Faculty Survey Results

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Items implemented based on last year’s survey:

- Information to faculty on where to route technical questions
- Tell instructors and departments what services Ecampus provides
- Give them strategies for dealing with incompletes
- Labs (How it is done successfully; examples; forum)
- Faculty Newsletter
- Instructor Manual
Survey questions centered on these issues:

**New Services**
- Faculty News
- Clinics and Forums
- Instructor Manual

**Ongoing Services**
- Offered through DSS, PDT, Bookstore

**Communications**
- Email, phone, web

**Course Design and Instruction** (PDT)
- Blackboard Components

**Final Comments**
- Demographics
- Impressions regarding distance education
- Words of Wisdom for new Online Instructors
So who did we survey?

- Questionnaire was sent to all instructors who taught/or offered Ecampus courses during 2004-2005
- Reminder emails were sent three times to encourage participation
- Used BSG tool for design, implementation and analysis of the web-based survey
223 instructors were invited, of whom 89 completed the survey
= 40% response rate

54% taught 1-3 courses in ’04-’05
31% taught 4-7 courses in ’04-’05

72% teach elsewhere
51% also teach Face to Face in the classroom
**Faculty E-News**

84% recalled receiving it  
90% would like to continue receiving it  
*Action item: revivify the newsletter for Fall term*

**Clinics and Forums**

35% attended  
91% found it useful  
*Action item: work with Project Development and Training staff to create online training modules*
Main Points:
New Services

**Instructor Manual**
- 74% recalled receiving it
- 88% found it useful

*Action Item: continue to update and improve the Manual and online info*

**Faculty Ecampus Website**
- Only 48% consulted it
- Nearly 50% found what they were looking for

*Action Item: currently in the initial phases of revamping*
Comments on New Services

Common themes:
Offering clinics / workshops / on-line
Instructor manual suggestions for clarification
Update contact info

Memorable Quote
“The immediate assistance provided by Dianna Fisher (Assistant Director-PDT) is greatly appreciated. Dianna is my vital link to Ecampus, and without her help with time-critical problem solving, I could not keep my course moving ahead. The seminars cannot possibly anticipate the full, and often bizarre range of problems instructors encounter; so the on-call help is what I really need.”
Service Satisfaction

Percent of respondents “satisfied” with these topical issues:

- Blackboard training and assistance: 96%
- Assistance with web grading: 95%
- Student Assistance: 95%
- Adjustments to SoC (Banner): 93%
- Course design/production: 90%
- Pay issues: 85%
- Test proctoring: 79%
- Online S.E.T.: 68%
Major Themes

Total Comments: 29

- Online Student Evaluation of Teaching – (5)
- Pay arrangements and confirmation -- (5)
- OSU Bookstore – (5)
- Student assistance/test proctoring – (5)
- Course Design / Blackboard training & assistance – (4)
Issue posed:
“I have a clear understanding of the appropriate personnel to contact when I have a question or concern with courses offered via distance.”

78% strongly agree or agree
Do you feel you receive too much, too little, or just the right amount of information regarding Ecampus announcements and reminders?

**TOO MUCH**  1%

**TOO LITTLE**  6%

**JUST RIGHT!**  87%
Percentage of respondents who have used these information sources (2005 vs. 2004)

- **Email**: 95% in 2005, 74% in 2004
- **Main Ecampus Website**: 77% in 2005, 77% in 2004
- **Telephone**: 79% in 2005, 77% in 2004
- **Faculty Ecampus Website**: 63% in 2005, 58% in 2004
- **Visit to Ecampus Office**: 59% in 2005, 58% in 2004
Blackboard tools that Instructors reported using when teaching online courses.

- Announcements: 90%
- Course Content: 89%
- Discussion Board: 87%
- Gradebook: 75%
- Quizzes/Tests: 53%
- Virtual Classroom: 12%
Blackboard Tools

Instructor use vs. Value to Students (taken from 2005 Ecampus Student Survey)

- Virtual Classroom: 12%, 70%
- Quizzes/Tests: 37%, 53%
- Gradebook: 82%, 75%
- Discussion Board: 90%, 87%
- Course Content: 89%, 67%
- Announcements: 90%, 70%
Our Instructors’ comments

Comments / recommendations for Ecampus services

- Improve Blackboard functionality / reliability
  
  *Action Item: A work in progress!!*

- Update / simplify the Ecampus faculty website
  
  *Action Item: Update / upgrade is currently under way*

- Inform prospective students about the benefits and challenges of an online course
  
  *Action Item: Orientation / Self-assessment*
What instructors find most challenging about offering distance education courses.

- Keeping students on track and engaged
- How to motivate “no-show” students
- Dealing with incompletes
- Helping students get beyond the “oral tradition”
- Lack of support / recognition with the academic department and with colleagues
- Technical issues related to Blackboard and user expertise (problems lying with the student and instructor)
- Lack of Face to Face interaction; designing learning activities to engage students through other means
What instructors find most rewarding about offering distance education courses (ranked by number of responses).

- Teaching students who wouldn’t have had a chance due to location, job, etc. (18)
- Maturity & motivation of students (9)
- Diversity of students (8)
- Flexibility (8)
- Interaction (7)

Total responses: 63
Most Rewarding?

--Selected Comments--

- “The level of discussion is often better than face-to-face discussions because everyone is required to talk and there’s less inhibition to discuss when they are disembodied and talking online.”

- “Some of the alternative teaching strategies have been surprisingly successful. I also like the fact that no physical judgments take place among students, since they cannot see what the others look like. Students who have special needs have felt more “equal” and have said as much. I like the gradebook and “instant” grading of quizzes with immediate feedback very much.”

- “Providing courses to students who could not otherwise take these courses. I find students who work, or who live far from campus, or students who have to take practicum courses or internships during the day can take distant courses that would otherwise be impossible. I find the outcomes/competencies equal to or better than those students taking on-site courses.”
Words of Wisdom to share with new online instructors:

...and the Students’ words for instructors (taken from the 2005 Ecampus Student Survey)...

- Be very organized with clear communications & directions
  - Post syllabus (clear and stick to it)
- Respond / communicate to students quickly & regularly
  - Respond / communicate quickly and regularly; stay in touch
- Have a set schedule / deadlines to avoid procrastination
  - Clear directions & timelines (be specific)
- Use Announcements in Blackboard to prevent “burn-out” from numerous emails
  - Use Blackboard (Announcements, Gradebook, Calendar, etc.)
- Preparation (must be better planned & more detailed)
  - Learn how to use Blackboard
Based on the Survey results Ecampus will be acting on the following:

- With PDT: **clinics, forums, and ongoing training**
- **Faculty Website**: redesign, w/ search capability
- Resume **Faculty E-News**
- **Distance Education Faculty meeting** in the fall
- Develop a **template for online course syllabus** (w/ Academic Programs)
- Include **contact list** with instructor pay letters
- Develop **student orientations** (in process w/ Marketing)
Thanks for visiting

If you have questions or comments about the 2005 Faculty Survey, feel free to contact Alfonso Bradoch, Assistant Director for Department Services, OSU Ecampus at:

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