Empowering student and alumni success through technical integration of digital applications

How Allan Hancock College is empowering student and alumni success in the job market through the unification of Ellucian Banner and Jobspeaker.

Spearheading the charge among a consortium of California colleges, Allan Hancock College sought to integrate multiple tools and vendors to enhance the student experience and centralize sensitive data within one application program interface (API).

In June 2019, Allan Hancock College's Director of IT Services, Andy Specht, kicked off an initiative primarily aimed at integrating Ellucian Banner with Jobspeaker—a third-party vendor that connects students and alumni with potential employers in the workforce.

Understanding the challenge

With Ellucian Banner already incorporated into AHC's digital environment, the main obstacle facing the integration was protecting the information of students who were in the Banner system, but who chose not to use Jobspeaker. With the potential for thousands of users to access the platform, data security and organization were paramount.

"We had the challenge of figuring out how to bring student data from Banner into Jobspeaker. We have tens of thousands of students who would possibly be using this. Any current student might want to use it, but also alumni of the college would be eligible to use the platform," says Andy Specht.

Allan Hancock College's Ethos success

- Created a platform that connects students and alumni to hundreds of potential employers

- Minimized the amount of sensitive data pulled from Ellucian Banner

- Streamlined single sign-on capabilities to improve quality of life

- Designed a functional infrastructure that can accommodate future integrations

More integrations on the horizon

To ensure the integration of Ellucian Banner and Jobspeaker, AHC turned to Ellucian Ethos to be the catalyst for success. Application Programmer, Kevin Cartier, at AHC worked with JobSpeaker to configure the appropriate Ethos endpoints. In addition, Ellucian provided information and hands-on assistance to AHC, while also working in conjunction with Jobspeaker. AHC would like to use Ethos to unify various departments such as admissions and human resources.

"The process of setting up Ethos really works well when you're working with a vendor that is familiar with the product and understands it…since we've gone live, it's been very smooth. We haven't had any follow-up issues. Looking ahead, Ethos is definitely our first choice for any future integration projects," says Specht.

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Andy Specht
Director, IT Services

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