
LEARNING AND TEACHING DEVELOPMENT UNIT
ONLINE EDUCATION



STREAMING MEDIA PILOT

STUDENT SURVEY FINDINGS

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STREAMING MEDIA PROJECT – STUDENT SURVEY

Streaming Media Project: Digitally recording lectures and uploading to MyUni.

Background

Throughout 2004 ITS, the LTDU, Disability Services, the Barr Smith Library and a number of schools and academic staff worked together to make digital audio and video recordings of lectures available to students through *MyUni*.

A student survey was conducted in the final week of lectures in Semester 2 2004. A copy of the survey given out in lectures or tutorials is attached as Appendix A. The survey was conducted in order to ascertain student usage of the streaming media and their level of satisfaction with this resource.

179 surveys were completed by first year Media Studies and English students, and second year Physiology students:

- 85 responses were received from Media Studies and English first year students.
- 94 responses were received from a class of 137 Physiology students. These second year students had access for all of 2004 to all lectures via streaming media. 18 computers were available in a teaching suite for student access and headphones were available on loan. Support was provided by the lecturer for students accessing the digital resources that were using the University dialup and all problems associated with the proxy were overcome reasonably early in Semester 1.

SURVEY FINDINGS

The hard copy survey form was anonymous and students were advised that the findings will be published on the LTDU's website.

English first language

- 83% of respondents (n=179) have English as their first language.

Aware of lectures being recorded

- 87% of respondents (n=179) were aware that their lectures were being recorded.

Aware of lectures being available via *MyUni*

- 85% of respondents (n=159) were aware that a digital record of lectures was available to them via *MyUni*

Informed of online resources

159 respondents could choose multiple responses to this question.

- 74% of respondents indicated that they were informed via their face to face lectures or tutorials.
- 38% were informed via *MyUni* course announcements.

How often media resources accessed

There were 153 responses:

- 52% of respondents had **never accessed** the media resources.
- 31% of respondents had accessed the media resources **less than 5 times**.
- 8.5% of respondents had accessed the media resources **between 5 and 10 times**.
- 8.5% of respondents had accessed the media resources **more than 10 times**.

As illustrated in Figure 1 below, a comparison between Year 1 and Year 2 respondents indicates that Year 2 respondents overall accessed the media resources more than Year 1 respondents.

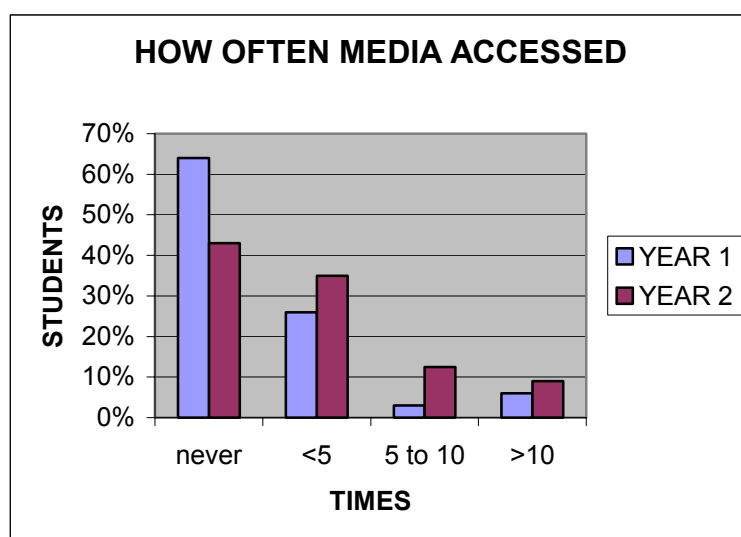


Figure 1: How often media accessed:
A comparison between Year 1 and Year 2 respondents

Ease of access to media files through *MyUni*

73 responses indicated:

- 13.7% of respondents **strongly agreed** that they could easily access the media files through *MyUni*.
- 40% of respondents **agreed** that they could easily access the media files through *MyUni*.
- 20.3% of respondents were **neutral**.

- 13.7% of respondents **disagreed** that they could easily access the media files through *MyUni*.
- 12.3% of respondents **strongly disagreed** that they could easily access the media files through *MyUni*.

As illustrated in Figure 2 below, a comparison between Year 1 and Year 2 respondents indicates that Year 2 respondents overall were more satisfied with the ease of access to the media resources via *MyUni*.

