



ASPETE migrates to Office 365 for flawless communication between faculty, staff and students

Overview

Country: Greece

Industry: Education

Customer Profile

ASPETE has more than 2,000 students, as well as more than 250 faculty and staff members. It offers degrees, both undergraduate and postgraduate, in pedagogical and technological education.

Business Situation

The institution wanted to modernize its existing email system that was used only by faculty and staff and extend the service to its students in order to interact more effectively with each other.

Solution

ASPETE carefully considered its options and chose to adapt Microsoft Office 365 for education.

Benefits

- Improved accessibility and availability
- Improved communication and collaboration between faculty, staff and students
- Prepares students for the workplace

"Students come to ASPETE to prepare themselves to get jobs so we need to ensure they use the latest technology and tools they are going to be using at the workplace."

Apostolos Ikonou, IT Manager, ASPETE

Situation

At the time, ASPETE were using an on premise MS Exchange 2007 as a messaging and collaboration platform only for their 250+ faculty and staff. Also, they were relying on Microsoft Outlook for an email client, Microsoft Word for word processing as well as other product from the Microsoft Office suite. The institution's IT Team was having to spend so much time maintaining this environment that it was preventing the team from getting ahead of projects that were more important. Furthermore, the environment in place was supporting only faculty and staff leaving student out of the picture.

As the world is becoming more mobile and demanding access to communication and collaboration from anywhere and to any device, ASPETE knew they would have to make changes to their systems and this time include their 2,000+ students.

Solution

ASPETE's IT Team called in Office Line SA who is a Gold Microsoft partner and has great experience and exposure on Microsoft's product and cloud service offerings. Both teams created a requirements document that outlined the features and functions that a more modern IT infrastructure would be able to support students easily, enable better collaboration between students, staff and faculty and provide seamless support for the institution's IT Team.

Office Line SA examined all the available options for a more sophisticated messaging and collaboration environment and for a product that was sufficiently flexible and robust to provide a gateway to all faculty, staff and students. After a couple of weeks both teams have come up with 2 contenders. Google Docs and Gmail versus Microsoft's Office 365 for education. While both companies have pros and cons both teams concluded to the same decision based on the needs of the students. Using Office 365 is something that most probably students will use at the workplace when

they graduate since Microsoft's products and services are in more than 85% of the businesses worldwide.

Office Line SA initially demonstrated Microsoft's Office 365 for education to the institution's faculty showing them both the benefits of the platform and how that would work. ASPETE loved the platform and agreed on the migration.

Office Line put in place the familiar Microsoft Office desktop suite with online versions as well as:

- Microsoft Exchange Online for email, shared calendars and shared address books.
- Microsoft Lync online for instant messaging between staff and students.
- Microsoft Office Web apps for online access and editing to Microsoft Office files.

Since these applications run in Microsoft's data centers, they are maintained by them meaning freeing up IT personnel that can focus on other IT projects.

Benefits

Material Distribution

New ways faculty can distribute new material to students, ranging from documents to video trainings on time and without the cost of producing on paper.

Interaction & Communication

Students and faculty gain the ability to interact using Lync which provides a new way of interaction between faculty, staff and students.

IT Team availability

Office 365 service and applications run in data centers owned and managed by Microsoft who maintains them on a day-to-day basis freeing up time for IT personnel to devote time and activities that are more valuable than maintaining such system and services in house.

Contact Us

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