TurningPoint for evaluation

Tracey Ainsley
Information Specialist
What is TurningPoint?

- Personal response system (PRS)
- Interactive response system
- Easy to use
- Used with normal Powerpoint
- [http://www.turningtechnologies.co.uk/index.html](http://www.turningtechnologies.co.uk/index.html)
Click to add title

Click to add subtitle

Click to add notes
The Project

Anne Harding; Kathryn Hordon; Paul Evans; Tracey Ainsley

Aim to assess the impact of the skills programme on student learning

Objectives

◦ Assess the potential and usability of the PRS system
◦ Evaluation content and delivery of Skills Sessions
◦ Note any changes in the way students evidenced their work
◦ To measure student progression and achievement
Where did we start?

- Co-operation from academics
- Core first year undergraduate module
- Co-operation from students
Standard induction session was delivered
  ◦ Introduction to the library
  ◦ Library resources
  ◦ Where to get help

Five questions
  ◦ Diagnostic question
  ◦ 3 Top facts
  ◦ Confidence
How did you travel to today’s meeting?

1. Bus
2. Train
3. Car
4. Walk
5. Bicycle
6. Other
Who do you want to win the X Factor?

1. Olly
2. Stacey
3. Joe
4. Daniel
5. Don’t care
Induction results

- Engagement immediately evident
- Anonymity provided full participation
- 92% (average) recalled top facts correctly
- Longer term retention could be explored in the future
- Relaxed atmosphere
  - Engagement
  - Encouraged questions
Skills Sessions

- Combination of lectures and hands on
  - Catalogue
  - NORA federated search
  - Referencing & Plagiarism
- Evaluated traditionally—Paper forms
Focus Groups

• Sign up poor (Even with incentives)
• No second years at all
• Semi-structured
  • Related to skills sessions
  • Retention of information
  • Learning styles
Turning Point... for evaluation

INDUCTION

ANONYMOUS

WOW!

ENGAGEMENT

SKILLS FOR INFORMATION SYSTEMS PROFESSIONALS

CATALOGUE WORKSHOP

NORA LECTURE

NORA WORKSHOP

FOCUS GROUPS

1st YEAR

2nd YEAR

3rd YEAR

CONCLUSION

Confidence

Nervous

Never use

Very confident

Confident

53%

15%

15%

12%

+4%

Tracey Ainsley, Paul Evans, Anne Harding & Kathryn Hordon

E-mail: ask4help@northumbria.ac.uk

"...build up your skills every year, a bit. So that by the time you get to your final year... you've got those skills that you can use’

3rd Year

"I think there's got to be a co-operation between the programme and yourselves”

3rd Year

"I only attended the IT Induction, because I'm on an IT course. That was fantastic, because I didn't know about Desktop Anywhere.”

3rd Year

"I think there needs to be some real enforcement from within your course to use the Library, rather than them being just two separate things.”

3rd Year

"I'd say I've definitely avoided citing and referencing certain things because of that. It was going to take me forever to write the reference out, so I would just write something else.”

3rd Year

"...remember, we've only been here 8 weeks”

1st Year

"We were never told that we had to look anything up, so I guess we just made it up…”

1st Year

"We thought it was just a case of: 'Here's NORA, and this is how you use it.' Rather than: 'This is NORA and you'll be using it for this module’

1st Year

"it's nice to come here [library], especially with the new opening hours as well. I've been here until about 9 in the evening before”

1st Year
What happened next?

- TurningPoint software now on every teaching PC in the university
- Supported by IT services
- Library has purchased own handsets
- Used in
  - School visits
  - Staff development activities
  - Teaching sessions
  - Feedback
Referencing and plagiarism

- Dry subject
- Students didn’t engage
- No response to questions asked

- Same session with TurningPoint
- Same questions
- Everyone responded
- Encouraged discussion
- Used for initial evaluation
Which section of the day will help you more with your assignment?

- Planning–literature review
- Skills +
- Plagiarism + referencing
- Endnote
- Literature search–NORA
- All of the above
- None of the above

- Planning–literature review: 23%
- Skills +: 14%
- Plagiarism + referencing: 10%
- Endnote: 8%
- Literature search–NORA: 8%
- All of the above: 2%
- None of the above: 35%
Which aspect of the day did you like best?

- Chocolate orange literature review model: 10%
- Powerpoint presentations: 27%
- Interactivity using Turningpoint handsets: 63%
### Conclusions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pros</th>
<th>Cons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TurningPoint</strong></td>
<td><strong>TurningPoint</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◦ Software free</td>
<td>◦ Hardware expensive?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◦ Easy to set up</td>
<td>◦ Occasionally forget to hand back handsets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◦ Encouraged participation through anonymity</td>
<td>◦ Don’t overuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◦ Engagement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◦ Instigate discussion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◦ Instant feedback</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◦ Quantitative data</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>