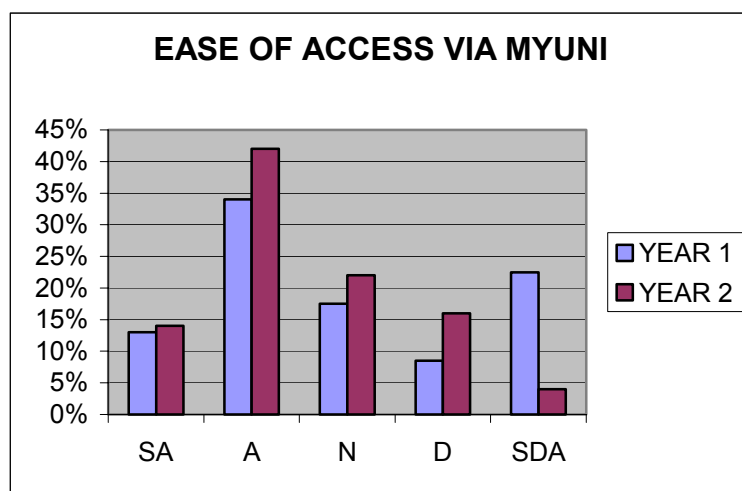


Figure 2: Ease of access to media files through *MyUni*:
A comparison between Year 1 and Year 2 respondents

Quality of Media Resources

73 responses indicated:

- 8% of respondents **strongly agreed** that the quality of the media resources were generally good
- 47% of respondents **agreed** that the quality of the media resources were generally good
- 33% of respondents were **neutral**
- 5% of respondents **disagreed** that the quality of the media resources were generally good
- 7% of respondents **strongly disagreed** that the quality of the media resources were generally good

As illustrated in Figure 3 below, a comparison between Year 1 and Year 2 respondents indicates that Year 2 respondents overall were more satisfied with the quality of the media resources via *MyUni*.

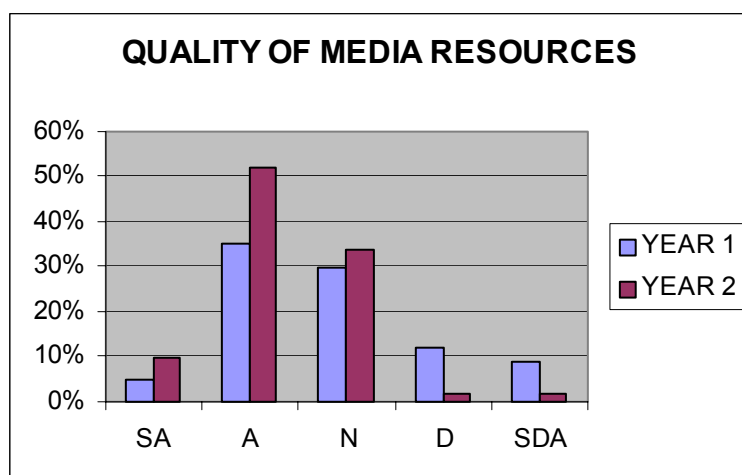


Figure 3: *Quality of media resources:
A comparison between Year 1 and Year 2 respondents*

Place of access to media resources

73 respondents that indicated they have accessed the media resources further identified that they did so either from home or the university, or both places. No students accessed the media resources from work or an Internet café, or other places.

- 71% accessed the media resources from home
- 42% accessed the media resources from university

There was some correlation between ease of access and place of access. Students who accessed the resources from the University had more positive responses to ease of access than those students who accessed the resources from home.

Main reasons for accessing media resources

73 respondents were asked to identify the main reasons for accessing the media resources and multiple responses were allowed.

- 55% of respondents did so when they were **unable to attend the lecture/s**
- 45% of respondents did so for **revision** purposes
- 26% of respondents did so because they had **trouble understanding the lecture**
- 7% of respondents did so to **assist them with an assignment**

Value of media resources

73 respondents:

- 18% strongly agreed that the media resources were of value in their study
- 45% agreed that the media resources were of value in their study
- 27% were neutral
- 5% disagreed that the media resources were of value in their study

- 4% strongly disagreed that the media resources were of value in their study

As illustrated in Figure 4 below, a comparison between Year 1 and Year 2 respondents indicates that Year 2 respondents overall were more satisfied with the quality of the media resources via *MyUni*.

