

"This institute is a wonderful gift to faculty. Thank you." SI 2011 participant

2011 Summer Institute Post-Institute Evaluation

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2011 Summer Institute: Post-Institute Evaluation, Executive Summary

Beginning June 1, 2011, the *Thirteenth Annual Summer Institute on Teaching and Learning with Technology* participants (n=26) were asked to complete a survey about their overall impressions of the Summer Institute and their perceptions on what they learned throughout the week. Two reminder emails were sent, with the final evaluation was submitted on June 23, 2011, with the survey was taken offline that same day. Twenty of the twenty-six participants responded to the survey, for a response rate of approximately 77%. Of the respondents, seventeen were faculty members and three were support staff members. Due to various resource constraints, this year's Summer Institute only had a morning cohort, resulting in in fewer overall participants than in the past, though the morning cohort was at capacity. .

All respondents indicated that the quality of the Summer Institute was “very good” or better, with the majority of respondents, 70%, indicating the Summer Institute was “excellent.” Twenty-five percent indicated that it was very good and 5% left no response. This is consistent with previous feedback, as the Summer Institute has always been a highly rated event over the thirteen years that we have run this program. Additionally, all respondents (100%) indicated they would recommend the Summer Institute to a colleague, another statistic consistent with previous years.

An important change was recommended for future Summer Institutes regarding time allocation. Participants noted they would have liked to have more time for hands-on training, allowing attendees to apply what they've learned to their own courses. Best liked overall were collaborations with and access to the DELTA employees and colleagues across campus, as many of the participants were from the various colleges. When asked to rate their own abilities, 60% of participants who responded to the post-institute survey indicated “very much so” that the Summer Institute increased their knowledge about research and literature related to teaching and learning with technology and 85% of the respondents said “very much so” that the Summer Institute increased their ability to envision how they can use technology to support their own face-to-face class.

Eighty percent answered “very much so” that the Summer Institute increased their ability to begin planning and scoping the transition of a traditional course to a hybrid course and 50% noted that the Summer Institute increased their ability to plan an online course. Forty percent of the respondents answered “very much so” that the Summer Institute increased their ability to use Elluminate to begin delivering materials online, and 95% using Moodle. Ninety percent of the respondents answered “very much so” that the Summer Institute increased their ability to identify and describe campus resources

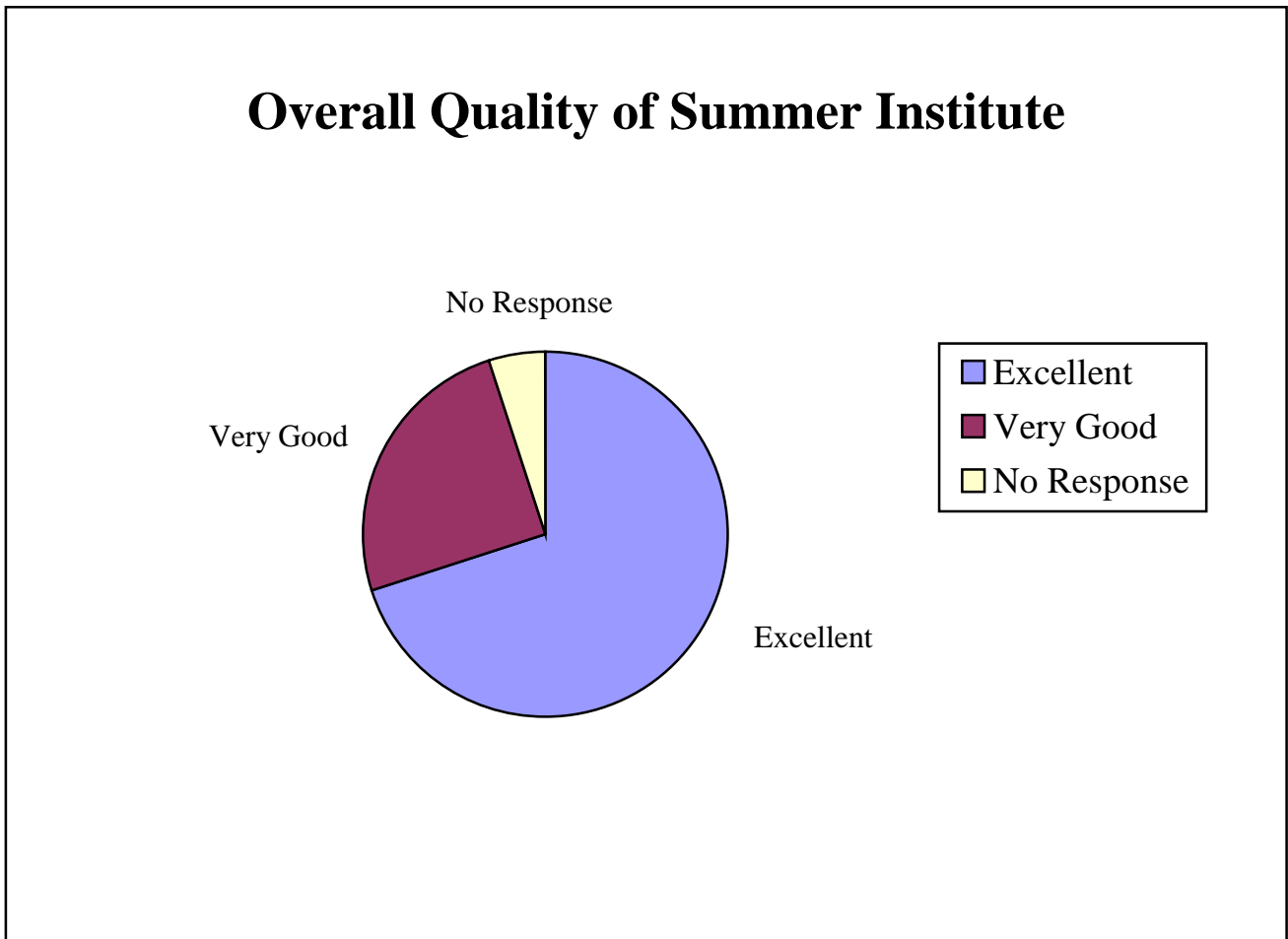
for the development and support of teaching and learning with technology, and 60% increased their ability to envision instructional media use (e.g. audio, video) beyond graphics and text-based web pages. The majority, 95%, of respondents agreed that the balance between learning about the various technologies and learning about online teaching strategies during the course of the institute was just about right, while the remaining 5% thought there was too much time spent on learning the various technologies.

