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Disclosure

There are no conflicts of interest to disclose

Learning Objectives

At the end of this session participants will be able to:

- Identify the advantages of incorporating technology to enhance learning (TEL) into undergraduate and postgraduate programmes
- Demonstrate an understanding of technological methods which can be incorporated into a programme to enhance learning
- Recognise the importance of clear guidance for staff on how to incorporate TEL into learning programmes

Technology to Enhance Learning (TEL)

This presentation discusses a study that was undertaken in 2011 at a UK University providing both undergraduate and postgraduate radiography education

Aim of the study

To extend the role of technology enhanced learning (TEL) within undergraduate and postgraduate radiography programmes

Objectives

- Develop a Flash Presentation for radiography students
- Evaluate the process
- Use the results to produce a user-friendly guide for academic colleagues to encourage greater use of TEL



Background

- Many aspects of society have been affected by rapid development of ICTs in recent years
- New approaches to learning, teaching and assessment are required
- HEIs have responded with a number of drivers to integrate TEL
- TEL can enhance both the quality and flexibility of education provision



Why incorporate TEL

- School leavers (Gen Y) now have expectations that learning will incorporate technology
- Fast changing world results in a requirement for more frequent training & development, especially in healthcare
- Challenging economic climate is driving more cost-effective methods of delivering education
- TEL offers a variety of tools to cater for different learning styles

Barriers to implementing TEL

- Reluctance of some academics (Gen X) to engage with technology
- Time/costs spent acquiring new skills to interact effectively with technology
- Time/costs of developing new learning materials
- Competition from commercial companies with greater resources



Advantages of TEL

- School leavers are more engaged with the learning process
- Students can select aspects which are most beneficial to their learning style
- Learning materials can be reviewed multiple times
- Classroom time can be used more effectively
- Costs of delivering a programme can be reduced



Methodology (1)

- Approval obtained from local Ethics Approval Committee
- 2. Deming's Plan, Do, Check and Act model was used
- 3. IT specialists were approached for technical guidance on use of TEL
- 4. A variety of potentially useful TEL tools were explored



Methodology (2)

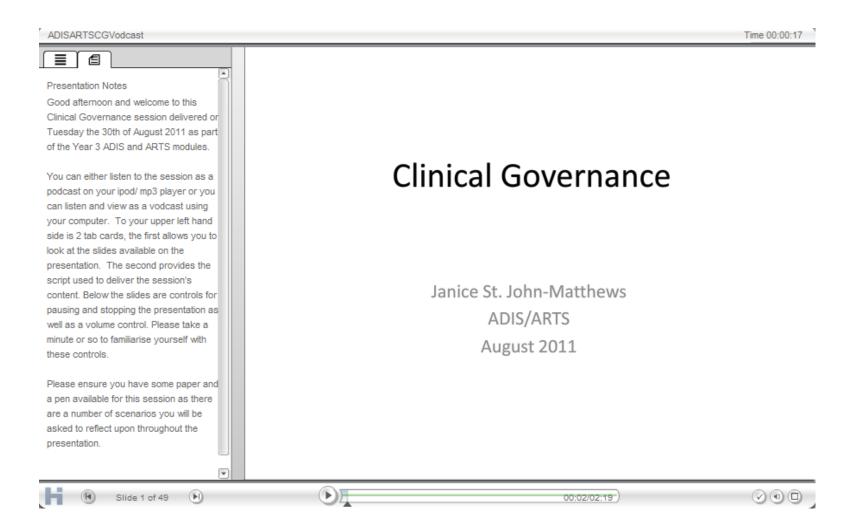
5.A Flash presentation was developed using the Hughes Presenter, and made available to 3rd year radiography students





Methodology (3)

First slide of first Flash Presentation:





Methodology (4)

- 6. Investigation of student experiences was undertaken during a subsequent class attendance session
- 7. This involved small group discussions to obtain qualitative feedback and use of an EVS to provide quantitative data



Methodology (5)

- 8. The results were used to inform development of a second presentation for 1st year students
- 9. Student experiences were again investigated
- 10. Results were collated and analysed
- 11. The researchers' experiences were incorporated into production of a user-friendly guide for academic colleagues

Results -Qualitative data

- Thematic analysis performed on results from both presentations
- Results highlighted design positives and suggested areas for improvement
- Interim actions taken between first and second presentations, and results compared

Results – first presentation

Session Design Positives

- Ability to access research links/ research
- Scenarios- made the topic interesting
- Inclusion of breaks

