

**The University of Southern Mississippi**

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# **HVUCs Technology Survey**

Highly Visible Undergraduate Classrooms (HVUCs)

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Faculty Responses  
The Status of Classroom Technology  
at Southern Miss



*Prepared by*

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# Executive Summary

The Title III-A grants office at Southern Miss conducted the highly visible undergraduate classroom (HVUC) technology survey of faculty to assess the faculty's level of satisfaction with current availability and use of classroom technology equipment and software applications. The HVUCs are "smart" classrooms implemented with Title III-A funds. An HVUC classroom equipment set generally include a SMART Symposium interactive panel with a lectern, a computer, data video projector, a mounted wall screen, a DVD/VCR combo player, a visual presenter, a Key Span remote control system, a sound system, and USB cable for laptop connectivity. The equipment is complemented with internet wireless connectivity along with software to include Microsoft Office Professional Suite, SMART, Adobe Reader, Flash, Netscape, MS Media Player, and Quick Time. Lab based HVUCs are also equipped with digital cameras and microscope adapters to integrate with the HVUC equipment.

The HVUC survey included a questionnaire that addressed the university's effort in technology integration in the classrooms. The survey was conducted in partial fulfillment of the Title III-A grant objectives in equipment acquisition (Activity I), and to identify any unfulfilled needs in classroom technology. The survey was conducted during the 2004 Spring Semester with 101 faculty volunteer participants. HVUC survey was designed to provide evaluation data for the grant's Activity I objective accomplishments, to develop needs assessment data for future grant proposals, and to guide administrative decisions regarding support for HVUCs at the University. The 2004 survey was also intended to assess any changes in equipment availability and use, as well as identification of any unfulfilled HVUC technology needs. The survey return rate was 27 percent (57 out of 101 surveys).

The survey instrument gathered demographic data on academic rank, PEF status, college affiliation, age, campus affiliation, ethnicity, age, and education level. Survey questions focused on the faculty's ratings on the importance of identified equipment/software, room access, training, overall satisfaction, and frequency of use. The first two chapters of this report provide a summary of findings in the format of Tables and Figures. In these findings, note that faculty identified computers, 92.9 percent; data video projectors, 89.3 percent; smart symposiums, 90.7 percent; DVD/VCR players, 82.5 percent; and external laptop connectivity, 65.4 percent as the top most important HVUC technology equipment needs, along with Internet access (86.0 percent). The ratings of top importance for information technology software applications were the Microsoft Office Suite, 77.2 percent; audio, 78.2 percent; Adobe Acrobat Reader, 72.7 percent; visual projector, 60.0 percent; and Quick Time Player, 52.8 percent (Table 8 and Figure 8).

The majority of faculty reported that they did not have any problems with access to highly visible undergraduate classrooms and training on equipment/software (Tables 9 & 10 and Figures 9 & 10). In terms of overall satisfaction with HVUCs, ratings ranged between 64.3 percent and 85.9 percent. Regarding frequency of use, approximate 80% of faculty reported using HVUCs at least once a week--53.7 percent two or more times per week and another 25.9 percent once weekly (Table 11 and Figure 11).

Based on the HVUC faculty survey data analysis, the following recommendations are made:

1. In order to enhance instructional technology integration into the classrooms, it is recommended that the university purchase equipment and software applications

identified as most important a top priority.

2. It is also recommended that provisions be made for maintaining and upgrading classroom technology equipment/software as deemed necessary based on technological advances and equipment lifespan.

*Since the greatest identified need was for computers (93 percent), it is recommended that colleges make computer purchase and refurbishment a priority budget item in their respective budgets.*

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## Purpose and Methodology

### Purpose of the Project

The Title III-A grants office at Southern Miss conducted the highly visible undergraduate classroom (HVUC) technology survey of faculty to assess the faculty's level of satisfaction with current availability and use of classroom technology equipment and software applications. The HVUCs are "smart" classrooms implemented with Title III-A funds. An HVUC classroom equipment set generally include a SMART Sympodium<sup>®</sup> interactive panel with a lectern, a computer, data video projector, a mounted wall screen, a DVD/VCR combo player, a visual presenter, a Key Span remote control system, an audio and system, and USB cable for laptop connectivity. The equipment is complemented with internet wireless connectivity along with software to include Microsoft Office Professional Suite, SMART, Adobe Reader, Flash, Netscape, MS Media Player, and Quick Time. Lab based HVUCs are also equipped with digital cameras and microscope adapters to integrate with the HVUC equipment.