The professionalism, helpfulness, technical knowledge, and accessibility of the DELTA staff was ranked “excellent” by all respondents. Respondents were impressed with our overall organization and professionalism, often stating that the best overall thing about the Summer Institute was the staff; for example: *“This is a fantastic resource for faculty that should be kept strong, regardless of budget challenges! We are very fortunate to have the SI, DELTA and LearnTech and the people staffing them!”* Comments from participants reveal how valuable this program is to them. Following are some selected participant comments from Summer Institute 2011:

- *The SI was not just an introduction to technology, but was a very thoughtful and deliberate presentation of teaching principles and how they could be enhanced with technology.*
- *I am already making changes to my class using what I learned in the Summer Institute! Everyone in my group has recorded an Audacity intro for our class, which we hope to get Live today!*
- *... I left the institute every day looking forward to the next day. A very exciting and satisfying opportunity. Thank you all so much for your kindness, patience and availability. The many hands-on application processes with the opportunity to actually do some of the things I'd only heard other more technically savvy faculty talk about!*
- *I will be a "frequent flyer" to the Summer Institute from now on.*
- *It was great. I look forward to taking other DELTA classes once I get started with what I have learned so far.*
- *Great experience! I have already created a course banner and audio welcome message for my advising course.*
- *The SI data is relevant and immediately applicable to the incorporation of the learned elements into existing courses taught whether these courses are face-to-face, online or blended.*

Quality Indicators

Participants were asked to rate the overall quality of the Summer Institute using a 1-5 Likert scale. The majority (70%) of respondents rated the overall quality of the institute as “excellent.” Twenty-five percent gave a rating of “very good,” and 5% left no response. In the thirteen years that DELTA has hosted the Summer Institute, it has never been ranked below “good,” suggesting that the program consistently maintains a high standard of overall program quality that is able to meet the needs of a diverse audience.



Recommendation of Summer Institute to Others

Participants were also asked if they would recommend the Summer Institute to other faculty interested in learning more about teaching and learning with technology. Every respondent indicated that yes, they would recommend the Summer Institute to other faculty, and in an open-response question, were given the opportunity to explain their response.