Suggested Improvements

- Access issues on personal computers
- Assessment not long enough
- Feedback session needed
- Reader pace
- Reading verbatim
- Voiceover not always needed
- More interactive prompts



Interim actions

Before releasing the second presentation a number of changes were instigated:

- Guidelines issued on how to improve access from home computers
- A longer assessment quiz included
- Feedback opportunity provided by requesting students to bring quiz results to small group sessions
- The script was used as an aide memoire rather than read verbatim

Results – second presentation

Session Design Positives

- Ability to access research links/ research
- Scenarios- made the topic interesting
- Inclusion of breaks
- Assessment
- Narration
- Opportunity for feedback

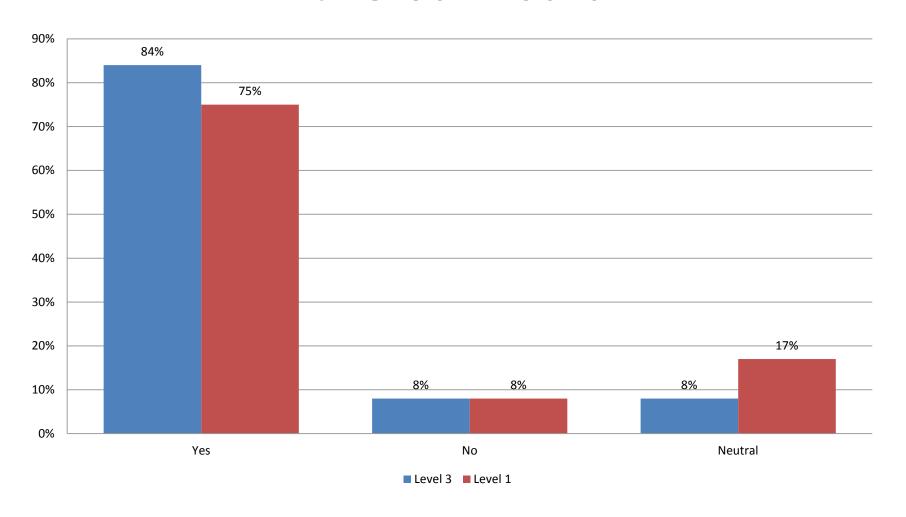
Suggested Improvements

- Access: Virtual Learning Environment
- Make available as an Android Application

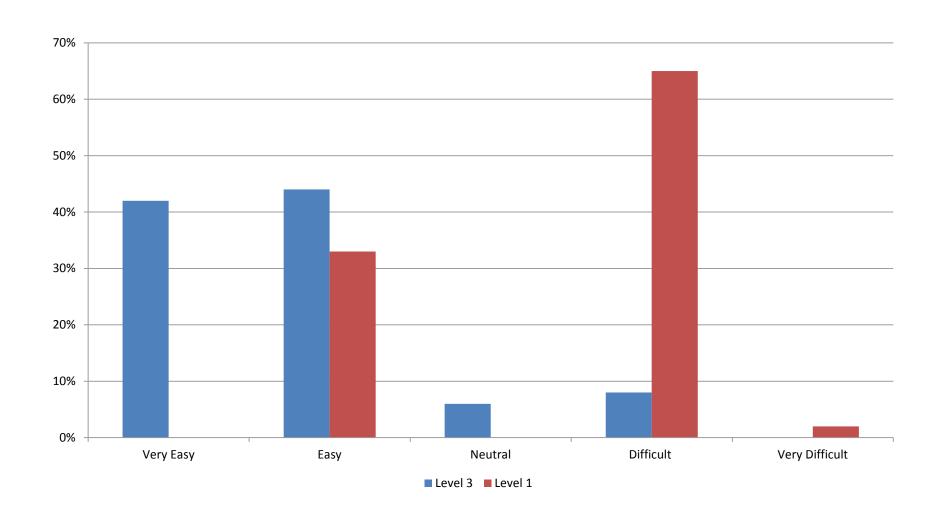
Results – Quantitative data

- Students were asked series of closed questions in a classroom setting
- EVS used to record answers
- Results were quantified and analysed