The survey was conducted in partial fulfillment of the Title III-A grant objectives in equipment acquisition (Activity I), and to identify any unfulfilled needs in class room technology. HVUC survey was designed to provide evaluation data for the grant's Activity I objective accomplishments, to develop needs assessment data for future grant proposals, and to inform administrative decisions regarding support for HVUCs at the university.

### Methodology

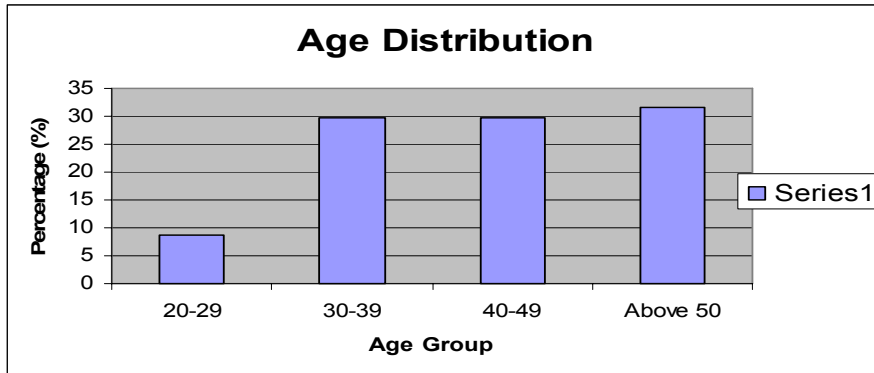
Under the auspices of the Office of the Provost, the Center for Research and Support, and the Title III-A office at Southern Miss, 101 questionnaires were mailed out to faculty and staff using the Southern Miss faculty/staff mailing list for the Hattiesburg campus. Of the 101 questionnaires mailed out, a total of 57 (27 percent) were returned. The SPSS statistical software program was utilized for data analysis. Appendix A contains the 2004 survey instrument used for data collection. Participation was voluntary.

This analysis is based on responses reported by 57 (56 percent) respondents. There did not appear to be any age disparity across groups for respondents in the upper three categories (above 30 years). However, less than 10 percent of the respondents were between 20 years and 29 years of age. (See Table 1, Figure 1)

**Table 1: Age Distribution**

Age	Frequency	Percent of Total ( <i>n</i> =57)
20-29	5	8.8%
30-39	17	29.8%
40-49	17	29.8%
Above 50	18	31.6%

**Figure 1: Age Distribution**



# 2

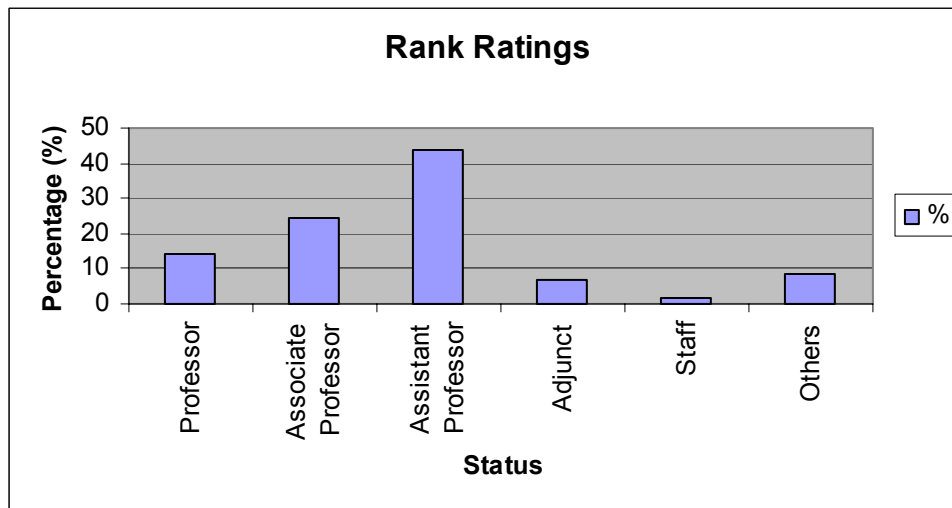
## Summary Tables and Figures

### By Academic Rank

Table 2: Summary of Responses by Academic Rank

Rank	Total Number Responses	Percentage of Total Responses ( <i>n</i> =57)
Professor	8	14.0%
Associate Professor	14	24.6%
Assistant Professor	25	43.8%
Adjunct	4	7.0%
Staff	1	1.8%
Others	5	8.8%