Would you recommend the Summer Institute to other faculty interested in learning more about teaching and learning with technology? (n=20)	
Yes	20
No	0

Comments (from those who chose to comment on why they would recommend SI)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>It opens up doors to what is possible.</i>• <i>Great technology skills learned.</i>• <i>They would receive hands-on experience with technology, and discussion of valuable readings.</i>• <i>It's a great way to get updated on teaching based technology and its use. I got to meet some very cool folks at DELTA and became acquainted with faculty from other colleges.</i>• <i>Friendly, knowledgeable staff, eager to help.</i>• <i>Great experience, learned a lot.</i>• <i>The SI was not just an introduction to technology, but was a very thoughtful and deliberate presentation of teaching principles and how they could be enhanced with technology.</i>• <i>It was a great over view of the technologies that are available as well as providing hands on experience to show how easy some of the packages are to use.</i>• <i>[Summer Institute] shows possibilities.</i>• <i>This is the best way to become familiar with all the aspects of using Moodle for in class and DE.</i>• <i>Helpful, informative, positive energy, knowledgeable staff who work well as a team. Helped me take chances and try new things re: distance ed.</i>• <i>The SI data is relevant and immediately applicably to the incorporation of the learned elements into existing courses taught whether these courses are face-to-face, online or blended.</i>• <i>There are so many aspects of how teaching (both online and offline) works that the SI covers, it is very worthwhile.</i>• <i>It is a great introduction to both technologies and staff support systems.</i>

Most Important Changes to Make

In an effort to better the Summer Institute experience each year, we always seek to identify the most important changes we can make for the next institute to be an even more useful, positive experience for the participants. These responses fell thematically into the following categories:

Category (What needs changing?)	Comment
Cohorts – How to Separate Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Maybe small groups who have more time on one topic, so they can hear about it, see it, but also practice it.</i> • <i>What would have helped me most would have been to have another participant from my program there.</i>
Curriculum – Pacing and Time Allocation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Maybe include 1 or 2 less topics in order to allow extra time on important topics. A few sessions felt rushed.</i> • <i>It might be worthwhile to have a longer session on creating quizzes, and using other techniques for evaluation in an online or hybrid course. Also, it may be good to incorporate a module on introducing various graphics (other than a banner) into a course Moodle page, to personalize it more.</i> • <i>Building in more time for hands-on training.</i> • <i>Teach less but allow attendees to apply what they've learned to their own courses, i.e. Just DO IT!</i> • <i>Afternoon open lab to work on site development.</i> • <i>Overall, I felt that some of the presentations were too rushed, at least in parts. Sometimes I felt like material was too quickly breezed through so that classes could "fit it all in" or stay on time. I'd suggest either more time for each class or more even pacing, and perhaps a consideration of which key points to get across so they can be more thoroughly dealt with.</i> • <i>I am very much a novice and often times the presenters went too fast for me.</i> • <i>Make it one day shorter. Get right down to business in the lab after a 30-minute intro.</i> • <i>Some lectures were too fast to follow what the lecture was doing.</i>
Curriculum - General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I thought the institute was excellent and don't have many helpful thoughts on improvement but perhaps more one on one time during the final workshop day would be useful. The computer lab was open and many staff were there...maybe come out and talk to participants to see if they need help, but are not seeking it.</i>
Logistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Communication. I didn't know the afternoon session was canceled until I emailed to inquire about it. I already had meetings scheduled that I couldn't get out of, and missed two days. It would be better if the participants were able to access the websites www4.ncsu.edu from the beginning of the institute.</i> • <i>I would have preferred it a week later. Trying to close out the semester and do the homework and readings was stressful.</i> • <i>I wish it were not directly after the semester ended. I was so burned out that it was hard to focus at times. I also think that some sessions were stronger than others. Each should be evaluated for future use.</i>

Liked Best Overall

Additionally, participants were asked what they liked best overall about the Summer Institute. In making the institute a better experience, we want to keep the elements intact that participants find appealing. These responses fell thematically into the following categories:

Category (Liked Best)	Comments
<p>The Information Covered: Learning New Technologies and Teaching Strategies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What I liked best was that most of the material and instruction was relevant to F2F, hybrid, and online instruction.</i> • <i>I very much liked that the focus was on teaching, rather than technology</i> • <i>Hands on projects.</i> • <i>I appreciated the expertise of all the facilitators and their willingness to offer assistance throughout the week and in the future. I also really enjoyed learning about Elluminate.</i>
<p>The Experience: Buddies/Community/ Camaraderie/Interactions with Others and DELTA Staff</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The instruction, food and beverages. Plus the individual help. Great overall experience.</i> • <i>It was a great overview of possibilities; clearly too much to drink in completely, meeting the staff and resources was important.</i> • <i>The hands on experience and being in the lab.</i> • <i>The guest speakers were excellent, and you had them give their presentations in a sensible order too. This part of the workshop was very well planned.</i> • <i>Enthusiasm of the DELTA folks and their willingness to help.</i> • <i>Learning that we can get help, through house call, as we apply what we learned.</i> • <i>Lunch time speakers.</i> • <i>Meeting the DELTA staff.</i> • <i>Had so many personnel helping, that did not take long to get a question answered or get caught up with the class exercises.</i> • <i>Staff was so helpful and knowledgeable.</i> • <i>The lunch time speakers reinforced how using all the "bells and whistles" that can be utilized in Moodle can enhance the students experience and make life easier for the professor.</i> • <i>The interaction with staff and participants. The welcoming attitude and aspect (example; lunches and lunchtime speakers - a wonderful treat!)</i>

