

KCU's journey with Scorion and the realization of a vision

KCU's New College of Dental Medicine

Kansas City University (KCU) is addressing the shortage of dentists in four states by creating a newly established College of Dental Medicine in Joplin, Missouri. The new dental school aims to bring comprehensive dental care to underserved communities spanning a 125 mile radius around Joplin.

KCU CDM welcomed their first cohort of 80 students in August 2023. When all four cohorts are active, the CDM will serve 320 students. The College's team-based, comprehensive care model intends to meet the urgent need for dentists, particularly in rural areas.

Central to this effort is the state-of-the-art Oral Health Center, which provides practical training opportunities for students while offering much-needed care to the public. With its modern design and patient-friendly layout, the Center reflects KCU's commitment to accessible healthcare.



Scorion Software to Meet Key Skill Assessment Requirements

Kansas City University's College of Dental Medicine (KCU CDM) is revolutionizing clinical skill assessment in health professions programs through innovative software integration. Rigorous research led KCU CDM to identify Scorion as the ideal solution, meeting software requirements crucial for tracking didactic and clinical skills seamlessly across multiple years, courses, and cohorts.

Scorion's key features include personalized student dashboards for real-time portfolio monitoring, flexibility for students to self-pace challenges with faculty approval, and a comprehensive record of progress to achieve competency throughout the curriculum. This strategic choice underlines KCU's commitment to enriching education through advanced technology.

By adopting Scorion, KCU CDM is poised to elevate the learning journey, empowering students to excel in their skill and competency development.

For further insights, consult the research article "[Rubric development and peer review for predoctoral dental education](#)," authored by Erinne N. Kennedy DMD, MPH, MMSc Kathryn Champion DMD, Linda C. Niessen DMD, MPH, MPP



KCU's Collaboration with Scorion

Scorion joined forces with Kansas City University (KCU) in March 2022 to create a unique portfolio with Simulation Skills Assessments, Clinical Skills Assessments and Competency-based Assessments that use the same set of rubrics to ensure consistency across the curriculum. At the core of this effort was an interactive dashboard that captures assessment data in realtime.

This tool empowers both KCU and its students to track and visualize their progress, ensuring competency progression and mastery of clinical skills. The portfolio includes 34 rubric forms, featuring precise point calculations, identification of critical errors, and pass or fail recommendations for the faculty assessor. The main dashboard offers an overview of assessment levels for each rubric, categorized as pass or fail outcomes.

Further enhancing the experience, Scorion and KCU jointly designed individual rubric dashboards. This feature allows easy navigation from the main dashboard to any of the 34 rubric-specific pages. Each rubric dashboard displays a line graph to track progress over time, along with valuable narrative feedback.



At the core of this effort was an interactive dashboard that captures assessment data in real-time. This tool empowers both KCU and its students to track and visualize their progress, ensuring competency progression and mastery.



March 2022

First Connection

Initial contact establishes collaboration between KCU and Scorpion

April 2022 – September 2022

Exploring Possibilities

- Series of meetings delve into Scorpion's functionalities and adaptability for KCU's practical assessments
- Discussions on contractual aspects to shape partnership

October 2022 – January 2023

Coordinated Efforts

Coordination efforts intensify, encompassing project management and addressing legal inquiries

February 2023

Project Kick Off

- Scorpion and KCU project teams join forces, initiating the transformative journey
- Concept and content of the portfolio are outlined through collaborative meetings

March 2023 – May 2023

Development Phase

- Forms and dashboards take shape, undergoing internal testing
- Portfolio's structure is refined, aligning with KCU's vision

June 2023 – July 2023

Final Touches

- Refinement phase sees the last adjustments to forms and dashboards
- Portfolio's user experience is optimized

August 2023

Ready for Launch

- Preparations for the official launch intensify
- Instructions, manuals, and user data are organized

Autumn 2023

Go Live

The eagerly awaited moment arrives: Scorpion portfolio is launched, welcoming real students into a new era of enhanced assessments.

One for the Books! Our First Project in the United States

"Over the last year, we launched our first project on American soil with Scorion. A project like this in a completely different country is always a huge milestone. I still remember our first projects in Germany and South Africa.

What really sticks with me about this project is the incredible teamwork and professionalism we experienced while collaborating with Kansas City University. Think of it as a group of experts coming together to tackle challenges head-on. And of course, there are always some challenges to overcome in a first project like this. Such as dealing with the different rules and laws in the United States compared to Europe, or even just figuring out the time zone puzzle.

However, what is important is the team with which you work. And that's one of the significant aspects I really enjoy about my job. When you work with pioneers in the world of education, there is an incredible determination behind these projects. No matter what challenges you face, both sides work hard to overcome them and deliver a high-quality project.

For the project in the United States, we worked with Kansas City University to create a portfolio for a dental degree program. But the story behind it also makes the project very special to me: because Kansas City University has established a new College Of Dental Medicine to address the shortage of dentists in four American states. In a region that spans 125 miles from Joplin, Missouri, this initiative aims to provide comprehensive dental care to rural areas.

The Scorion portfolio will be made available to approximately 80 new students. Essentially, it will be used for clinical skills assessments and competency-based evaluations. This information is displayed in real-time on a dashboard, allowing both the students and the university itself to track their learning progress and maintain their competence.

As I sit back and reflect on the past few months, something strikes me – it's not just about reaching the finish line. It's about the entire wild ride of a first project, full of twists and turns. That's what makes this project unquestionably one for the books!"

- Marie Büscher, Manager Scorion International



What really sticks with me about this project is the incredible teamwork and professionalism we experienced while collaborating with Kansas City University.