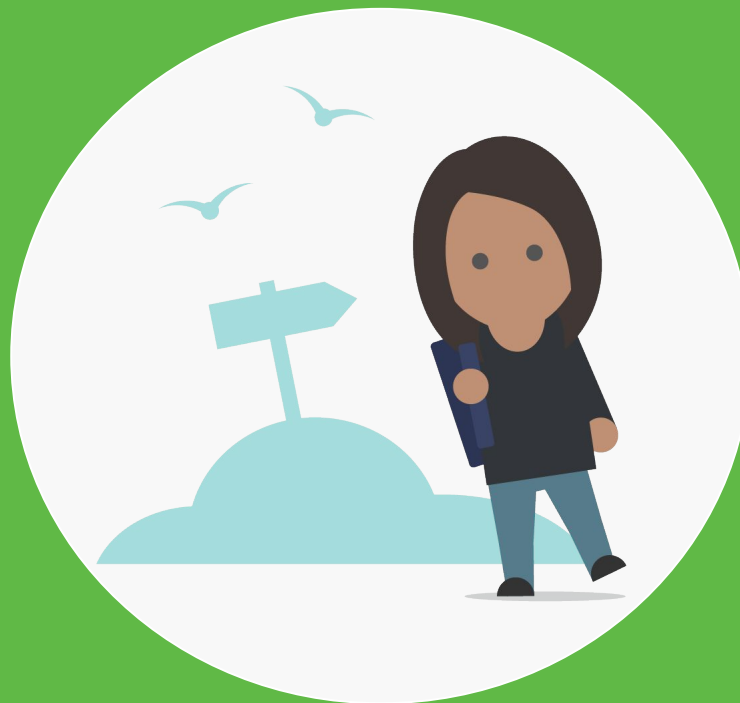
- Listening and writing at the same time
- Knowing what to write down - what is important?
- The legibility of her handwriting
- Understanding her notes after class



Gaby feels:

- Disengaged
- Anxious
- Frustrated

Staying on top of her studies becomes increasingly stressful and overwhelming. Her midterm results come in and they are not good.



Gaby wonders whether she is cut out for college...

A common story?

**Only 59% of full-time
undergraduates graduate
after 6 years.**

National Center for Education Statistics (2017)

In groups

- How familiar is Gaby's story to you?
- What does your department do to help students like Gaby?
- How effective is that support for improving students' success at college?



Modernizing note-taking support could transform college for students like Gaby.



**AMAZING
OPPORTUNITY!**

"The **highly positive relationship between notetaking**, for both organizational points and details, **and achievement was also confirmed** correlationally" *Titsworth, B. S., & Kiewra, K. A. (2004)*

"...amount of **note-taking is related to academic achievement.**" *Kiewra, Kenneth A., and Benton, Stephen L. (1988)*

"Accordingly, **notetaking during lecture** is considered **essential to student academic success.**" *Titsworth, B.S. (2001).*

"...**if information is recorded poorly in their notes**, students will more than likely **perform poorly on tests.**" *Stringfellow, J.L., & Miller, S. P. (2005).*

"...**accurate and complete notes are critical for students to be successful** in content area classes." *Boyle, J.R. (2012)*



**Better
notes
lead to
better
grades**



Why do students struggle?

1. It's a hard process
2. Students haven't developed the skills

Wouldn't it be great if you could somehow equip your students with note-taking superpowers?





PAST



PRESENT



FUTURE



ALTERNATIVE
PRESENT



With Sonocent, **students like Gaby** gain...

- ★ **THE POWER... to engage in class**
 - Focus on understanding and listening
- ★ **THE POWER... to develop transferable study skills**
 - Sonocent helps individuals achieve more throughout college and on to employment
- ★ **THE POWER... to achieve better grades**
 - 87% of students say Sonocent raised their GPA





Mike Sauter

Alternative Media Specialist
Saddleback College
msauter@saddleback.edu



Sonocent VRC Grant Project

- Collaboration between Veterans Resource Centers and Department of Special Program (DSPS)
- All 113 Community College were invited to apply
- 50 licenses of Sonocent Audio Notetaker



Learning Obstacle

Transition to Civilian and Student Life

- Age Differences
- Lifestyle Differences
- Rigid Daily Structure interrupted
- “Hard to Relate” on campus
- Intimidated



Learning Obstacle

Lack of Academic Success Skills

- Long lapse in Education
- Training vs. Critical Thinking
- There are “Stupid Questions”



Learning Obstacles

Financial and Benefits

- Confusion with VA benefits and GI Bill
- Family Obligations
- Work



Learning Obstacles

Disability

- Physical
- Learning
- Traumatic Brain Injury - Concussions
- PTSD
- Hearing Loss



Learning Obstacle

PRIDE

- Reluctance to ask for help
- Self Sufficient
- Use help that others need more



How the Project Works

- Bring Technology to the Vets
- Trainings in small groups
- Give away the software with no strings
- Provide support with follow up
- Peer mentors
- Tutoring Center



Why the Project Works!

- Addresses a need
 - Note Taking - Study Skills
- Independent Learning
- Processing information is self paced
- Hearing Loss accommodation
- First steps into DSPS services and additional support
- Peer groups - Students talk and share what works.



Q&A

Trial Sonocent **for free** at your institution

Come talk to me at this event.

Go online: www.sonocent.com/free-trial-information

Email us: better-notes@sonocent-usa.com

Call us: +1.202.657.4332