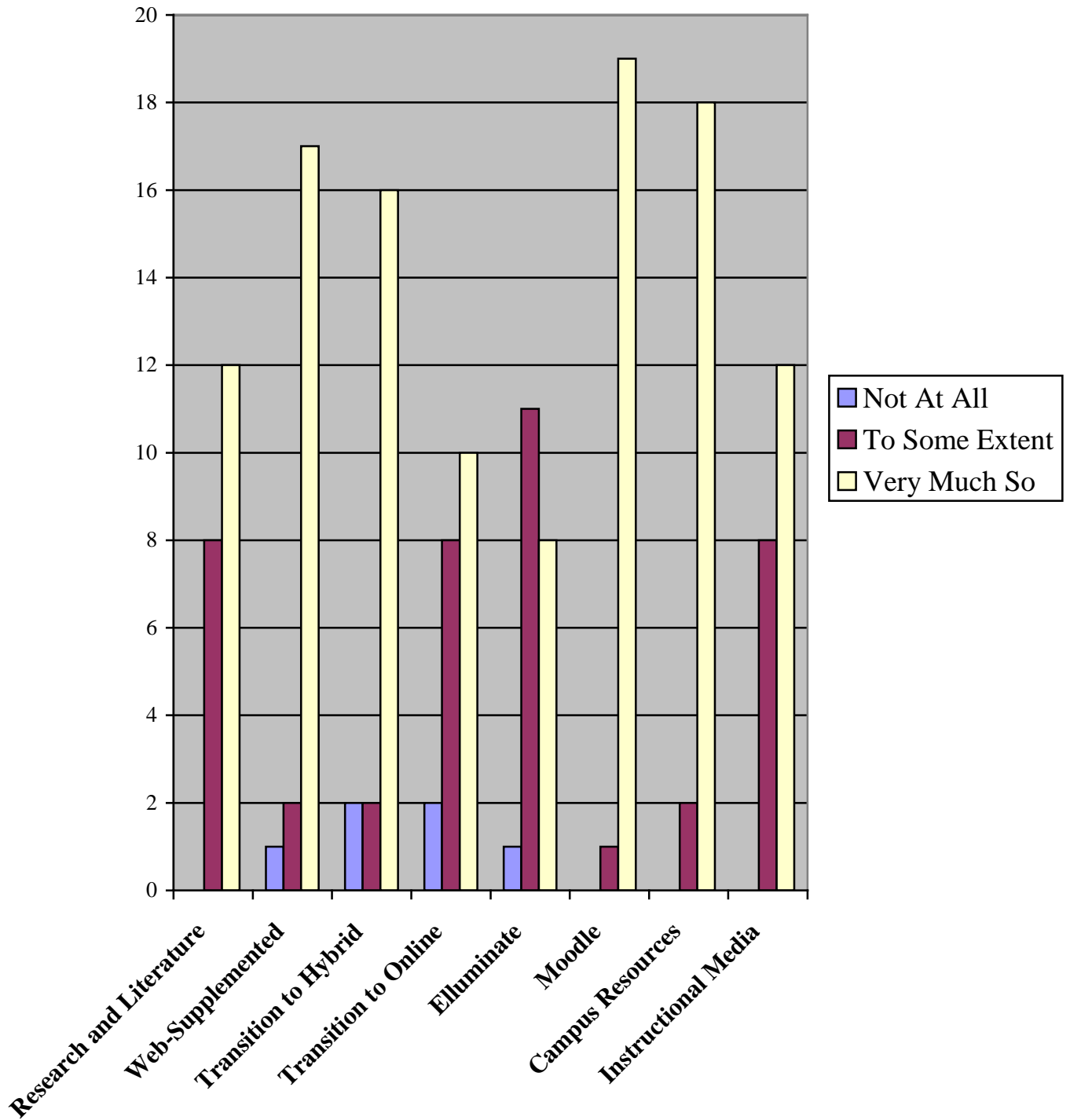
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Time to try the tools being taught as they were taught. Also the people who could come over and help you if you had a problem that was great! The best I have ever seen that done!</i> • <i>The enthusiasm and professionalism of each of the presenters who were genuine in their desire to be helpful!</i> • <i>Highly trained and friendly staff, openness to working with all knowledge levels. And I have to say the food was quite good!</i>
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Participant Perception of an Increase in Skills/Abilities

Participants were asked “to what extent did the Summer Institute increase your ability to do the following kinds of tasks related to getting a course completely online or partially online?” The institute appeared to increase perceived participant abilities in key areas “to some extent” or in many cases “very much so.”