Figure 2: Summary of Responses by Academic Rank

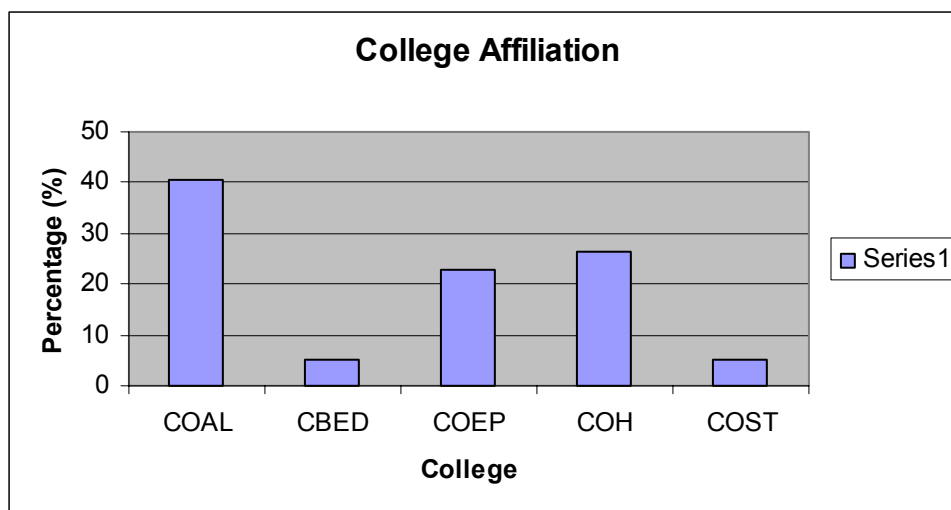


## By College Affiliation

**Table 3: Summary of Responses by College**

College	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Total Respondents( <i>n</i> =57)
Arts and Letters (COAL)	23	40.0%
Bus & Econ Development (CBED)	3	5.3%
Education & Psychology (COEP)	13	22.8%
Health (COH)	15	26.3%
Science & Technology (COST)	3	5.3%

**Figure 3: Summary of Responses by College**

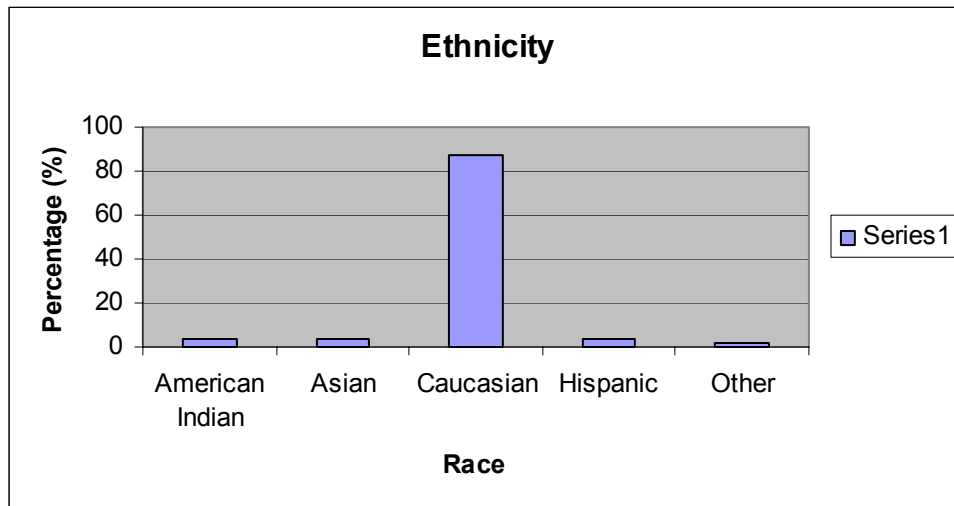


## By Ethnicity

**Table 4: Summary of Respondents by Ethnicity**

Item	Number	Percentage of Total Responses
American Indian	2	3.6%
Asian	2	3.6%
Caucasian	48	87.3%
Hispanic	2	3.6%
Other	1	1.8%

