Experimenting with E-Learning Guinea Pigs.

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Integrated E-Learning packages such as Blackboard have been used in computing education for some years now. This poster evaluates current and new features of Blackboard with real life student experiences at EIT. The statistics of student usage of Blackboard are examined in relation to course satisfaction and delivery alignment.

The poster also examines whether the student appreciates and uses newer features such as Chat room, Discussion board and other features or whether students ignore much of the content and different delivery mechanisms.

Statistics are used over one semester's class to analyse usage of Lectures, Tutorials, Computer Room Exercises, Discussions Boards, Chat Room scheduled sessions, Research Web links, past assessments, Announcements amongst other e-learning features.

An example of alignment between classroom activity and e-learning usage is illustrated by the chart showing usage markedly higher on lecture/tutorial days.

Student surveys are also used to help analyse student usage and learning feedback to help determine satisfaction with learning experiences and outcomes. The threads of E-Learning are discovered to be intermingled with traditional delivery and paper based information systems with interesting implications for future student satisfaction and delivery preferences.