	Not At All	To Some Extent	Very Much So
The Summer Institute increased my knowledge about research and literature related to teaching and learning with technology. (20)	0	8	12
The Summer Institute increased my ability to envision how I can use technology to support my face-to-face class. (20)	1	2	17
The Summer Institute increased my ability to begin planning and scoping the transition of a traditional course to a hybrid course. (20)	2	2	16
The Summer Institute increased my ability to begin planning and scoping the transition of a traditional course to an online course. (20)	2	8	10
The Summer Institute increased my ability to use Elluminate to begin delivering materials online. (20)	1	11	8
The Summer Institute increased my ability to use Moodle to begin delivering materials online. (20)	0	1	19
The Summer Institute increased my ability to identify and describe campus resources for the development and support of teaching and learning with technology. (20)	0	2	18
The Summer Institute increased my ability to envision instructional media use (e.g. audio, video) beyond graphics and text-based web pages. (20)	0	8	12

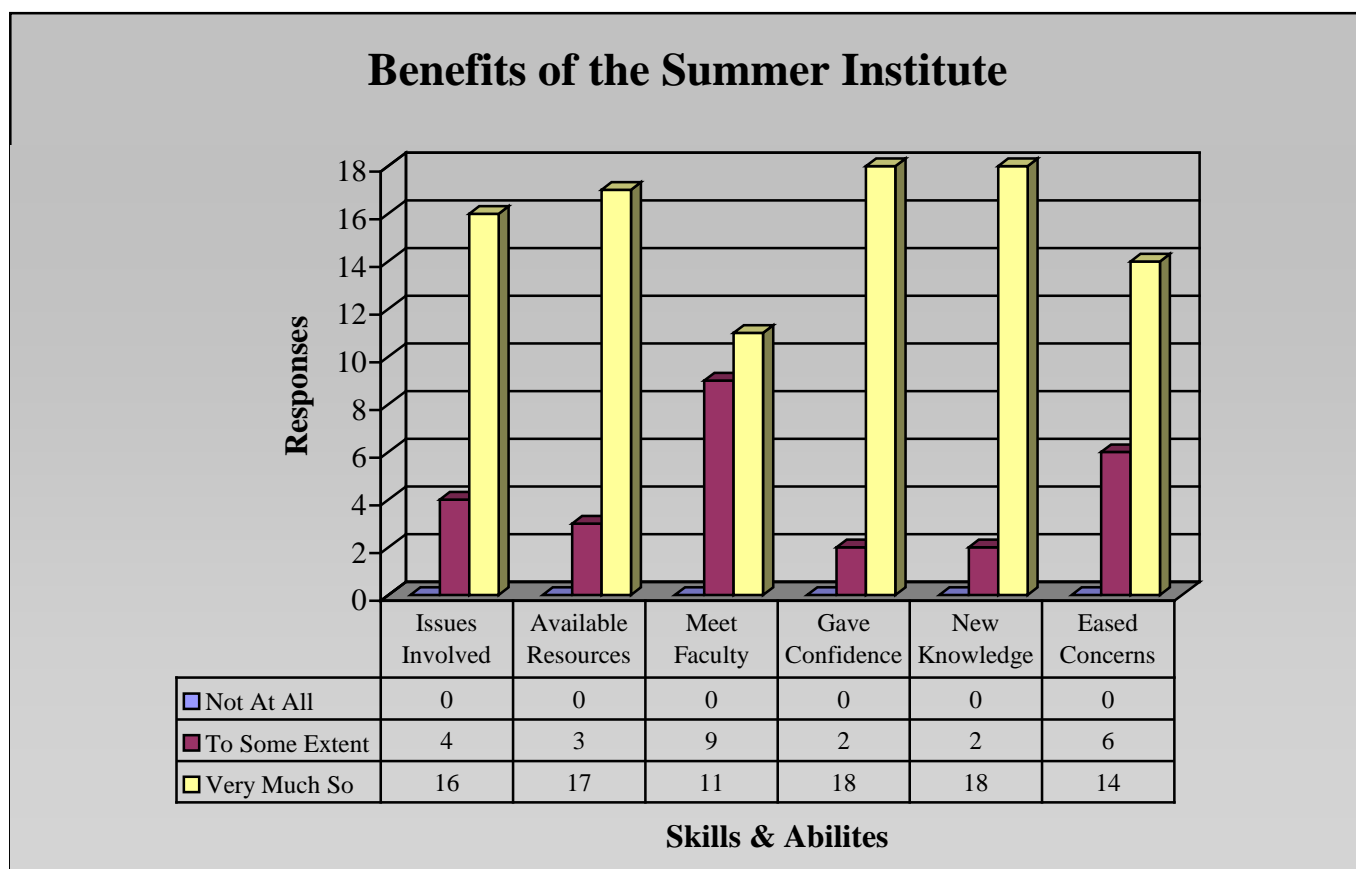
Increase in Skills and Abilities Due to Summer Institute



Participant Perception of Benefits of the Summer Institute

Participants were also asked to rate to what extent the Summer Institute provided them with certain benefits that we hoped were met during the Summer Institute. From their perspective, the institute benefited them in these key areas, “to some extent” or “very much so” for the majority of the questions asked.

