# Digital Learning Pulse Survey

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# **Project Partners:**





WICHE Cooperative for Educational Technologies



University Professional and Continuing Education Association



**Bay View Analytics** 



Canadian Digital Learning Research Association Association canadienne de recherche sur la formation en ligne





# Four Surveys

### •April 2020:

• 897 faculty and administrators, 672 institutions from 47 states.

#### •August 2020:

• 887 faculty and administrators, 597 institutions from 45 states.

#### • December 2020:

• 1,702 faculty and administrators, 1,204 institutions from 50 states.

### •April 2021:

• 1,286 faculty and administrators, 856 institutions from 47 states, plus 1,469 students

# Spring 2020: Emergency Remote

- Massive institutional response at all levels.
- 97% of institutions used faculty with no online teaching experience.
- A majority of faculty (56%) used new teaching methods.
- Faculty's most pressing concern was additional support for their newly online students.
- The uncertainty around the upcoming fall created sense of anxiety for faculty and administrators.
- Professional development at the top of everyone's wish list



# August: Preparing for Fall

- Faculty had multiple opportunities for professional development
  - Only 3% of faculty reported no professional development.
- All professional development was perceived as effective.
- Faculty felt prepared and ready to deliver their courses online.
- Student equity remained a concern for both faculty and administrators.
- Faculty were more optimistic than pessimistic about their future.



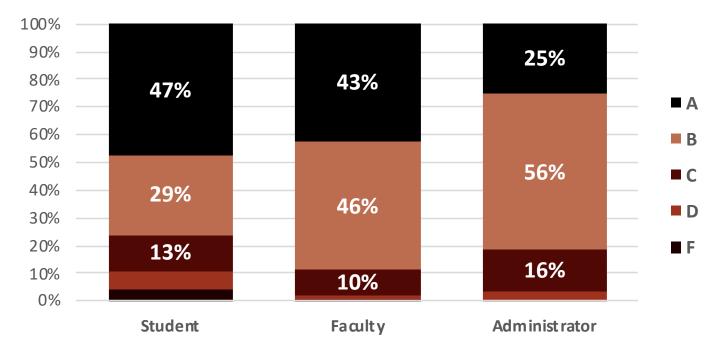
# December 2020: We made it!

- Faculty were mainly satisfied with student learning.
- Most faculty changed their teaching practices compared to prior to the pandemic
- Faculty expected that their teaching will continue to be different following the pandemic.
- Video-based technologies were heavily used by faculty, with use anticipated to continue post-pandemic.
- Faculty and administrators were more optimistic about using digital materials than pre-pandemic.
- Faculty and administrators were more optimistic about online learning than pre-pandemic.

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### April 2021: Checking in

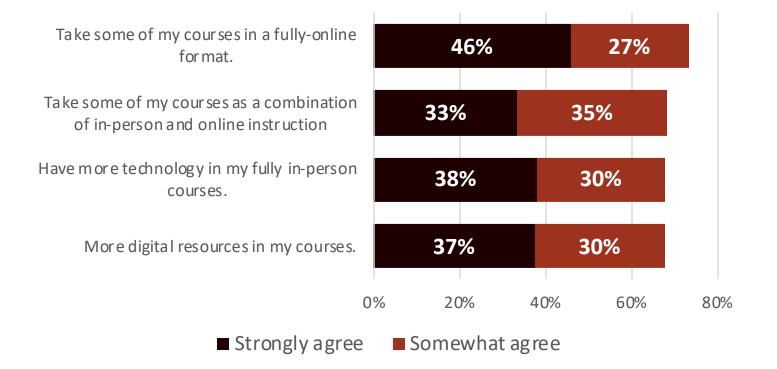
Letter grade for how well Spring 2021 courses are meeting educational needs





# Students want option for online

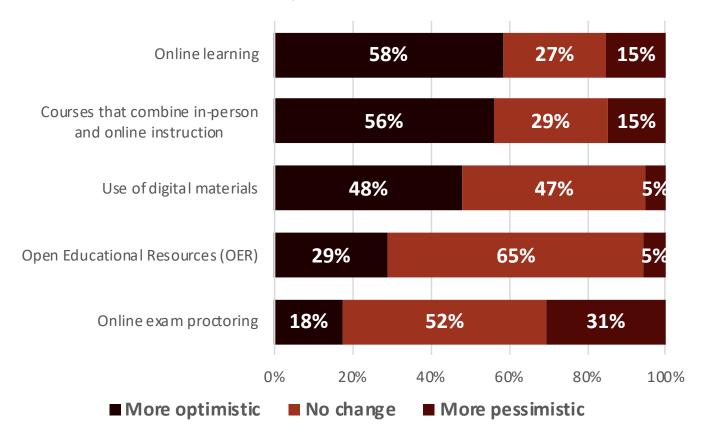
# Preferences for my post-pandemic academic experiences





# Faculty: Positive online and digital

### Faculty changes in attitudes since prior to the pandemic



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# Future: A New Appreciation for Online Instruction

- Many faculty, if not most, had a negative opinion about online learning prior to 2020.
- Nearly learned and used new instructional techniques and gained a new appreciation of online education.
- Faculty received professional development that can support them and their institutions well into the future.
- Faculty attitudes towards online learning are now much more positive than pre-pandemic



# Future: Instruction Will Include More Technology Use

- Faculty are now familiar with incorporating video, digital materials, and OER into any mode of course delivery.
- Considerable professional development for faculty on how best to use the tools.
- Institutions expanded their infrastructure and ramped up support the use of such tools.
- Students are requesting more technology in their courses.
- Faculty expect to include more technology in all of their courses, even those delivered face-to-face.



# Future: Growing Use of Digital

- Faculty, student, and administrative attitudes towards digital materials are now much more positive than pre-pandemic.
- Previously many faculty did not use digital materials because of negative student feedback – students opinions have changed.
- are now familiar with incorporating video, digital materials, and OER into any mode of course delivery.
- Considerable professional development for faculty on how best to use the tools.
- Institutions expanded their infrastructure and ramped up support the use of such tools.
- Students are requesting more technology in their courses.
- Faculty expect to include more technology in all of their courses, even those delivered face-to-face.

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