**Figure 4: Summary of Respondents by Ethnicity**

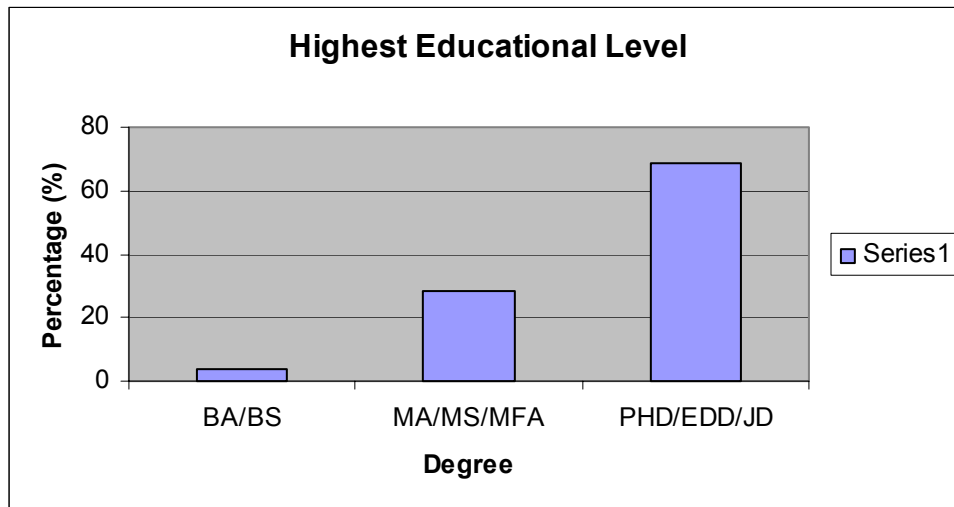


## By Educational Level

**Table 5: Summary of Highest Educational Level**

Item	Number	Percentage of Total Responses
BA/BS	2	3.5%
MA/MS/MFA	16	28.1
PHD/EDD/JD	39	68.4%

**Figure 5: Summary of Highest Educational Level**

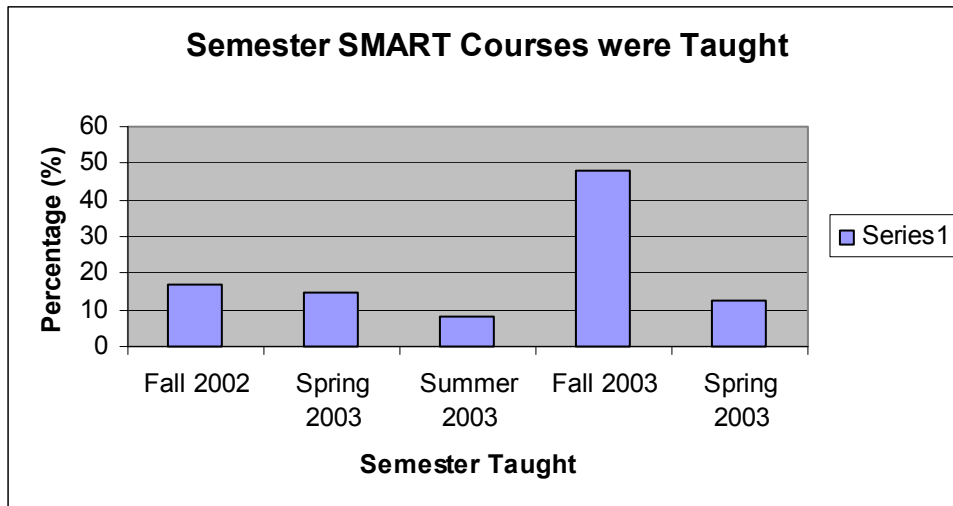


# By Smart Classroom

**Table 6: Summary of Courses Taught in HVUCs**

Number of Classes Taught	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Total Respondents( <i>n</i> =57)
0	8	14%
1	14	24.6%
2	23	40.4%
3	6	10.5%
4	4	7.0%
5	1	1.8%
More than 5	1	1.8%

