Education Technology:
Results of a Needs Assessment of the SIUSOM Faculty

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I have nothing to disclose
Background

- SIU School of Medicine
  - Springfield, Illinois
  - University based community program
  - SIU HealthCare
  - 2 hospitals with tertiary care centers
  - Serves the population of central and southern Illinois
Objectives

• nTIME (New Technology in Medical Education)
  – subcommittee of the Education Policy Committee at SIUSOM
  – charged to explore technology that could be used by faculty in the educational setting to enhance student learning
  – developed, distributed, and analyzed a needs assessment survey for faculty at SIUSOM.
Goals of Needs Assessment

1. Understand faculty use of technology for personal and learning/teaching activities
2. Understand faculty perception of educational technology (ET) use at SIUSOM
3. Identify educational technologies that faculty feel would enhance their teaching experience
4. Find gaps between existing environments and faculty needs and preferred conditions
Methods

• A 90-item survey was developed using a web-based survey development product
• The survey focused on six major areas
  • Faculty hardware and software use
  • Perception of educational technology (ET) in teaching and learning
  • Online behaviors
  • Perception of ET use at SIUSOM
  • Perception of ET use in teaching
  • Demographic information
Results

• 99 basic science and clinical faculty
  – 60% male, 40% female
  – 69% MD, 33% PhD, 4.2% other
  – Average age 47
  – Average teaching experience was 15 years
  – Majority of teaching experience was less than 10 years
Hardware Use

- Handheld Game
- Video Game
- Web Cam
- Digital Camera
- Video Camcorder
- Tablet Computer
- Pager
- Smart Phone
- Cell Phone
- Desktop Computer
- Laptop Computer

- Personal Use
- Instructional Activities at SIUSOM
- Both
- Do not use

SIU
New Technology

Histogram

Mean = 3.34
Std. Dev. = 0.611
N = 70

I am willing to try other new educational technology so my teaching experience at SIUSOM can be improved.
Social Media

Histogram

Mean = 1.93
Std. Dev. = 0.822
N = 70

I would like online social networking among students and faculty at SIUSOM (e.g. Facebook)
Results

Faculty who tend to be online more

• more online teaching experience
• higher general computer skills
• higher typing skills.

Faculty online teaching experience has a positive correlation with their perception of software usefulness

• Google Docs
• wikis
• podcasts
• blogs
• YouTube
Results

• Faculty online teaching experience had a positive correlation with willingness to try new educational technologies in teaching practice.
• There were negative correlations of the length of teaching experience with preference for flexible online teaching environments, mobile learning, and live online lectures.
• Younger faculty saw greater usefulness of social media resources than older faculty.
Themes

• Significant use of software and hardware technology by faculty
• Desire coordination between healthcare organizations
• Education is vital
• Younger faculty will lead innovative use
Next Steps

- Results and recommendations were distributed to SIUSOM committees for consideration.
- Follow-up small group studies and surveys are under development.
References


11. Lee KL, Ho MJ. Online social networking versus medical professionalism. Medical Education. 2011;45(5):523-.
• Thank you
• Questions??