



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

Marvel Maring
and
Nora Hillyer

Library 2-LMS, COCID
Brockport, NY





Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- Why assessment and why now?
 - Assessment, and in particular, outcomes-based assessment, is a pressing concern in education today.
 - Perform a search in ERIC with the keyword “assessment” and you will retrieve a whopping 95,211 articles.
 - NCLB has mandated assessment and accountability in public education.
 - In higher education, we are also experiencing this urgency to assess our programs in a meaningful way.
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

□ Why Blackboard?

- Encouraging colleagues and students to participate in an information literacy assessment would be dependent on making the assessment as easy, convenient and integrated into the general course progression as possible.
 - Using the campus' course management system was essential for the assessment's success.
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

□ Today's presentation

- We'll provide background the climate of assessment at UNO that necessitated the need for an on-line information literacy assessment.
 - We'll describe the development of the first on-line information literacy assessment via Blackboard at the Criss Library at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.
 - We'll share why we selected Blackboard and we'll demonstrate how to use the assessment module of Blackboard.
 - We'll share some of the future developments and upgrades in Blackboard.
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- ❑ Assessment at UNO--impacting every level
 - ❑ Institutional level—development of an electronic portfolio (called myMAPP) to measure campus-wide outcomes and to aid in the accreditation process
 - ❑ myMAPP electronic portfolio is the digital repository for all college, program, faculty, staff and (eventually) student performance
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- ❑ What do we know about assessment and how do we learn more?
 - ❑ ACRL--three-week on-line training course in assessment
 - ❑ We used our information literacy instruction in ENGL 116 (Freshmen Composition) as an example for designing an assessment
 - ❑ We gained theoretical knowledge, practice and confidence
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- ❑ Assessment resources on campus
 - ❑ Internal grant funding to develop assessment projects on campus
 - ❑ Campus experts in assessment (faculty in Psychology, Education and English)
 - ❑ Graduate students (Computer Science and Psychology)
 - ❑ ITS Support
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- Drafting the Assessment
 - What type of assessment?
 - How would it be administered?
 - When and where would it be given?
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- What did the assessment need to measure?
 - How effective is information literacy instruction for students in our first year English Composition course, ENGL 116?
 - Are students learning anything?
 - How best do we measure that learning?
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- ❑ What is the best way to measure the effectiveness of our information literacy instruction?
 - We wanted to measure students' information literacy skills **prior** to library instruction.
 - We wanted to measure students' information literacy skills **after** library instruction.
 - And the next question was...
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- How would we deliver the assessment?
 - On-line would be essential

 - Criteria we used to make our decision about an on-line assessment software program included:
 - Cost
 - Ease of use
 - Convenience
 - Accessibility
 - Autonomy
 - Technical support
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- We investigated three different assessment software products:
 - **Respondus** –not responsive enough, and no free trial
 - **Perception's Questionmark** –compatibility problems with Blackboard
 - **Blackboard**—assessment module available and already in place on campus
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- Throughout the planning and development of the Criss Library Assessment Project we were continually challenged to think about how using an on-line assessment product would impact:
 - Institutional interests
 - Program interests
 - Librarian interests
 - Student interests
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- ❑ We discovered that this project development was making us assess several things at once:
 - ❑ The **questionnaire** itself (what type of questions to include)
 - ❑ The **on-line assessment software** and how it performed in our environment
 - ❑ The **students** in our ENGL116 library instruction sessions
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- How would using Blackboard for our assessment intersect, impact or influence:
 - Institutional interests
 - Program interests
 - Librarian/classroom instructor interests
 - Student interests
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- Institutional Interests
 - Compatible with myMAPP
 - On-line assessment would be essential for myMAPP
 - Reinforces UNO Strategic Plan
 - Student Focus
 - Strengthens collaboration with the English Department and Faculty Consultants
 - Build on the success of the current Info. Lit. program
 - Utilize experts on campus to learn about assessment
 - Work with English faculty to clarify and prioritize key concepts
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

Program Interests

- What can we do to improve the library instruction curriculum?
 - Focus on key concepts
 - Return to original curriculum developed several years ago
 - Add collaborative and active learning exercises
 - Use data gathered from assessment to inform discussions about the information literacy program in ENGL116
 - We now have empirical data to show what students are learning
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

□ Librarian Interests

■ What can we do to improve our individual instruction?