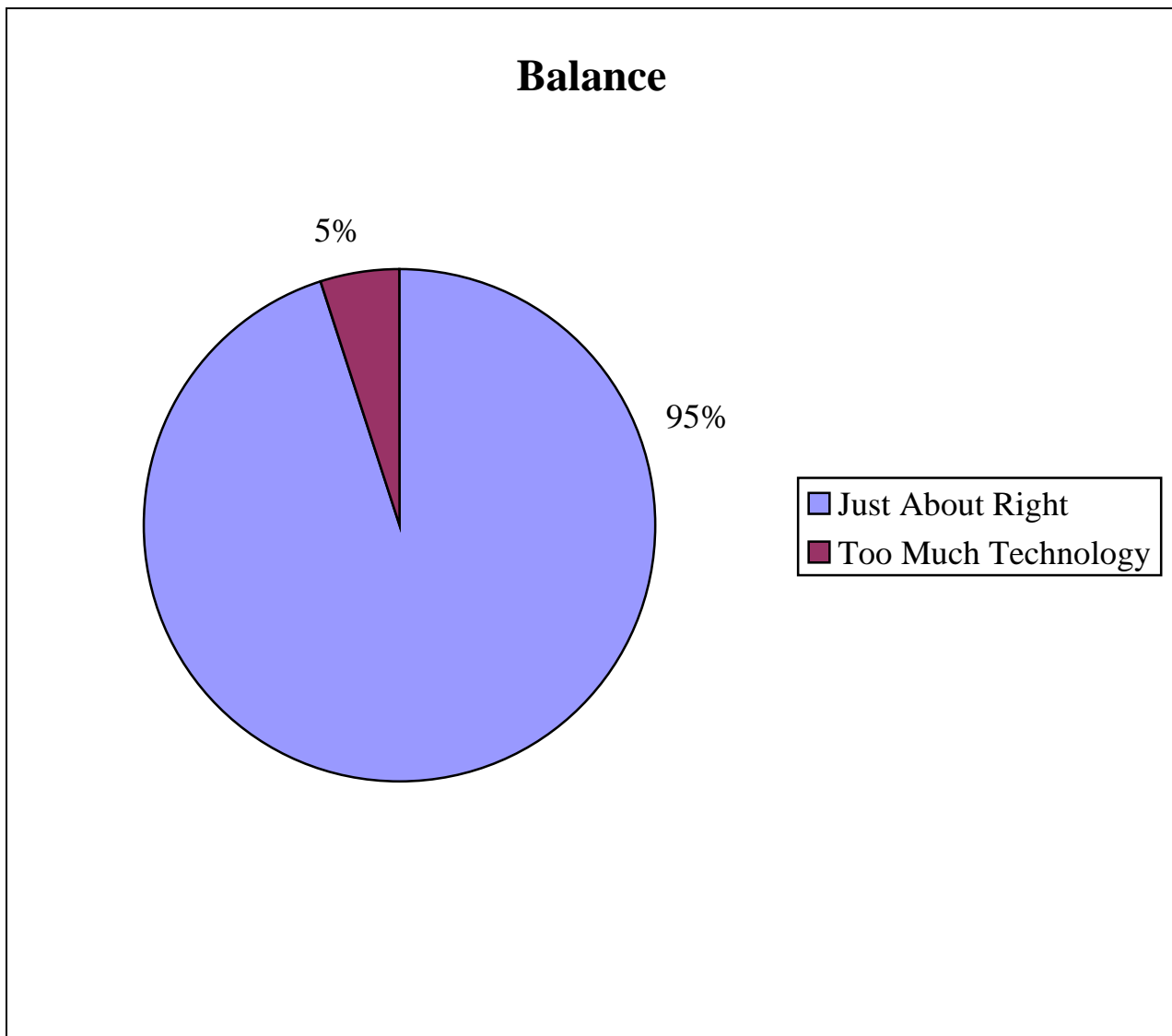
	Not At All	To Some Extent	Very Much So
The Summer Institute gave me a sense of issues involved in creating technology-enhanced course materials. (20)	0	4	16
The Summer Institute gave me a sense of the resources available to help you create technology-enhanced course materials. (20)	0	3	17
The Summer Institute gave me the opportunity to meet other faculty members with similar interests. (20)	0	9	11
The Summer Institute gave me the confidence to begin developing technology-enhanced course materials. (20)	0	2	18
The Summer Institute gave me new knowledge and skills that will help me begin developing technology-enhanced course materials. (20)	0	2	18
The Summer Institute eased some of my concerns about teaching and learning with technology. (20)	0	6	14



