UC San Diego

PORTFOLIUM USE CASE

How Career Services is changing the way students at the University of California San Diego become career-ready

The University of California San Diego has been designated as one of only 40 universities in the world as a Changemaker Campus by Ashoka U for its role as a leader in social innovation education. UCSD selected Portfolium's ePortfolio network as part of their Engaged Learning Tools program to help students discover, capture, review, and share their experiences and skills.

VISION: NEXT-LEVEL CAREER READINESS

Jered Lish envisioned improving career readiness for UCSD students in health programs like pre-med, dentistry, nursing, optometry, pharmacy, physical and occupational therapy, physician assistant, public health and veterinary medicine with goals uniquely supported by Portfolium.

Enhancement #1: Precisely Measure Career Readiness

"For health careers, we can suggest that a student is a good applicant or is career-ready to apply to our professional program based on their matrix," said Lish. With Portfolium, UCSD pre-health students can showcase their clinical or research experience, letters of recommendation, competencies, and more in a single, digital place.

> **Portfolium really highlights different impactful experiences that the students have inside and outside the classroom. From our student organizations to academic advisers, we really see the value in it.**
>
> ***Jered Lish**, Career Advisor*

Enhancement #2: Begin Career Prep Before it's Too Late

The career center found that many juniors and seniors were starting clinical research or service too late so they developed a Pre-Health Certified program including 200 hours of clinical service/research, four validation forms for each experience, reflection papers, and mock interview recordings. "For students, Portfolium acts as the digital repository for all of this evidence. For us as advisors, we have visibility of the milestones that each student has completed."

Enhancement #3: Connect Directly to the Workforce

Before Portfolium, all the documentation of student learning was saved behind closed doors via a hard copy or the student's laptop. Since Portfolium connects directly to employers and integrates with LinkedIn, UCSD students now have a visual gallery to showcase their work directly to potential employers.

VISION: ENDORSE THE ATTAINMENT OF SKILLS EARNED IN CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

At UCSD, Co-Curricular Records (CCR) highlight student achievements in opportunities beyond the classroom and accompanies a student's academic transcript. The purpose of the CCR is to demonstrate the value of engaging in opportunities beyond the classroom, and to help students reflect on and articulate the skills they developed.

Lish notes, "If a student is an orientation leader, typically they are good at public speaking and their oral communication competencies are more advanced. Based on the time commitment and skills gained in this co-curricular activity, the university will stand behind a student's competence of oral communication." Portfolium is where students store and share the evidence behind these competencies, and the basis from which UCSD can stand behind their endorsement of the competencies listed on a student's CCR.

Co-Curricular Records and Portfolium team up to showcase skills like critical thinking, teamwork, leadership, professionalism, innovation and many others from over 100 activities. Students who serve as club officers, peer educators, Resident Assistants, service leaders and more upload evidence of their participation to Portfolium, tag the skills they've learned and submit it for approval and inclusion on their official UCSD Co-Curricular Record.

> **I saw a great opportunity in showcasing students' co-curricular skills with Portfolium.**
>
> ***Jered Lish**, Career Advisor*

ABOUT

University of California San Diego

Recognized as one of the top 15 research universities worldwide, UCSD's culture of collaboration sparks discoveries that advance society and drive economic impact. The university offers over 200 undergraduate and graduate degree programs, enrolling more than 29,000 students.

Portfolium

In connection with over 2,000 schools, Portfolium's ePortfolio network helps millions of students and alumni capture, curate, and convert skills into job offers, while giving academic institutions and employers the tools they need to assess competencies and recruit talent.