**Figure 6: Summary of Courses Taught in HVUCs**

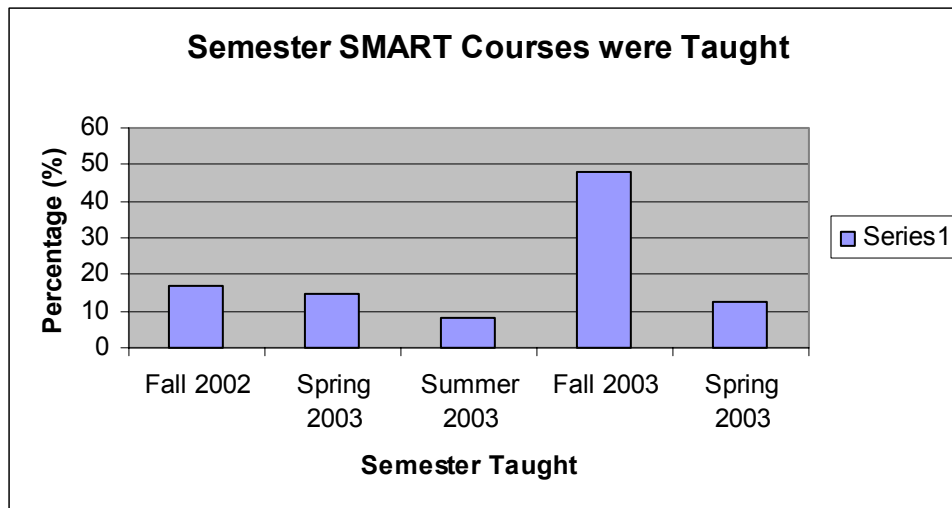


## By Academic Semester

**Table 7: Summary of Courses Taught by Semesters**

Semester	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Total Respondents( <i>n</i> =57)
Fall 2002	8	16.7%
Spring 2003	7	14.6
Summer 2003	4	8.3
Fall 2003	23	47.9
Spring 2003	6	12.5

**Figure 7: Summary of Courses Taught by Semesters**



## Equipment/Software Importance

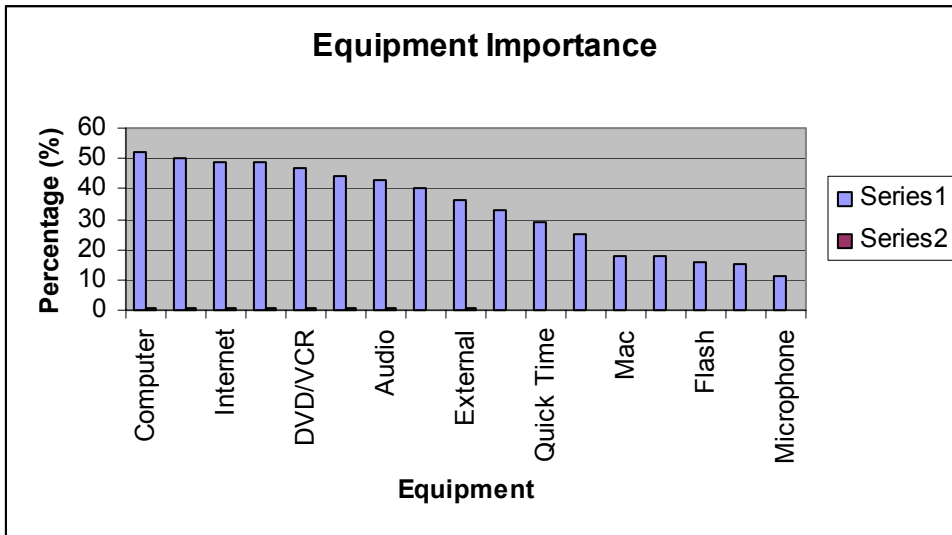
### Rankings by Percentage

Computer, data video projector, SMART Sympodium®, internet access, and DVD/VCR player, Microsoft Office Suite, audio, adobe acrobat reader, visual projector, and external laptop connectivity ability were ranked as the top ten needs for equipment, software, and services. The order of importance ranged from 92.9 percent to 65.4 percent, respectively.

**Table 8: Ranked List of Equipment/Software Importance by Percentage**

<b>Classroom Needs</b>	<b>Somewhat Important</b>	<b>Extremely Important</b>	<b>Total Importance</b>
Computer	14.3%	78.6%	92.9%
Data Video Projector	10.7%	78.6%	89.3%
Smart Sympodium®	14.8%	75.9%	90.7%
Internet Access	22.8%	63.2%	86.0%
DVD/VCR Player	31.6%	50.9%	82.5%
Microsoft Office Suite	21.1%	56.1%	77.2%
Audio	18.2%	60.0%	78.2%
Adobe Acrobat Reader	40.0%	32.7%	72.7%
Visual Projector (Elmo)	30.9%	29.1%	60.0%
External Laptop Connectivity	30.9%	34.5%	65.4%
Quick Time Player	27.3%	25.5%	52.8%
MS Media Player	29.1%	16.4%	45.5%
Mac Adaptors	12.7%	20.0%	32.7%
Smart Notebook	22.2%	11.1%	33.3%
Camera	18.5%	9.3%	27.8%
Flash Software	16.4%	12.7%	29.1%
Microphone	12.5%	7.1%	19.6%

