

Student Perceptions of Technology

Or why you should learn to stop worrying and love technology...



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Meet Today's Panelists

- **Laura Confer**

Student representative to the UM Board of Curators

- **Dr. Richard Hall**

IST Professor, co-director of campus IT evaluation lab

- **Dr. Morris Kalliny**

Assistant Professor of Marketing & International Business

- **Dr. Jeff Thomas**

Assistant Professor, Civil, Architectural & Environmental Engineering

One extreme...



Or the other



The Educause Study

- Undergraduate students
- Missouri S&T and nationwide
- Data collected by random surveys to Missouri S&T freshmen and seniors
- About 180 Missouri S&T students
- About 25,000 students nationwide

Why you should care

- Almost 92% of incoming freshmen said that available technology on campus was “important” or “very important” to them in choosing a college or university.
- Nearly 50% of students nationwide said they are looking for classroom IT experiences to prepare them for workplace IT challenges.

Student IT Habits

Time spent weekly on the Internet

	Missouri S&T	National Avg.
0-15 hours	38.7%	48.1%
16-25 hours	24.8%	26.5%
26-40 hours	16.8%	16.6%
40+ hours	19.7%	8.8%

By Comparison

Average time
Americans spend
watching TV
every week:

28 hours



Virtual Worlds

	Missouri S&T	National
Less than once a month	96.6%	96%
Monthly	1.1%	1.5%
Weekly	1.2%	1.5%
Daily	1.1%	0.7%

First Second Life-made millionaire:



Anshe Chung
2006



Multi-Player Online Computer Games

	Missouri S&T	National
Less than once a month	66.8%	81.7%
Monthly	5.6%	6.1%
Weekly	18%	7.9%
Daily	9.6%	4.3%

If WoW were a country, it's world rank, by population, would be:

75th

(ahead of Greece, but behind Zimbabwe)



Student IT Perceptions and Attitudes

Student Technology Adoption

- I use new technology...



	Missouri S&T	Nationwide
Only when I have to	3.4%	3.8%
I'm usually one of the last	6.7%	8.7%
When most people I know do	43.8%	51.7%
Before most people I know	31.5%	26.1%
I'm usually among the first	14.6%	9.7%

Tech-savvy professors?

- How many of your instructors use IT effectively?



	Missouri S&T	Nationwide
Almost None	4%	7.3%
Some	31.1%	25.2%
About half	18.1%	21.3%
Most	32.2%	25.4%
Almost All	13%	18%
Don't Know	1.7%	2.8%

Tech-savvy professors?

- How many of your instructors have adequate IT skills for carrying out course instruction?

	Missouri S&T	Nationwide
Almost None	5.6%	7.3%
Some	31.6%	25.3%
About half	15.3%	16.9%
Most	32.2%	27.9%
Almost All	12.4%	15.9%
Don't Know	2.8%	4.8%

IT and course involvement

- I get more actively involved in courses that use IT

	Missouri S&T	Nationwide
Strongly Disagree	2.8%	3.9%
Disagree	15.7%	13.8%
Neutral	44.9%	45.7%
Agree	28.2%	30.5%
Strongly Agree	8.4%	6.1%

IT and learning

- The use of IT in my courses improves my learning.

	Missouri S&T	Nationwide
Strongly Disagree	3.9%	2.7%
Disagree	8.4%	8.9%
Neutral	39.9%	39.1%
Agree	37.6%	41.1%
Strongly Agree	10.2%	8.2%

Online course material

- I skip classes when materials from course lectures are available online

	Missouri S&T	Nationwide
Strongly Disagree	28.7%	33.8%
Disagree	29.8%	30.9%
Neutral	24.2%	19.6%
Agree	14%	13%
Strongly Agree	3.4%	2.9%

Takeaways

- Students seem to have a “filter” for technology adoption
- “Fun” vs. effective
- Doesn’t take into account discipline-specific teaching methods



or



?

Panel discussion

Presentation and study are available online at:

<http://web.mst.edu/~shanerm>