

# **Student Technology Survey Summary**

2012 – 2013 Academic Year

Number of Respondents: 317

## **Current Class Standing**

There were 317 students that responded to the survey. For the students who responded to the survey question, 36% were sophomores, 31.5 % were freshman, and the remaining three categories were less than 14% each. The remaining categories were mainly made up of Dual-enrolled, returning alumni, transient, certificate seeking, and non-degree seeking students.

## **Plans after BCC Graduation**

54.6 % plan to pursue a four-year degree, 20.5 % plan to pursue full-time employment, and the remaining two categories are less than 16% each, and include students who are undecided, already employed, or planning to continue some form of education, planning to change careers, enlist in military, work in government.

## **Desired Technologies to use at BCC**

There appears to be four (4) major divisions of importance base on percentages: greater than 71% (Answers > 71%); less than 60, but greater than 50% (60% > Answers > 50%); 44% (Answer = 44%); and less than 32% (Answers < 32%).

It is interesting to note that 43.9% of the responding students desired or found important “Distance learning, which delivers education to students who are not physically in the same location as the teacher and/or students”.

The top two divisions consist of the following (in highest to lowest order):

- Answers > 71%:
  1. Wireless Network (79.9%)
  2. Personal mobile computing device (77.4%)
  3. Learning Management System (71.7%)
- 60% > Answers > 50%

1. Campus computer labs (59.2%)
2. Accessing BCC's network from an off-campus location (54.8%)
3. Digital Content (51.6%)
4. Recorded class lectures (50.3%)

Mobile computing devices are rated in the top three. One student was concerned or disappointed that not all course material could be used on a Nook. If personal mobile computing devices or "Bring Your Own Device" (BYOD) becomes something that BCC pursues in supporting, device compatibility must be addressed.

Another interesting observation is that only 27.1% of the respondents desired social media to be used in their studies at BCC.

### **Envisioned Use of Technology at BCC**

It seemed that all categories listed were considered to be significant with the exception of students' envision of using technology at BCC to prepare for the technology expectations in chosen field. Although the exception was relatively high at 63.1%, there is a disparity of expectation in this category versus the other four (4) categories at 72% and higher. This last ranked category may need more exploration to better understand the disparity.

There appears to be four divisions of importance. These are as follows (highest rating to lowest):

- 1<sup>st</sup> Division
  1. To complete assignments (95.9%)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Division
  1. To communicate with professors (88.5%)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Division
  1. To research topics of interest (78.7%)
  2. To communicate with classmates (72.3%)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Division
  1. To prepare for the technology expectations in chosen field (63.1%)

### **When to Use Technology**

Almost 85% envision using technology in classes. Only a fraction of a percent does not envision not using technology at all. The remaining percentage of students envisions using technology outside of class. It should be noted that 43.8% of students responding to the survey envision using technology during every class.

### **Top 3 Important Technology Skills for Success at BCC and/or in the Workforce**

The top three ranked technology skills for success at BCC and/or in the workforce are:

1. Presentation development (55.2%)
2. Technical writing (48.9%)
3. E-mail composition (45.1%)

Online news and database research came close with 43.5%. Both, "Spreadsheet development" and "Audio, video, and/or multimedia content development" followed at 31.7% and 31.1%, respectively. While the "Other, please specify" category only accounted for 4.8%, there appears to be a desire to have a collection of skills utilizing office/Microsoft Office applications; some of this has been incorporated and broken out in the other categories listed for this question.

**Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statement: My education at BCC is preparing me to successfully use technology in college and/or when I enter the workforce.**

75% either strongly agree or agree. Only 7% strongly disagree or disagree.

**Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statement: Brevard Community College understands how I use or want to use technology as a learning tool.**

68% Strongly agree or agree. 11% either strongly disagree or disagree.

**Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statement: Brevard Community College is meeting my technology needs.**

69% Strongly agree or agree. 10% Strongly disagree or disagree.

**How important is technology to your ability to study or work on class assignments?**

Only 2% consider it not important

**Where do you use technology to study or work on class assignments? Please select all that apply.**

Top three responses:

1. At Home – 97%
2. BCC Library – 57%
3. During Class – 47%

Other areas mentioned include public library, friend's home, wherever there is wi-fi, and at work.

**Which of these statements apply to your experience with technology at Brevard Community College? Please specify all that apply.**

Top three responses:

1. Teachers regularly assign classwork and/or homework that require the use of technology. – 73%
2. Students can use their own technology (e.g., laptops, tablet PCs, smartphones). – 61%
3. Teachers regularly use technology to teach. – 61%

**To what extent is technology integrated into your classroom? Please rate on a scale of one to five, where one is not at all integrated and five is fully integrated.**

The average rating was 3.7. 1.6% rated a 1 (Not at all).