Figure 8: Ranked List of Equipment/Software Importance by Percentage

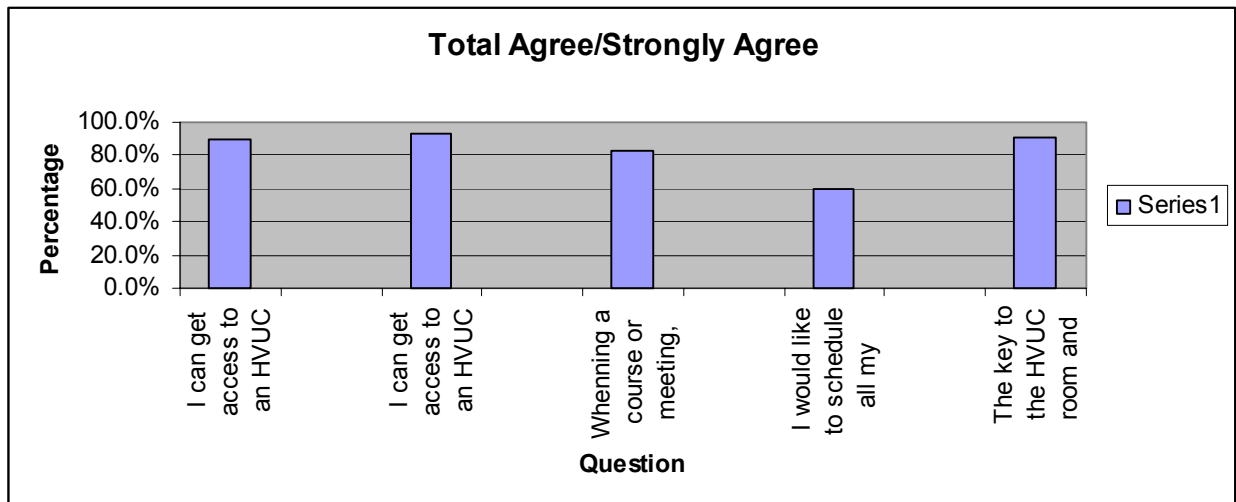


## Ranked List for Room Access

**Table 9: Ranked List for Room Access by Percentage of Agreement**

Item	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total in Agreement
I can get access to an HVUC for meetings whenever I want it.	14.3%	78.6%	92.9%
The key to the HVUC room and podium are easily accessible.	14.8%	75.9%	90.7%
I can get access to an HVUC for teaching whenever I want it.	10.7%	78.6%	89.3%
When planning a course or meeting, I try to reserve an HVUC room.	31.6%	50.9%	82.5%
I would like to schedule all my classes in a HVUC room.	30.9%	29.1%	60.0%

**Figure 9: Ranked List for Room Access by Percentage of Agreement**

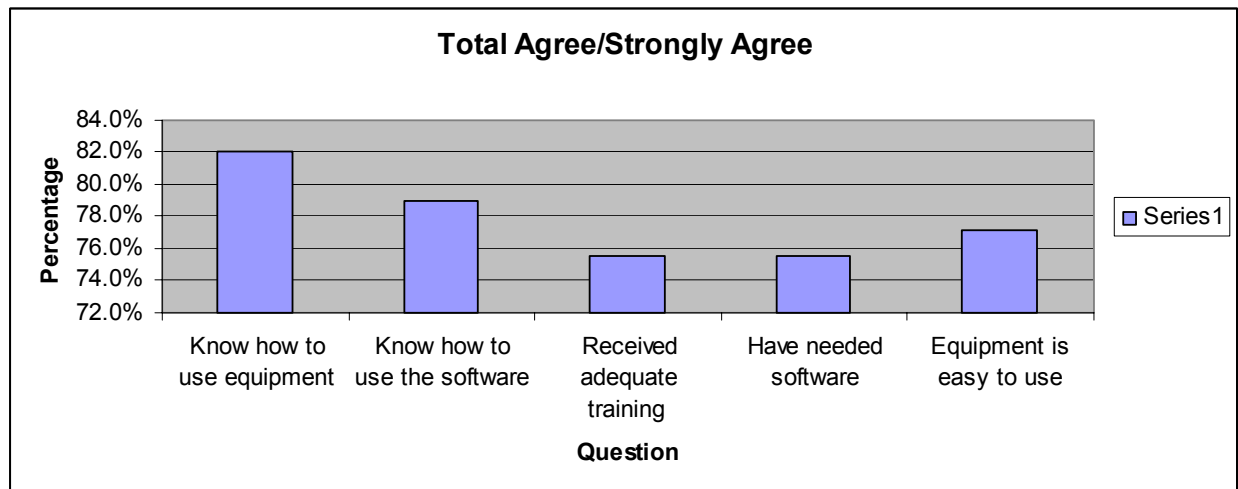


## Ranked List for Equipment/Software/Training

**Table 10: Ranked List for Equipment/Software/Training by Percentage of Agreement**

Item	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total in Agreement
I know how to use the equipment in the classroom.	35.7%	46.4%	82.1%
I know how to use the software installed on the computer.	35.1%	43.9%	79.0%
I received adequate training on the hardware.	31.6%	43.9%	75.5%
The software that I need is installed on the computer.	40.4%	35.1%	75.5%
The equipment is easy to use.	43.9%	33.3%	77.2%

**Figure 10: Ranked List for Equipment/Software/Training by Percentage of Agreement**

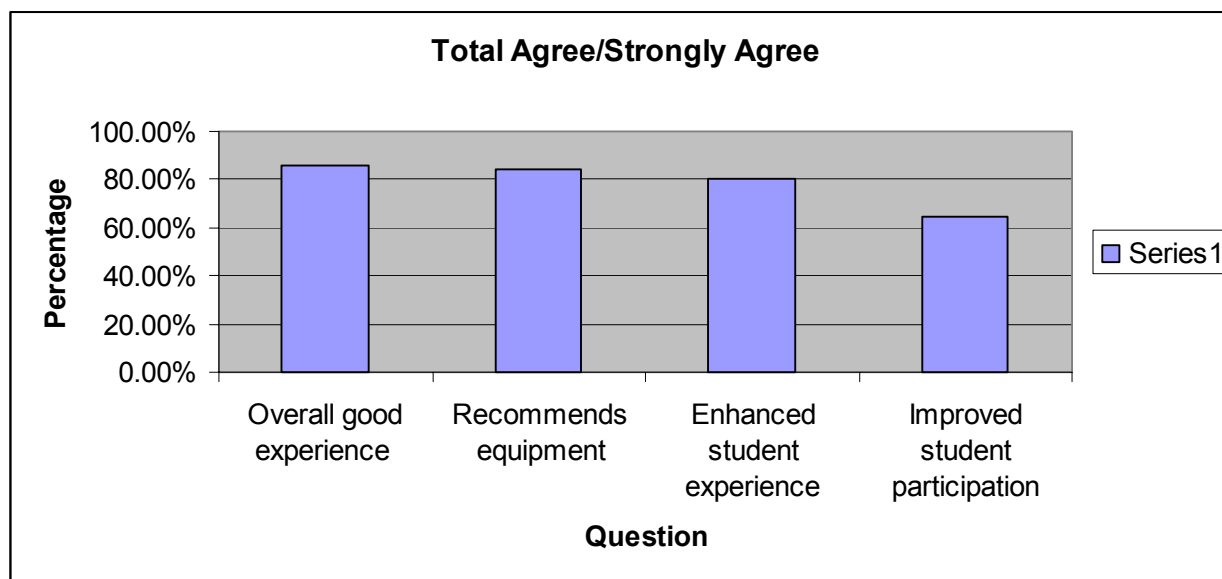


## Overall Satisfaction

**Table 11: Overall Satisfaction by Percentage of Agreement**

Item	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total in Agreement
My overall experience using the equipment has been good.	36.8%	49.1%	85.9%
I would recommend the equipment to other faculty.	15.8%	68.4%	84.2%
I believe my students' experience has been enhanced by the use of the equipment.	33.3%	47.4%	80.7%
The equipment has improved student participation in my class.	39.3%	25.0%	64.3%

**Figure 11: Overall Satisfaction by Percentage of Agreement**





# 2004 HVUC Survey Instrument

## Highly Visible Undergraduate Classrooms Survey

(By the U.S. Dept. of Education Title III-A Strengthening Institutions Grant)

Please check the appropriate response.

Status:

Professor	Assoc Professor	Asst Professor	Part-Time/ Adjunct	Graduate Assistant	Staff	Others (Please specify)

PEF Faculty:

Please indicate if you are a member of the Professional Education Faculty (responsible for K-12 teacher preparation:

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

College Affiliation:

Arts & Letters	Business & Economic Development	Education & Psychology	Health	Science & Technology

Campus Affiliation:

Hattiesburg	Gulf Park

Race:

American Indian	Asian	African American	Caucasian	Hispanic	Other

Age Group:

20-29	30-39	40-49	Above 50

**Highest Education Level Attained:**

BA/BS	MA/MS/MFA	Ph.D/Ed.D/J.D.	Others

**Number of courses taught in the “SMART” classrooms and using the HVUC equipment:**

None	1	2	3	4	5	More than 5 courses

**First semester taught in an HVUC room:**

Fall 2002-03 (August 2002)	Spring 2002-03 (January 2003)	Summer 2003-04 (June 2003)	Fall 2003-04 (August 2003)	Spring 2003-04 (January 2004)

Please indicate your responses on a five-point scale.

Not Important At All	Somewhat Unimportant	No Opinion	Somewhat Important	Extremely Important
1	2	3	4	5

For each question below, circle the number to the right that best describes how important each hardware or software item is in accomplishing your course objectives. Use the scale above to match your opinion.

Equipment/Software Importance	Scale				
a. Data Video Projector	1	2	3	4	5
b. Computer	1	2	3	4	5
c. DVD player /VCR	1	2	3	4	5
d. Visual Presenter (Elmo)	1	2	3	4	5
e. Smart Symposium	1	2	3	4	5
f. External Laptop Connectivity	1	2	3	4	5
g. Internet Access	1	2	3	4	5
h. Microsoft Office Suite	1	2	3	4	5
i. Smart Notebook	1	2	3	4	5
j. Adobe Acrobat Reader	1	2	3	4	5
k. Flash Software	1	2	3	4	5

l. MS Media Player	1	2	3	4	5
m. QuickTime Player	1	2	3	4	5
n. Microphone	1	2	3	4	5
o. Camera	1	2	3	4	5
p. Audio	1	2	3	4	5
q. Mac Adaptors	1	2	3	4	5

Please indicate your responses on a five-point scale.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1	2	3	4	5

Room Access	Scale				
I can get access to an HVUC for teaching whenever I want it.	1	2	3	4	5
I can get access to an HVUC for meetings whenever I want it.	1	2	3	4	5
When planning a course or meeting, I try to reserve an HVUC room.	1	2	3	4	5
I would like to schedule all my classes in an HVUC room.	1	2	3	4	5
The key to the HVUC room and podium are easily accessible.	1	2	3	4	5
Equipment	Scale				
The equipment works properly.	1	2	3	4	5
The equipment is easy to use.	1	2	3	4	5
I know how to use the equipment in the classroom.	1	2	3	4	5
Software	Scale				
I know how to use the software installed on the computer.	1	2	3	4	5
The software that I need is installed on the computer	1	2	3	4	5
Training	Scale				
I received adequate training on the hardware.	1	2	3	4	5
I received adequate training on the software.	1	2	3	4	5

Please check the appropriate answer.	No	Yes
I attended a scheduled training session conducted by the Learning Enhancement Center (LEC) personnel.		
I would like more hardware training. List hardware here:		
I would like more software training. List software here:		

Please indicate your responses on a five-point scale.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1	2	3	4	5

Overall Satisfaction	Scale				
My overall experience using the equipment has been good.	1	2	3	4	5
I would recommend the equipment to other faculty.	1	2	3	4	5
This equipment has improved student participation in my class.	1	2	3	4	5
I believe my students' experience has been enhanced by the use of the equipment.	1	2	3	4	5
Frequency of Use					
How frequently do you use the HVUC equipment?					
<input type="radio"/> Two or more times per week <input type="radio"/> Once a week <input type="radio"/> One or two times per month <input type="radio"/> Once a semester <input type="radio"/> Other					
The room(s) that I use most is(are): _____					

If you need training assistance with the HVUC equipment and/or software, please contact the Learning Enhancement Center staff at 266-6958.

Thank you for your participation in our survey. We appreciate your feedback.

PLEASE RETURN THE SURVEY TO:

EVELYN GREEN  
THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI  
TITLE III-A PROJECT  
118 COLLEGE DRIVE # 4313  
HATTIESBURG, MS 39406-0001