Balance Between Technologies and Online Teaching Strategies

When asked about the balance between learning about the various technologies and learning about online teaching strategies during the course of the institute, respondents mostly agreed that it was just about right. Respondents found that there was not too much emphasis about online teaching strategies; in fact, some stated that Summer Institute was a “great overview of possibilities.”

- (19) Just about right
- (1) Too much about the technology
- (0) Too much about the online teaching strategies

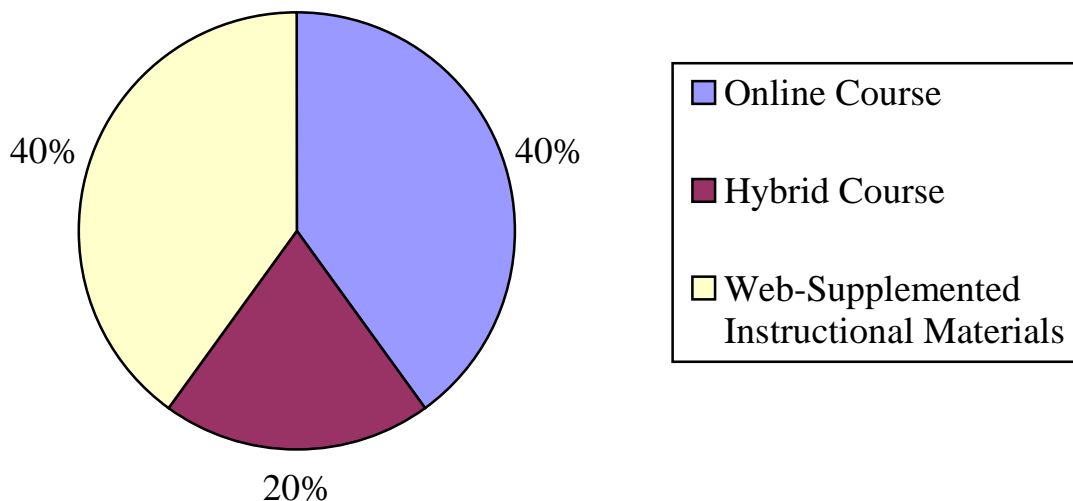


Current Plan for Technology-Enhanced Course Development (Post-Summer Institute)

Participants were asked to describe their current plan for technology enhanced course development following the Summer Institute. As has been the case in previous years, many of the respondents do plan on teaching a DE course, with others considering various levels of online technology use in conjunction with their face-to-face courses. Of the 20 responses, participants plan to do the following:

- (8) *I plan to use what I learn to create a **completely online/distance education** course in the next year.*
- (4) *I plan to use what I learn to create a "**hybrid**" course in the next year, with an increased reliance on the web that will result in fewer class meetings.*
- (8) *I plan to use what I learn to create and utilize **web-supplemented** instructional materials (such as a syllabus, class notes, discussion forum, etc.) to use in my face-to-face course in the next year.*
- (0) *I am interested in exploring different mixes of instruction (**web-supplemented, hybrid, DE**) as part of thinking about Large Course Redesign*
- (0) *I 'm not sure what I might do at this point.*
- (0) *No response.*