**What is the biggest challenge to classroom technology at Brevard Community College?**

Top three responses:

1. Technology is fully integrated at BCC – there are no obstacles. – 43%
2. My teachers do not know how to use it. – 15%
3. BCC does not have enough technology to adequately serve students. – 13%

## How would having technology-rich classroom/learning environment change the way you learn?

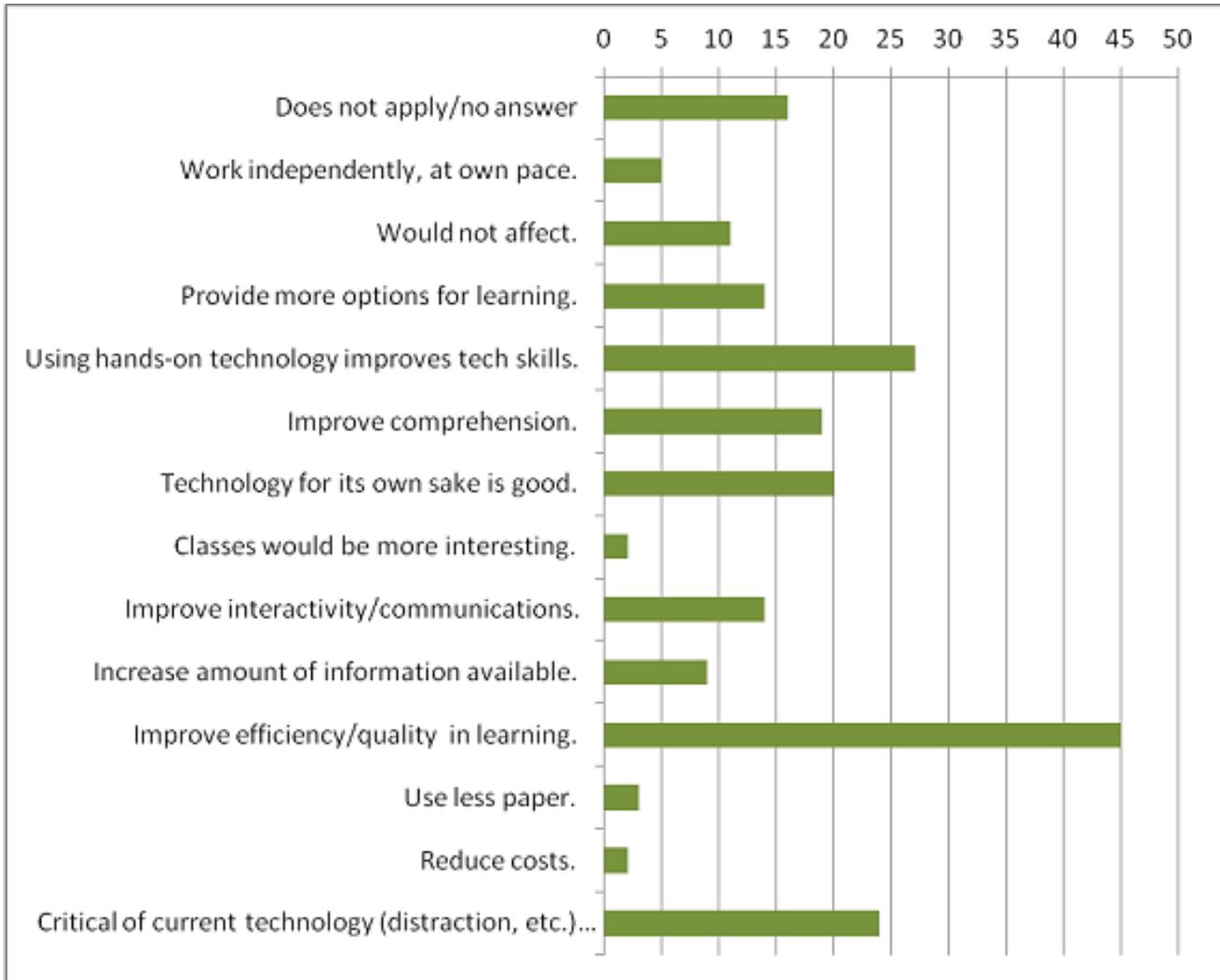
Top three responses:

1. Improve efficiency/quality in learning – 21%
2. Using hands-on technology improves tech skills – 13%
3. Critical of current technology (distraction, etc.) or suggestion for improvement – 11%

Other responses:

1. It would give me more options to accomplish assignments and to communicate with others.
2. I only take on-line courses so some of the answers do not apply. The on-line technology is very good/ but would like to see faster responses to e-mails. Perhaps more aids for the teachers with large amounts of students.
3. It would better prepare students for a technology-driven world.
4. Learning by using technology could be difficult because there are more distractions.
5. WiFi and internet access is often VERY slow on PB campus. Much faster at public library and at home. Some computers are also very outdated on PB campus.
6. Technology makes information more accessible, thus allowing us to share more ideas quickly. It also allows us to be more green in our efforts. With e-books, and even the ability to take notes via a tablet we decrease the amount of paper needed to sustain us through our college career, thus decreasing our carbon footprint.
7. Its 2012... Everything is technology based. Technology is something every single person uses in one way or another, and to integrate that into our classes just makes sense. It would make everything much more streamlined.
8. Currently utilizing Angel for on-line classes which is working well and providing excellent learning technology along with some on-line video course training. Almost all of my learning/studying is performed independently - at home - on my own - from actual textbooks (CPAS degree).
9. I am currently only able to take online classes. I can only access parts of my lessons because they require flash players which are not compatible with my phone or ipad.
10. A technology rich classroom would allow me more access to the material I need to study for tests and assignments even on weekends where the amount of support available to students is very critically limited. It is especially critical to

difficult classes which require large amounts of study time outside of class like math and science classes. Additionally more technology integration with digital content would allow me to quickly find and review things which I don't understand and go over it until I do. Free video content on YouTube such as Khan Academy and MIT Open courseware and other resources available on the web help fill the gap not currently met by BCC. Subscription services such as MyChemLab, and MathXL while being high cost alternatives to video content are typically helpful in providing this off hours instruction, though their implantation varies widely by instructor, with some instructors using them heavily and others making no use out of them at all.



**Which of the following technologies/Internet tools do you use in conjunction with your education at BCC (e.g., to study, while in class, to work on assignments)? Please select all that apply.**

Top five selected:

1. Laptop computer – 82%
2. Learning Management System – 67%
3. Desktop computer – 56%
4. Smartphone (e.g., iPhone, Blackberry, Droid) – 38%
5. Open source applications (e.g., Google Apps, OpenOffice)

**Which of the following technologies/Internet tools do you use for personal use (e.g., to connect with friends/family, or for hobbies, extracurricular activities, relaxation)? Please select all that apply.**

Top five selected:

1. Laptop computer – 85%
2. Smartphone (e.g., iPhone, Blackberry, Droid) – 57%
3. Social networking sites (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn) – 54%
4. Online text or video chat – 40%
5. iPod/MP3 player – 32%

**Please select one technology tool that you do not currently use or have at your disposal that you most want and believe would most useful in your education at BCC.**

Top five selected:

1. Tablet computer – 18%
2. E-reader device (e.g., Kindle, Nook, Sony Reader) – 13%
3. Laptop computer – 12%
4. Interactive whiteboard – 11%
5. Digital content (e.g., online textbooks, downloadable books or other curricular materials in electronic form) – 8%

Other comments:

- Video chat with instructor - or distance learning via live video
- Live streaming of classrooms
- None of this stuff can take the place of the human factor
- I'm happy with what I have

**Social media uses mobile and Web-based communications platforms to enable realtime dialogue and content-sharing. Examples of social media tools include the following Facebook, Twitter, blogs, or wikis. How often do you use social media to study or work on class assignments?**

Approximately 47% of the students responded that they either never or rarely use social media to study or work on class assignments. 25% responded that they either use them every day or several times a week.

**How often do you use technology (e.g., computer, software, Internet, social media) to prepare for your classes (e.g., completing homework, special projects, studying)?**

Approximately 90% responded that they either use technology every day or several times a week.

**Outside of classes, how do you communicate with your teachers? Please select your top three methods of communications.**

1. E-mail – 88%
2. Learning Management System (Angel) – 62%
3. In-person – 43%

NOTE: Telephone – 20%

**How accessible are Brevard Community College's computer labs for studying or working on assignments?**

74% report that there always is an open seat or there is a short wait. 21% report that they either do not want or need to use the computer labs at BCC.

**What recommendations would you give to your teachers to better use technology in the classroom at Brevard Community College?**

Some of the most mentioned recommendations by students:

- Many believe that their teachers are well prepared in the use of technology
- There were several recommendations about the use of tablet PCs, specifically, iPads in the classroom
- More teachers should use the full functionality of Angel
- Several students recommended that faculty respond to email quicker
- More use of video capture by instructors
- Use eTexts
- Instructors should become more familiar with the technology supplied in the classroom
- Improved available open computer lab hours