□ We focused on content and delivery:

- Librarians reinforced key concepts
- Librarians consistently introduced handouts
- Librarians introduced more collaborative learning exercises

□ We now have real data to evaluate instruction

- Librarians can see pre-test scores immediately and adjust from instruction session to session
 - Aggregated scores can reveal trends in performance per question so we can adjust instruction or the way a question is written
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- Classroom Instructor interests:
 - Returned to curriculum developed collaboratively several years before—reinforced solidity of original partnership
 - Classroom faculty are “leaders” in Blackboard so they have access to student scores immediately
 - Faculty can see who has taken the assessment and they can assess how well their students and their class as a whole is doing
 - They can track semester by semester assessment scores to see improvement
-



Assessment can be easy via Blackboard

Student Interests

- What can we do to improve student learning?
 - Provide students with immediate feedback from the questionnaire.
 - Provide students with an opportunity to compare the pre and post questionnaire results.
 - Provide librarians with feedback from the survey so they can be responsive to student comments.
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- What we did and how we did it...
 - We created and administered an on-line pre and post questionnaire measuring students' information literacy skills via Blackboard.
 - We administered surveys to students and to ENGL 116 faculty to assess our effectiveness in delivering library instruction.
 - We gathered data from first semester pilot to review performance (students' and Blackboards').
 - We used data to make improvements in the questionnaire and the survey for upcoming semesters.
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- ❑ Now we will show you how Blackboard's assessment module functions...
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- Forty-three easy steps to building a test in Blackboard
 - Build a pool or add question to pool
 - Different resources for questions
 - Build test from pool
 - Add Content Area
 - Add test to content area
 - Modify Test
 - Modify Test Options
 - Test your test
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

Blackboard Academic Suite - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://myuno.unomaha.edu/webapps/portal/frameSet.jsp?tab=community&url=/bin/common/course.pl?course_id=_127367_1

UNO Library GENISYS Web UNO Home Page UNO Mail MRBS Classrooms LEIA Google Advanced Dashboard - Criss Libra... Google Reader

myUNO Courses Community Services Help Instructor Help

CRISS LIBRARY PRESENTATION (CRISSLIBRARYPRESENTATION) > CONTROL PANEL

CRISLIBRARYPRESENTATION: Criss Library Presentation - Nora A Hillyer (Leader)

Content Areas Information Documents External Links	User Management List / Modify Users Manage Groups
Organization Tools Announcements Organization Calendar Staff Information Tasks Send Email Discussion Board	Assessment Test Manager Survey Manager Pool Manager Organization Statistics
Organization Options Manage Organization Menu Organization Design Manage Tools Settings Recycle Organization	Gradebook Gradebook Views Performance Dashboard
Collaboration Digital Dropbox Glossary Manager Link Checker Manage Podcast	Help Support Manual Contact System Administrator Quick Tutorials

Blackboard Academic Suite™

© 1997-2003 Blackboard Inc. All Rights Reserved. U.S. Patent No. 6,988,138. Additional Patents Pending.
Accessibility information can be found at <http://access.blackboard.com>.



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

Blackboard Academic Suite - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://myuno.unomaha.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab=community&url=/bin/common/course.pl?course_id=_127367_1

UNO Library GENISYS Web UNO Home Page UNO Mail MRBS Classrooms LEIA Google Advanced Dashboard - Criss Libra... Google Reader

myUNO Courses Community Services Help Instructor Help

CRISS LIBRARY PRESENTATION (CRISSLIBRARYPRESENTATION) > CONTROL PANEL > POOL MANAGER

Pool Manager

Add and import Pools of questions for use in assessments.
Only pool packages may be imported into the Pool Manager.

Add Pool Import

Name	Date Last Modified			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sample ENGL 116 Questions	April 4, 2008	Export	Modify	Remove

OK

Done



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

Blackboard Academic Suite - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://myuno.unomaha.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab=community&url=/bin/common/course.pl?course_id=_127367_1

UNO Library GENISYS Web UNO Home Page UNO Mail MRBS Classrooms LEIA Google Advanced Dashboard - Criss Libra... Google Reader

myUNO myMail myFolder

Home Help Logout

Blackboard Academic Suite - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://myuno.unomaha.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab=community&url=/bin/common/course.pl?course_id=_127367_1

UNO Library GENISYS Web UNO Home Page UNO Mail MRBS Classrooms LEIA Google Advanced Dashboard - Criss Libra... Google Reader

myUNO myMail myFolder

Home Help Logout

myUNO Courses Community Services Help Instructor Help

Question 2 Multiple Choice

Question Which of the following searches in an online database would likely result in the greatest number of records retrieved?

