UPEI Framework for Online and Technology-Supported Learning

Guidelines, Documentation, and Resources

Working Group for Online Learning Framework
Academic Planning and Curriculum Committee
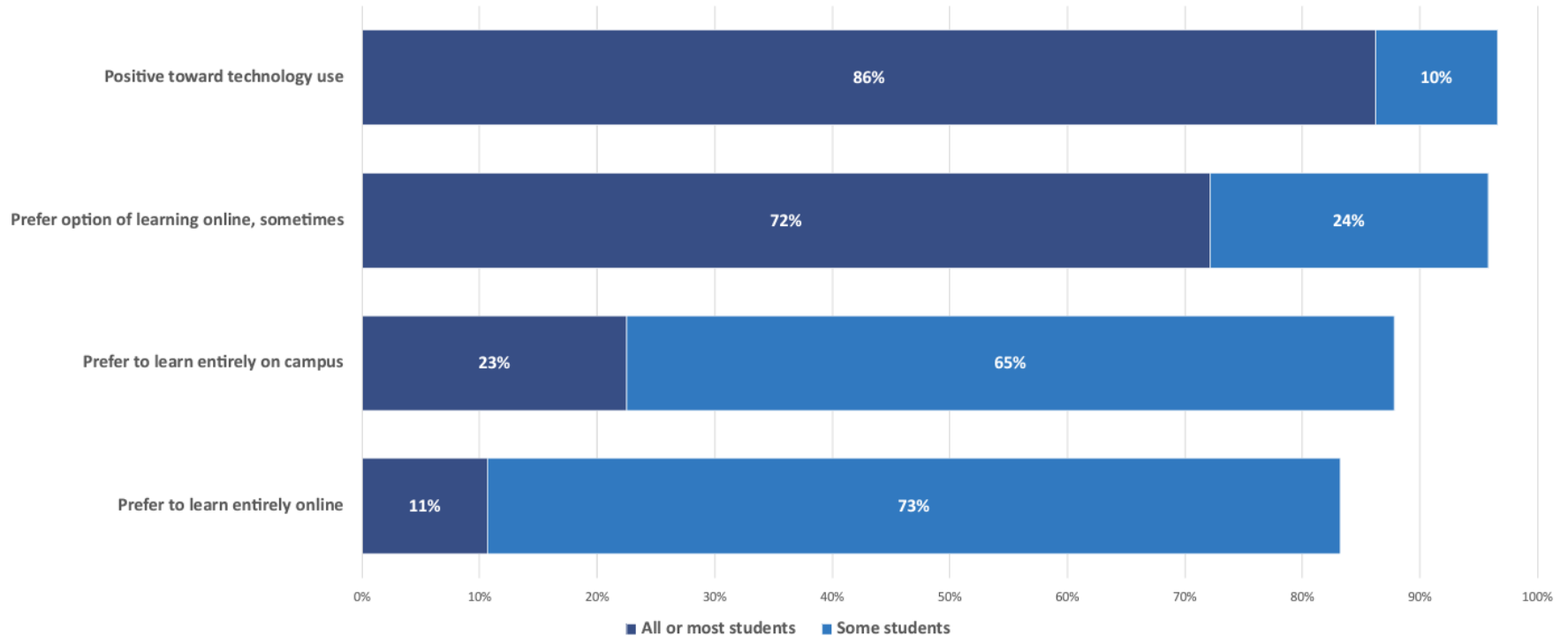Greg F. Naterer

Friday January 17, 2025

Background

- Role of online learning in post-secondary education was significantly changed as a result of COVID-19

- Emergency response to alternate delivery without careful design of effective teaching and learning in a fully online environment

- After transition back to mostly in-person learning, there is an opportunity to reflect and identify what online options worked well or can be further developed

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Online Learning Trends in Canada *

To what extent do you believe that students at your institution:

	All or most students	Some students
Positive toward technology use	86%	10%
Prefer option of learning online, sometimes	72%	24%
Prefer to learn entirely on campus	23%	65%
Prefer to learn entirely online	11%	73%

■ All or most students ■ Some students

* Johnson, N., 2023 Pan-Canadian Report on Digital Learning Trends in Canadian Post-Secondary Education, Canadian Digital Learning Research Association

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MPHEC Guidelines

- In Nov. 2022, the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission, announced a requirement to develop an institutional Framework for Online Learning

- MPHEC released *Guidelines for Institutional Frameworks for Online and Technology-Supported Learning* for developing and implementing online programs within a university

- Maritime universities are required to develop a framework that is aligned with these guidelines

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UPEI Working Group

- Members with expertise in areas such as instructional design, faculty development, academic oversight, technology infrastructure, planning, policy, and student support services

- Since the Fall 2022, the Working Group has developed a framework to coordinate processes, policies, and resources, to develop and support online teaching and learning at UPEI

Overview of Framework

- Six overarching standards: 1) Planning and Policies; 2) Infrastructure; 3) Academic Oversight; 4) Instructional Design; 5) Instructional Support; and 6) Student Support Services

- At an institutional level - identifies strengths and weaknesses to enable plans for improvement; while at a micro level - helpful guidance for specific programs, courses, or modules

- Each standard has a subset of criteria that identify the expectations related to the standard, and parameters to meet required standard

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Framework Guidelines

1. Planning and Policies		
Guideline		**Documentation, Resources and Status**
1(a)	(i) Online and technology-supported guidelines are in place and updated through consultation and best practices.	• UPEI Online and Technology-Supported Learning Framework • Schedule for review of guidelines by APCC to follow normal policy administration cycle
	(ii) Senate-adopted common definitions for delivery modes align with MPHEC definitions and are clearly shared with campus. align with MPHEC definitions and are clearly shared with campus.	• UPEI Academic Calendar (definitions for delivery modes to be incorporated into Academic Calendar) • MPHEC Online and Technology Supported Learning Guidelines
	(iii) Faculty, staff, and students have access to UPEI Senate policy on quality assurance of academic programming.	• UPEI Senate Policy on Quality Assurance of Academic Programs
1(b)	Faculty, staff, and students are provided with information on the location of resources specific to online and technology-supported learning so they can ask questions and access supports.	• UPEI Teaching and Learning Centre

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Acknowledgements

Questions?

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