Case Study

Jon Beaupré of CSULA

MOBILE-POWERED LIVE PANEL DISCUSSIONS CREATE RICH CLASSROOM LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

THE SUBJECTS

Jon Beaupré is a long-time professor of California State University Los Angeles' TV Film and Media Studies Department. Beaupré has worked extensively as a voice and performance consultant for radio and television performers, as well as a radio producer and journalist for local and internationally-syndicated programs.

Cal State L.A., a member of the California State University (CSU) system, offers excellent and innovative educational opportunities to an urban student population that reflects the diversity of the Los Angeles basin.

❯ SUMMARY

As a professor, Beaupré has always been a firm believer in deviating from traditional lecturing. He found Trumpia and thought the Text-to-Screen feature was a terrific way to engage students and encourage them to participate in educational conversations. Since using the Text-to-Screen tool for various classroom applications, Beaupré has been able to enjoy spirited interactions during live panel discourse, and has seen a major growth in participation among his students.

❯ CHALLENGE

Beaupré felt as though there was a shortage in educational tools that would help create an effective and interesting academic setting for his class. He was looking for something that would appeal to his students and be powerful enough to push even the most timid ones to speak up and participate. Beaupré wanted to get all of his students involved, but he knew that it would be difficult since large classroom settings are often intimidating for students. These were important objectives to meet in finding the right tool for his TV Film and Media course.

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APPLICATION

Beaupré put Trumpia's text-to-screen feature to creative and practical use, inviting local film, media, and broadcast professionals to his classroom to take part in a live panel discussion. He instructed his students to text the keyword "TVFILM" followed by a question to ask the panel members. Students were able to text open-ended questions to a large projector screen for the entire audience to see. The panel members would then go down the line of questions and answer aloud. Using Trumpia's platform, Beaupré was able to track participation by exporting the questions that were texted in and reward his students accordingly.

RESULTS

Beaupré has seen a noticeable increase in participation, especially among students who may not have joined the class conversation without the help of Text-to-Screen. He was pleased to see introverted students engage and interact in class because he believes their comments and inquiries are as valuable as those of avid participants. Beaupré has been able to transform texting, a widely considered classroom distraction, into an effective and constructive educational tool.

"I know that students are going to be texting in class regardless of what the rules are. Trumpia's Text-to-Screen feature has allowed me to turn that distraction into something productive and has helped me get students more involved."

- **Jon Beaupré,** CSULA