Answer

- children and divorce
- children or divorce
- children not divorce
- divorce

Correct Feedback

You are correct! The Boolean operator "OR" returns the most records..

Incorrect Feedback

NO!

Question 3 Multiple Answer

Question Check all that apply. Primary sources may include:

Answer

- a. letters
- b. diary
- c. ship's log
- d. minutes of an organization meeting
- e. court decisions
- f. all of the above
- g. I don't know

Correct Feedback You are correct!

Incorrect Feedback NO!



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

Blackboard Academic Suite - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://myuno.unomaha.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab=community&url=/bin/common/course.pl?course_id=_127367_1

UNO Library GENISYS Web UNO Home Page UNO Mail MRBS Classrooms LEIA Google Advanced Dashboard - Criss Libra... Google Reader

Nebraska Omaha myUNO blackboard Home Help Logout myUNO myMail myFolder

Blackboard Academic Suite - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://myuno.unomaha.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab=community&url=/bin/common/course.pl?course_id=_127367_1

UNO Library GENISYS Web UNO Home Page UNO Mail MRBS Classrooms LEIA Google Advanced Dashboard - Criss Libra... Google Reader

Nebraska Omaha myUNO blackboard Home Help Logout myUNO myMail myFolder

myUNO Courses Community Services Help Instructor Help

[CRISS LIBRARY PRESENTATION \(CRISSLIBRARYPRESENTATION\)](#) > [CONTROL PANEL](#) > TEST MANAGER

Test Manager

Add and modify Tests. After creation, add the Test to a content area and make it available. Results are recorded in the Gradebook. Only test packages may be imported into the Test Manager.

Add Test Import

Name	Deployed	Date Last Modified			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brockport Assessment	Information	April 4, 2008	Export	Modify	Remove

OK



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

Blackboard Academic Suite - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://myuno.unomaha.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab=community&url=/bin/common/course.pl?course_id=_127367_1

UNO Library GENISYS Web UNO Home Page UNO Mail MRBS Classrooms LEIA Google Advanced Dashboard - Criss Libra... Google Reader

myUNO myMail myFolder

Blackboard Academic Suite - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://myuno.unomaha.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab=community&url=/bin/common/course.pl?course_id=_127367_1

UNO Library GENISYS Web UNO Home Page UNO Mail MRBS Classrooms LEIA Google Advanced Dashboard - Criss Libra... Google Reader

myUNO Courses Community Services Help Instructor Help

CRISS LIBRARY PRESENTATION (CRISSLIBRARYPRESENTATION) > CONTROL PANEL > MANAGE ORGANIZATION MENU

Manage Organization Menu

To view changes, refresh the Menu.

Add Content Area Tool Link Organization Link External Link

1	Announcements <i>Announcements</i>	Modify	Remove
2	Information <i>Content Area</i>	Modify	Remove
3	Staff Information <i>Staff Information</i>	Modify	Remove
4	Documents <i>Content Area</i>	Modify	Remove
5	Communication <i>Communications Area</i>	Modify	Remove
6	Discussion Board <i>Discussion Board</i>	Modify	Remove
7	External Links <i>Content Area</i>	Modify	Remove



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

Blackboard Academic Suite - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://myuno.unomaha.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab=community&url=/bin/common/course.pl?course_id=_127367_1

UNO Library GENISYS Web UNO Home Page UNO Mail MRBS Classrooms LEIA Google Advanced Dashboard - Criss Libra... Google Reader

myUNO myMail myFolder

Home Help Logout

myUNO Courses Community Services Help Instructor Help

CRISS LIBRARY PRESENTATION (CRISSLIBRARYPRESENTATION) > CONTROL PANEL > INFORMATION

Information

Item Folder External Link Organization Link Test

Select: Learning Unit Go

Modify Manage Remove

1 Brockport Assessment

This is a test example.

