

Background

Illinois Business Consulting (IBC), housed in the College of Business at the University of Illinois, is the largest professionally-managed, student-run university consulting organization in the United States. Founded in 1996 by Dr. Paul Magelli, IBC has conducted approximately 1500 projects for over 800 clients. IBC's primary objective is enhancing the educational process by enabling students to apply their classroom learning to solving real business issues, while providing value-added solutions to their clients.

In this past year, IBC conducted more than 70 projects, involving 350 students across 50 academic disciplines within the University and with Fortune 100, mid-sized and startup companies and nonprofit organizations, across seven global locations.

Client Challenge

In this past year, IBC conducted more than 70 projects, involving 350 students across 50 academic disciplines within the University and with Fortune 100, mid-sized and startup companies and nonprofit organizations, across seven global locations. Given the volume and complexity of these offerings, and to allow for further scalability of their offerings, IBC needed an online software solution that would allow them to centralize their efforts. This solution needed to include a broad set of tools that aided the management of projects, contacts, file sharing and measuring results. In addition, IBC sought to improve the efficiency of their program delivery, to improve knowledge transfer by creating a repository of past projects, and to enhance the students' ability to collaborate during their projects and for the IBC leadership to be able to track the status and progress of the projects.

To meet these challenges IBC began using EduSourced, a cloud-based application, in 2014.

EduSourced Benefits

EduSourced simplifies experiential learning for universities, students, and corporate partners by:

- **Centralizing** program data
- **Maximizing** student participation
- **Improving** project quality
- **Facilitating** communication with alumni and corporate clients

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With EduSourced, we can finally bring our different experiential learning efforts under the same roof (or platform) from a data and reporting perspective. This is critical for us as we continue to demonstrate value and grow our experiential learning initiatives.

Andrew Allen
Director, IBC

Solution

As a result of IBC's successful implementation of EduSourced, the program can better track and manage its projects and identify and solve problems sooner, through EduSourced's project health feature. IBC can stay in touch with alumni and clients more easily. It is now able to leverage the knowledge base and content created from past projects to benefit current and future project teams – speeding up the project process and improving the quality of research.

EduSourced's platform keeps program data centralized and allows IBC to quickly compile and communicate information to stakeholders – a necessity for programs like IBC that need to continually communicate the impact they create and the value they deliver. Additionally, by using EduSourced to record student participation, in the future IBC will be able to easily track where student participants have accepted employment post-graduation and to measure the impact of the IBC experience on their short- and long-term career success.

As IBC plans for future growth they are implementing EduSourced with an additional experiential program. And thereby ensuring their students a consistent experience across experiential courses and programs, while being able to maintain complete records for the entire school, and providing the school leadership with impact measurement across all their experiential programs.