Post-Summer Institute Course Development Plans

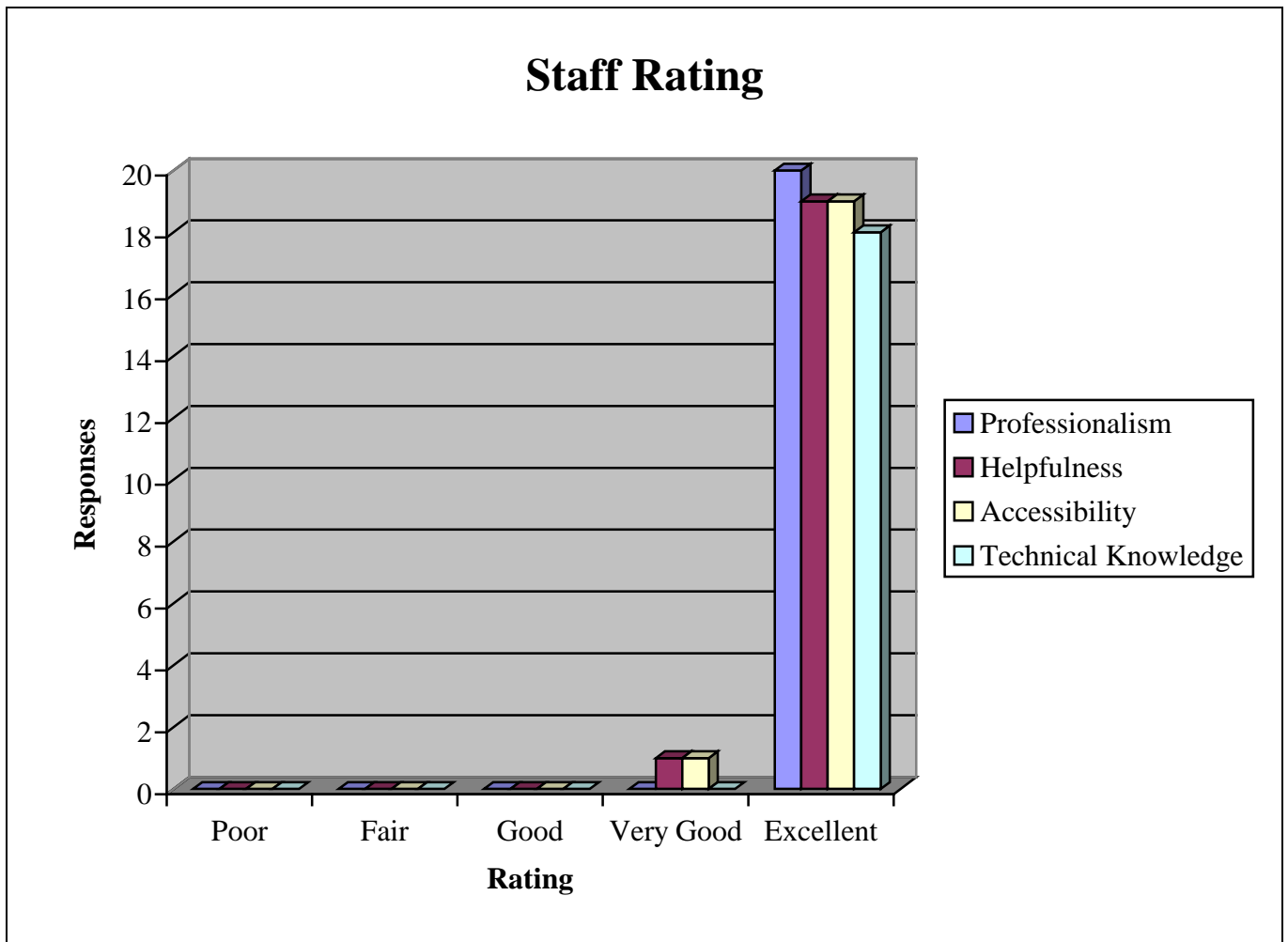


Staff Rating

Participants were additionally asked to provide feedback about the DELTA staff who participated in the Summer Institute, using a Likert scale to rate them on their professionalism, helpfulness, accessibility and technical knowledge. Consistent with previous years, Summer Institute participants rate the DELTA staff very highly.

Staff Ratings

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Professionalism (20)	0	0	0	0	20
Helpfulness (20)	0	0	0	1	19
Accessibility (20)	0	0	0	1	19
Technical Knowledge (18)	0	0	0	0	18



Additional Ideas for Training and Possible Topics that could be Offered for Faculty in Terms of Workshops, Seminars and Resources:

- *Maybe include Camtasia or Mediasite as part of SI instead of just an elective on Friday.*
- *Come to the College of Veterinary Medicine and apply your knowledge to our courses!*
- *A primer on web design.*
- *More advanced courses for Elluminate, Moodle, and the other unique technologies.*
- *A basic class on how to interface with the students around Facebook, etc., without necessarily being on Facebook. Some kind of an in-depth survey about where our students are with technology.*
- *Course design boot camp.*
- *A lot of material was covered in a short time in the SI. It would be interesting to see how a course was transformed using Moodle, step-by-step, and to get hands on experience with our own courses (Friday open session was great for this.)*

Additional Overall Comments about Summer Institute:

- *Great experience! I have already created a course banner and audio welcome message for my advising course.*
- *Thanks for the course. I have recommended it to several colleagues.*
- *Great job--thanks to all. Thanks to sponsors for the refreshments and lunches.*
- *Time was well spent.*
- *Thanks...it was well done!*
- *I really enjoyed how the SI began with teaching theory and ended with teaching theory. Nice mix.*
- *This institute is a wonderful gift to faculty. Thank you.*