OK

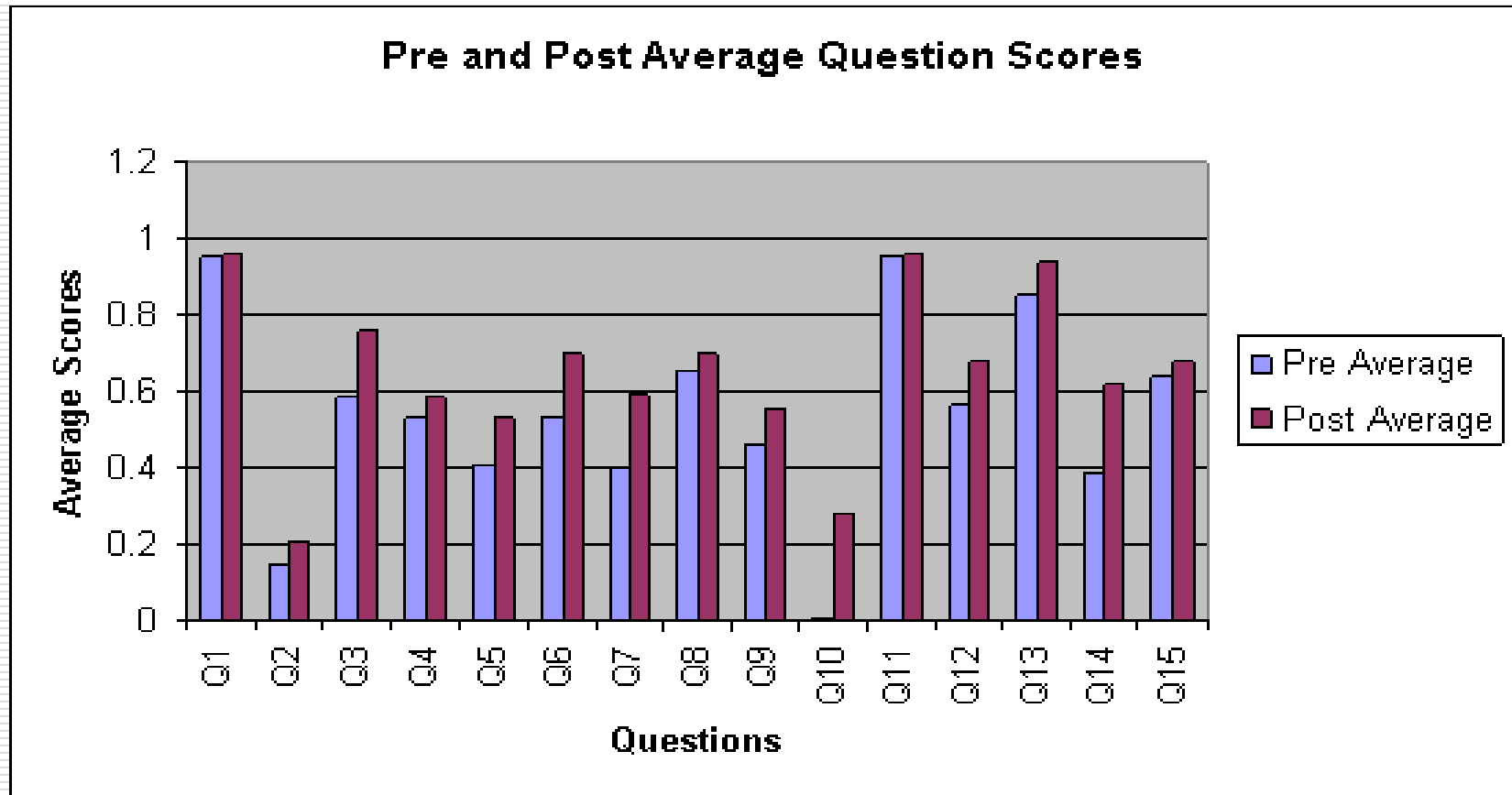


Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- Challenges of using Blackboard/What we learned
 - Manual process of adding students
 - Building/using groups in the organization
 - Limited reporting
 - No data analysis
 - Reports from original study
-

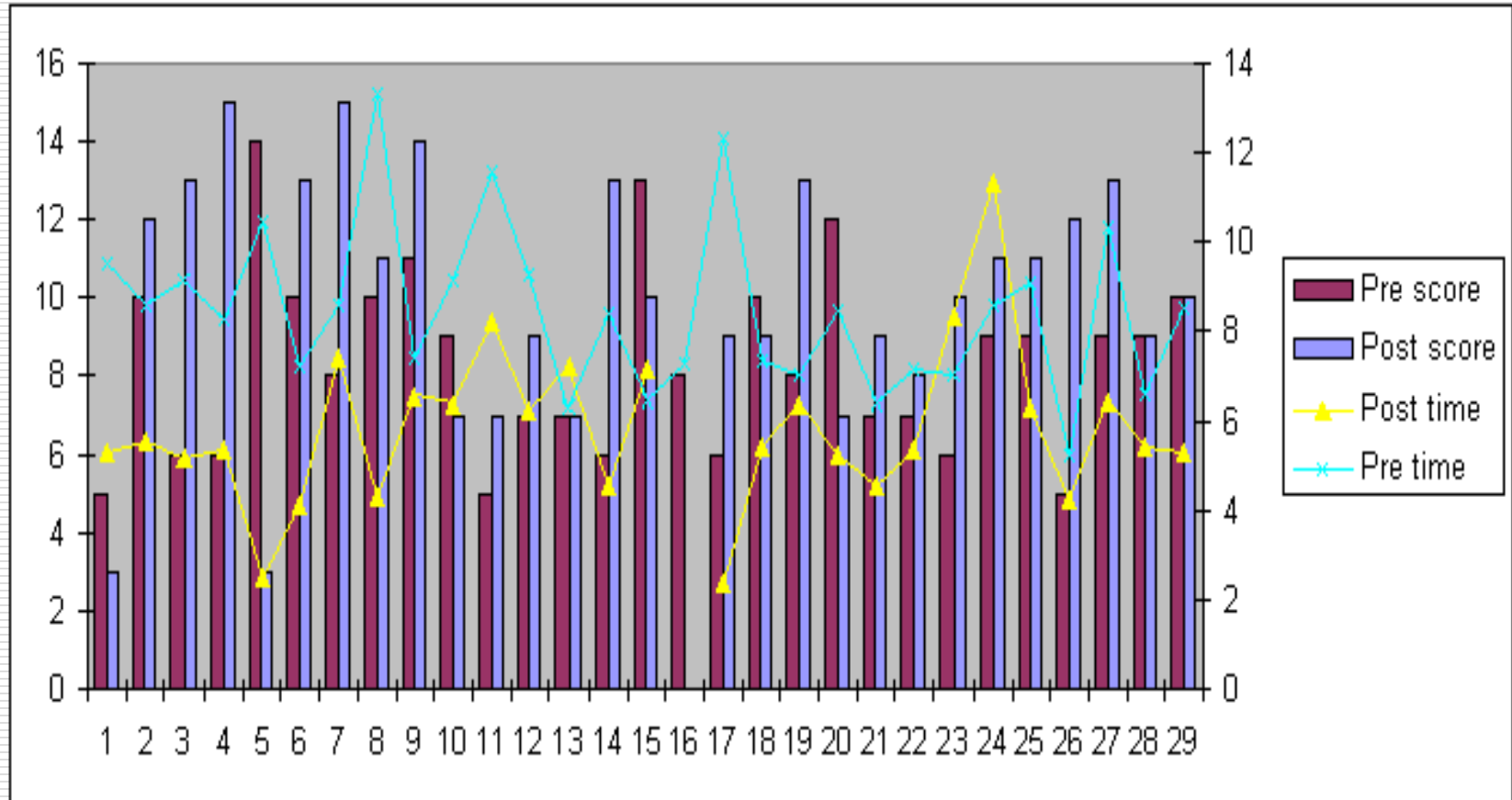


Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard



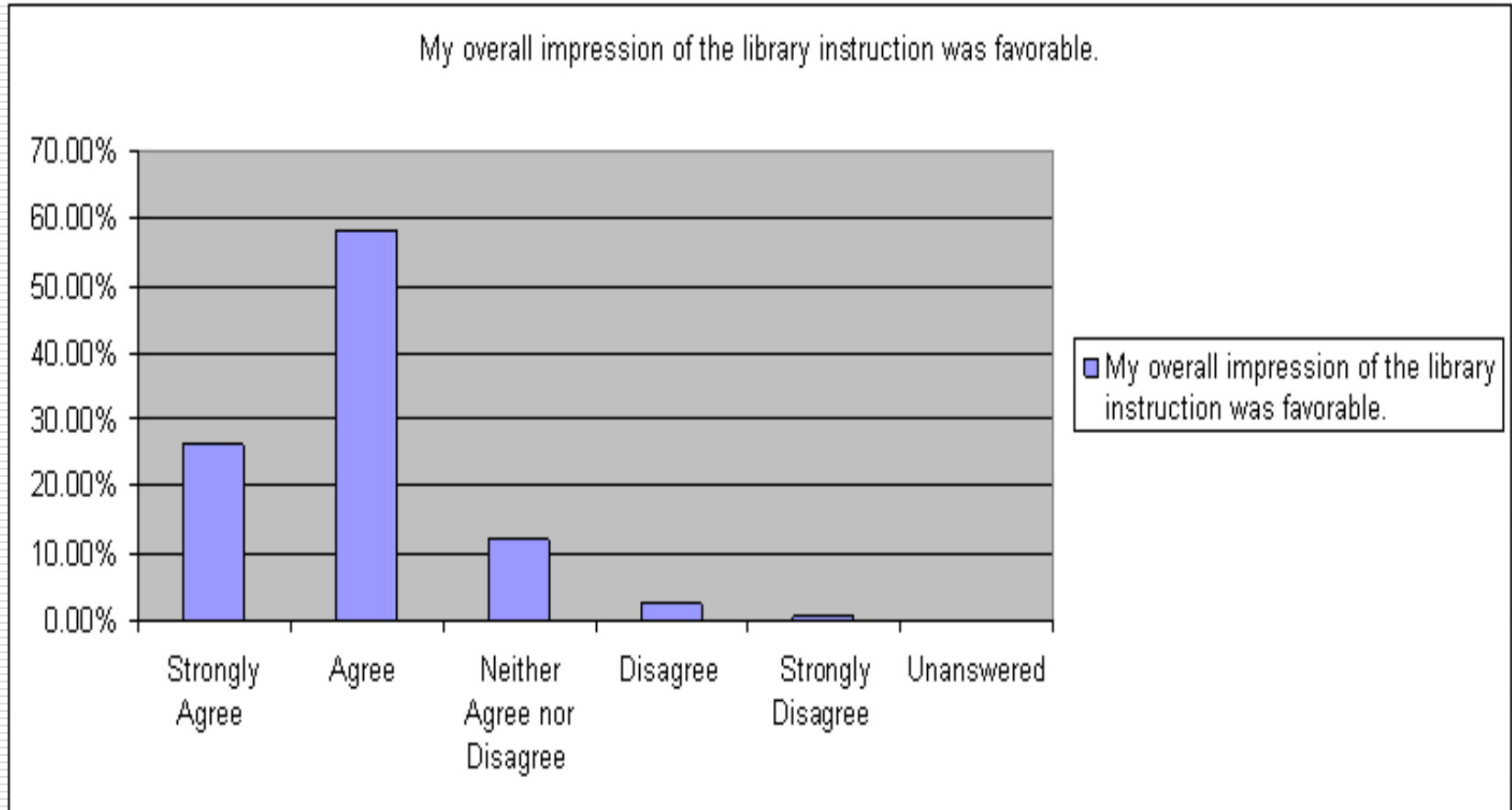


Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard





Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard





Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

- Study Size and Results
 - 293 Students total
 - Reported on 184 (paired sample t-test)
 - Pre- and post-questionnaires were identical
 - Highest possible score is 15
 - Higher test scores following instruction
 - Pre-questionnaire 8.23
 - Post-questionnaire 9.89
-



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

□ Study Size and Results

■ Impact of instruction and Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)

□ 7.73 pre scores

□ 10.05 post scores

■ Internal Consistency Reliability

□ Consistency displayed by questions

□ 0 = bad 1.00 = good

■ .699 = reliable



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

Future Developments

■ Blackboard Version 8

Available May/June 2008

Gradebook is changing

■ Different organization of groups

■ Want to see data per group

■ Reporting module changing

■ Change manual process of adding students to an automated process

■ Set up visitor accounts to test our tests



Assessment Can Be Easy Via Blackboard

Questions???

Thank you!