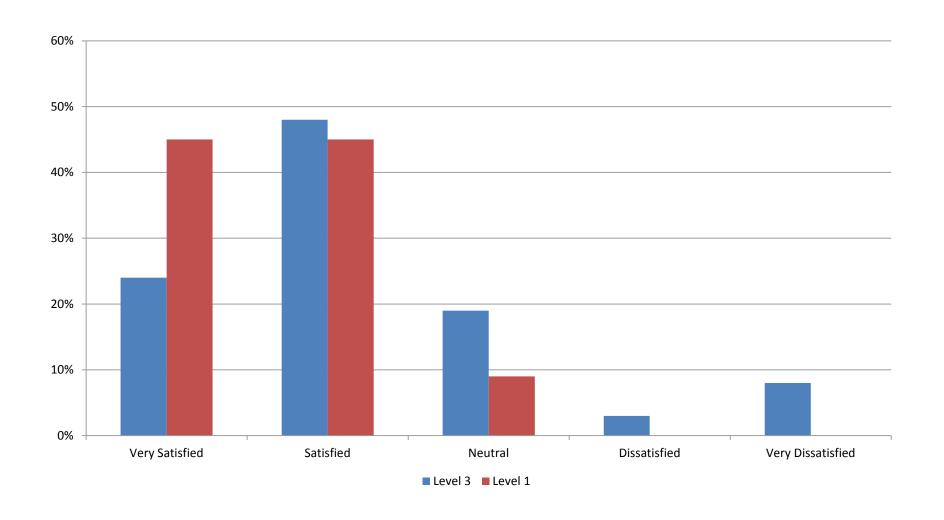
Increase use of Flash presentations in the curriculum



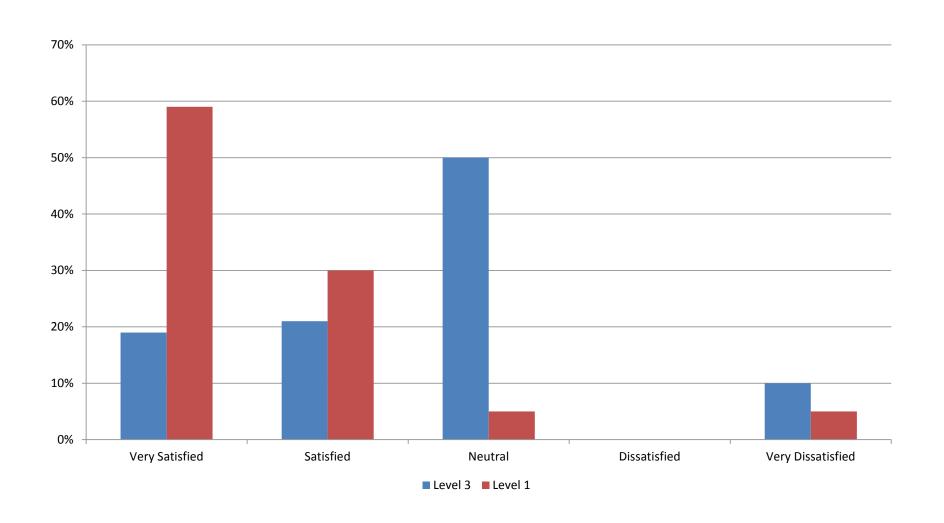
Ease of access of material



Session narration



Feedback opportunity



Guidance document for academic colleagues

- The experiences of students and researchers were compiled into a guidance document
- This provided technical information and practical tips on good/bad design features

Guidance document for academic colleagues

Presentation Design Tips

- Issue all learners with relevant guidelines on how to access the presentation including any VLE and/or personal computer requirements. Also include details on how this presentation can be accessed through the VLE android/ iphone app.
- Include breaks by either breaking larger presentations into smaller 10-15 minute "bite-size" chunks or including slides with break reminders
- Include links to relevant websites that learners can access while completing the presentation

Guidance document (cont)

- Build in post-presentation feedback opportunity for students.
 This can be in a formal classroom setting or informal setting using discussion boards
- Include quizzes within the presentation so learners can gauge knowledge and understanding of the subject matter
- Ensure all learning styles are catered for. Include audio, script, visual and interactive prompts

Presenter Tips

- Use a good quality microphone
- Practice voiceover- speak as naturally as possible
- Remember less is more. A voiceover isn't required for every slide especially when there is no script accompanying a slide



Discussion

- Most of the negative features from the 1st
 presentation were addressed and noted as
 positives in the 2nd presentation
- Access issues remained a problem
- Students requested android/iPod Apps
- The guidance document was designed to provide encouragement for colleagues
- Further work is planned to investigate staff experiences with this guide

Conclusions

- Education is moving towards greater integration of TEL
- TEL will help address student expectations
- Quality of learning experiences should improve
- More efficient use of resources will result

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