

CASE STUDY:

How eduKan Consortium Meets Student Authentication Requirements Through BioSig-ID

Beginning in the spring of 1998, six presidents of western Kansas community colleges met to evaluate an online means of offering courses to their student populations. From these early meetings, eduKan was formed as a cooperative effort between member colleges to offer courses via the Internet beginning in Fall 1999. eduKan now manages the online courses for the six colleges in Kansas (Barton Community College, Colby Community College, Dodge City Community College, Garden City Community College, Pratt Community College and Seward County Community College & Area Technical School). Chief Executive Officer Mark Sarver wanted to reduce proctoring costs and deter online cheating while meeting verification regulations for distance education required by the Department of Education and their regional accrediting agency. Sarver summarizes their activity with BSI's technology as follows:

Help About Sign Out

Email: demo4newuser@test.com

Device: Mouse

powered by BSI

BCC v3.0
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STEP 1 STEP 2 STEP 3 STEP 4 STEP 5

Enroll with BioSig-ID™

Drawing Pad
BioSig-ID v3.0

4NE1

☒ Show grid lines
☐ Use invisible ink

Restart Clear Next

Step-by-Step Guide

1. Draw your first password, then click Next

- Choose a four number/letter password
- Tip: cell number, birth date, address...
- Hold the left mouse button down to draw, or use your finger/stylus depending on the device

CLM7
(EXAMPLES)

Students using BioSig-ID create a unique biosignature using four letters or numbers with a confined space on a web page. Software captures unique patterns of length, angle, speed, height and number of strokes and stores the information in an encrypted database. Upon log in, BioSig-ID can quickly verify the “real” student.

- eduKan staff worked with the team at Biometric Signature ID (BSI) to initially pilot test BioSig-IDTM as part of the Pearson LearningStudio authentication process.
- After the pilot, survey responses found that 97 percent of the students preferred BioSig-IDTM to finding a proctor or driving to a facility for physical proctoring. Additionally, 98 percent of students had a positive experience with the verification process.
- The faculty and administration were also very positive about their user experience especially since it was saving them hundreds of hours of their time versus organizing student proctors.
- The final results of the pilot, including the survey and cost analysis, proved that the BSI technology would more than meet eduKan's goals.
- The new "Suspicious Activity Report" has also become an essential tool to identify behaviors indicative of academic dishonesty and financial fraud. Using this new tool, eduKan has been able to identify various scenarios of cheating and fraud that in the past would have not been as easy to detect. This tool deters and detects cheating while not being intrusive or burdensome to the vast majority of students who are honest and hardworking.
- eduKan also now receives regular attendance/verification reports to compare academic activity from enrollment to census date, creating a report to help identify Pell runners.
- The integration into the Pearson Learning Management system grade book is also a plus.

"BioSig-ID's bio-signatures have now been used for nearly 3 years with over 10,000 students/users who have performed over 300,000 validations in the system. BioSig-ID continues to be a Win/Win for the faculty, administration, and the students." Sarver said.

HOW BIOSIG-ID WORKS

Students create a unique biosignature using four letters or numbers within a confined space on a web page by moving their mouse, stylus or dragging their finger across their smartphone screen. The software captures the unique patterns of length, angle, speed, height, number of strokes and stores the information in an encrypted database. In seconds, anywhere in the world BioSig-ID can verify the "real" student. Upon log in, the unique biosignature of the student is compared to their stored biosignature patterns. Identity verification is accomplished if the patterns "match." BioSig-ID confirms that the person who registered is the same person trying to access general coursework, an open discussion, a quiz or final exam.

As BioSig-ID™ is a software-only biometric solution, no hardware required, the cost is low enough for institutions to comply with the need for continuous ID verification and offers unlimited use licenses with no user fees.

"Probably the most compelling reason for selecting the biosignature means of verification is that we did not need to download any processing software; nor do the students," says Dana L. Watson, deputy chancellor, academic and student services with Central Texas College (CTC) — a public, open-admission community college serving more than 50,000 students on military installations, in correctional facilities, in embassies and on ships at sea "Given that we provide courses to many members of the armed forces, they certainly could not download any software since the military, understandably, closely guards access to their computers."

Consistent with a goal of making implementation and operation as seamless as possible, BioSig-ID, using LTI integrates with over 36 Learning Management Systems, including seven of the major learn-

ing management systems such as Pearson/e-college, Blackboard, Moodle rooms, Remote Learner, Moodle, Desire to Learn and Campus.

The complete hosting of the process is outside the academic institution's business system. In effect a turnkey option.

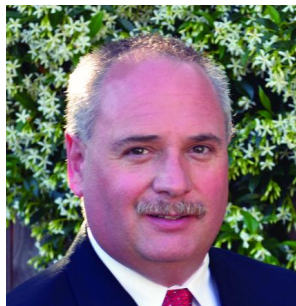
"We outsource everything we can except teaching and learning as a means of fulfilling our mission to be accessible and affordable. Since the biosignature system is hosted by the vendor we are able to keep our overhead as well as our tuition low," Sarver said.

"We can provide an audit trail including the time, date, and physical location and even the IP address of a user who signs in for any particular course," explains Jeff Maynard, CEO of BSI. "Through continuous and randomized authentication checks, we can discover fraudulent activity, like is the same IP address used for log-in all the time or does it come in every once in a while from another state? We then bring this potential fraudulent activity to the

attention of the academic institution."

"The extensive reporting tool provides us with the ability to uncover suspicious behaviors that can identify possible academic dishonesty," Watson said. ▲

*Founded in 2007, Biometric Signature ID is a Lewisville, Texas-based company. The company has in excess of 70 clients, nearly 2 million users in all 50 states and is used in over 60 countries. Recently chosen by the White House from 180 companies to provide a solution to reduce online identity fraud with Microsoft, AT&T, CA, AAMVA and the Virginia DMV. Two issued patents and "New Product Innovation of the Year in North America" confirm this breakthrough technology. This biometric tool has the experience to solve your student verification needs.
www.biosig-id.com, 877-700-1611*



"We outsource everything we can except teaching and learning as a means of fulfilling our mission to be accessible and affordable."

MARK SARVER
CEO
eduKan