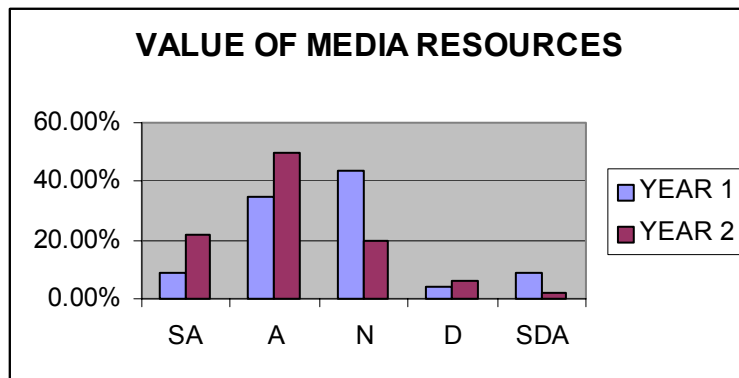


Figure 4: Value of media resources:
 A comparison between Year 1 and Year 2 respondents

Continue to have access to online media resources via *MyUni*

All respondents (n=179) answered the question ‘I would like to continue to have access to this type of resource online via *MyUni*’. The findings show that even though many students had not ever accessed the online media resources, they regard this as a valuable resource. Figure 5 below indicates that the majority of students, both Year 1 and Year 2, either strongly agree or agree that media resources continue to be made available to them.

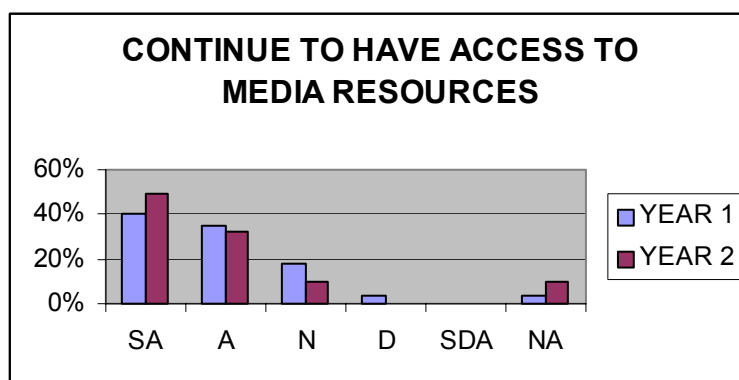


Figure 5: Continue to have access to media resources:
 A comparison between Year 1 and Year 2 respondents

Qualitative Feedback

Student comments were various. Some considered that they didn’t feel the need to use the media resources as they already had online access to their lecture notes in Word format. Quite common was the concern at being unable to access the media resources

from home or the length of time it took to open the files or the large file size. Others had not attempted to access the media resources from home because they were aware that others had experienced problems. One student commented that some computers at the University are not configured to allow access to the media resources. And another student requested that more headphones be available for silent personal viewing at University.

However others liked the ‘safety net’ of knowing that if they couldn’t get to a lecture or if they wished to revisit a lecture, or missed pieces of information during a lecture, they could do so via the media resources. The media resources were considered helpful for both revision for exams and understanding concepts used in tutorials. Others responded that they had not used as yet, but with examinations drawing closer, intended to do so during SWOTVAC.

In appreciation of the work undertaken by everyone in the streaming media pilot, the following student comment reflects numerous positive feedback:

“Thank you for the effort involved with media streams.”

APPENDIX A

STREAMING MEDIA PILOT STUDENT SURVEY

During 2004 one or more of your courses was involved in a Streaming Media Pilot whereby lectures were audio and/or video captured and uploaded into your *MyUni* course. We now wish to evaluate this pilot from your perspective and appreciate your time in filling out the survey below. The findings will be anonymously published on the Learning and Teaching Development Unit's website.

English is my first language Yes No (*please tick one box only*)

Q1 Were you aware that your course lectures were being recorded?

Yes No (*if no proceed to Q10*)

Q2 Were you aware that the audio/video files were available for you to access via your *MyUni* course/s?

Yes No (*if no proceed to Q10*)

Q3 How were you informed of these resources? (*You can choose more than one*)

MyUni announcement

Email

During your face to face lecture or tutorial

Other – *please describe* _____

Q4 How often did you access these media resources?

never (*go to Q10*) <5 times 5-10 times > 10 times

Q5 I could easily access the media files through *MyUni*.

Strongly Agree *Agree* *Neutral* *Disagree* *Strongly Disagree* *N/A*

Q6 Generally the recordings were of good audio and/or video quality?

Strongly Agree *Agree* *Neutral* *Disagree* *Strongly Disagree* *N/A*

Q7 Normally where did you access these media resources from?

home office university internet café other

Q8 What is the main reason you accessed these media resources?

couldn't attend the lecture for revision purposes

to assist me with an assignment I had trouble understanding the

lecture

other – *please describe*

Q9 I found the media files of value in my study.
 Strongly Agree *Agree* *Neutral* *Disagree* *Strongly Disagree* *N/A*

Q10 I would like to continue to have access to this type of resource online via *MyUni*.
 Strongly Agree *Agree* *Neutral* *Disagree* *Strongly Disagree* *N/A*

Q11 Any other comments: