Teaching the Faculty New Tricks: Collaborating Across Campus to Provide Professional Development Opportunities Purchase College, State University of New York Carrie Eastman : Susanne Markgren Leah Massar Bloom :

Librarians are continually engaged in professional development activities and the exploration of new technologies. In an effort to encourage the pursuit of professional development, share our knowledge of emerging technologies, and promote the library's services and resources, librarians at Purchase College formed collaborations with different campus departments to develop and present a diverse series of workshops for faculty and staff.

We partnered with:

Faculty/Staff Union Campus IT Teaching, Learning & Technology Center Professional Council Center for Collaborative Online International Learning

Because of our parternships, we were able to offer a wide variety of classes taught by a wide variety of people. We were able to offer food at every class, and better advertise the classes campus-wide. The classes highlighted subscription resources, licensed software, and freely available online tools.

The series now includes more than 20 classes each semester, and is coordinated by a professional development workshop committee made up of people from each of the partnering campus departments. The classes have been very successful and have drawn attendees from many different areas of campus, including:

Liberal Studies and Continuing Education

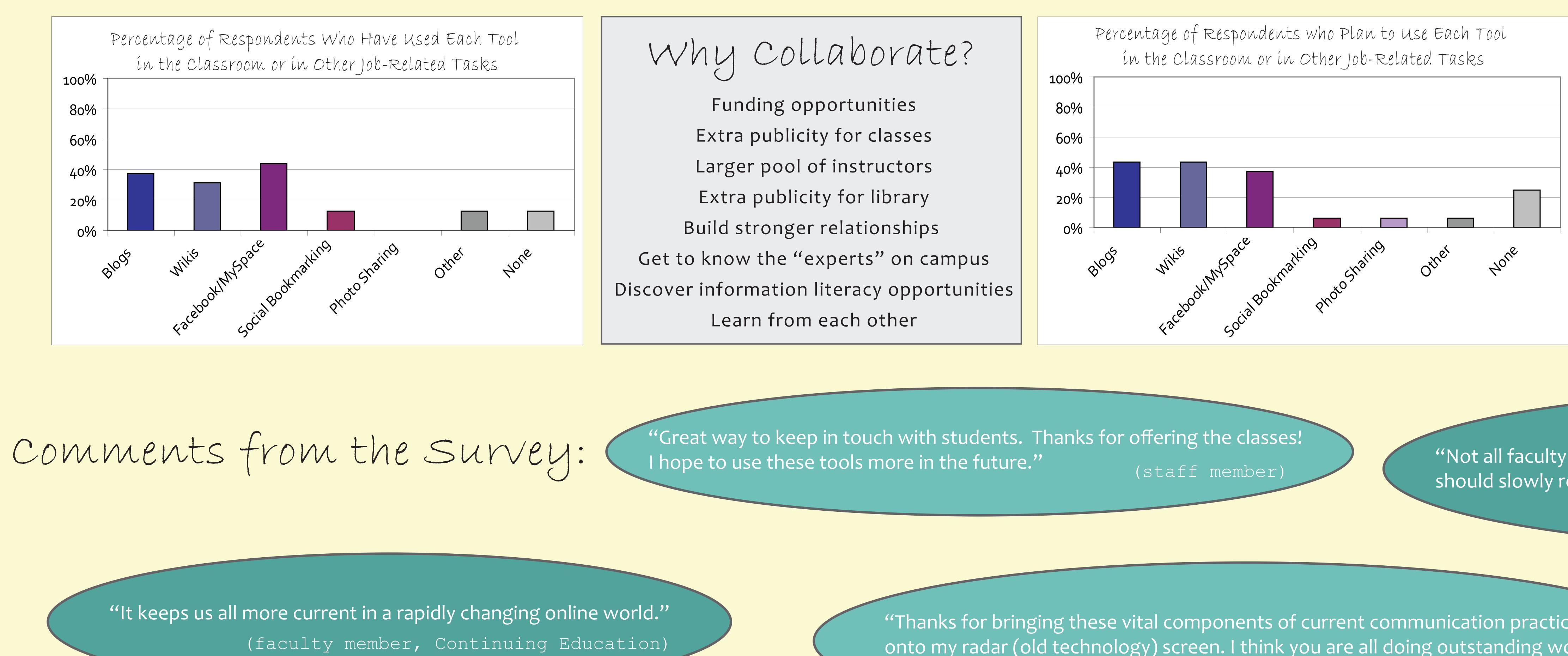
Academic Affairs	Campus	Technology Services
School of Humanities	Neuberg	er Museum
Conservatory of Art &	Design	University Police
Conservatory of	E Theater, Arts,	and Film
External Affairs	Financial Aid	Student Accounts
Instructional Te	chnology Center	Library
Purchase College Assoc	ciation Per	rforming Arts Center
School of Natural an	d Social Science	es Facilities

Social Networking Tools for Professional Development : A Class

This was the most popular class in the professional development workshop series. We showed faculty and staff how they can utilize free, and easy to use, tools in the classroom and for their professional lives. The tools that we highlighted are: Facebook, Flickr, Delicious, PBwiki, Wordpress, Blogger, Linkedin, Meebo, Twitter, and RSS feeds.

We taught an introductory class four times in the past three semesters, and one hands-on session focusing on wikis and blogs with a total attendance of 55. We have also had several faculty and staff members contact us for one-on-one consulations to assist them in setting up social networking tools for professional purposes (building an online portfolio, creating a departmental Facebook page, developing a course blog).

In a survey sent to 50 people who had attended at least one of our social networking classes, we asked attendees which tools they had used and which ones they were planning on using (see graphs below). Sixteen people responded. Respondents were allowed to choose more than one tool.





"Thanks for bringing these vital components of current communication practice onto my radar (old technology) screen. I think you are all doing outstanding work." (faculty member, Humanities)

Quick Tips		
Provide food - even if it is just snacks, attendees like to be fed!		
Get a variety of people from different departments to teach the sessions - mix it up and showcase people's strengths.		
Promote library resources and services whenever you get a chance.		
Co-teach or team-teach. It makes it more fun and allows for more personalized attention for attendees who may need it.		
Invite a wide range of faculty and staff from across campus to your sessions.		
Publicize your sessions and offer them on different days and at different times to accommodate more schedules.		
Offer sessions that promote and utilize free and open access / open source tools and new technologies.		
Give examples of how tools are being used in real situations.		
Allow plenty of time for questions.		
Address the various needs of your audience (faculty and staff may use tools differently).		

"Not all faculty can find time or have the skill set and/or interest in going digital. I think the library should slowly reach out to the degree that the staff can handle the work load." (faculty member, Art & Design)

