

ACELL: Providing Professional Development whilst Building a Community of Practice

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All of Chemistry – ACELL

- Three principal aims
 - Database of educationally and chemically sound experiments, that have been tested by both academic staff and students
 - Provide for professional development of chemistry academic staff
 - Facilitate the development of a chemistry education community of practice



In-Workshop Development

- Working as and with students
- Opportunity for reflection on practice
- Awareness of educational issues
- Networking



Staff Feedback

- “Carrying out experiments which I have not recently done – reminds me of or shows me some of the difficulties students may have with an experiment”
- “Ways to incorporate more variables into our lab to make them more ‘enquiry-driven’”
- “Enforced reflection on practical experiences”



Staff Feedback

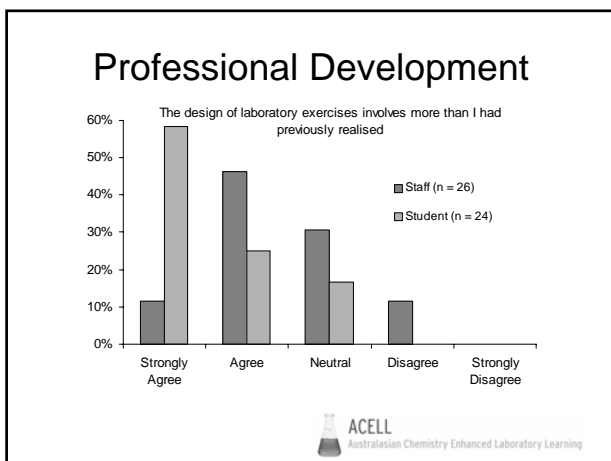
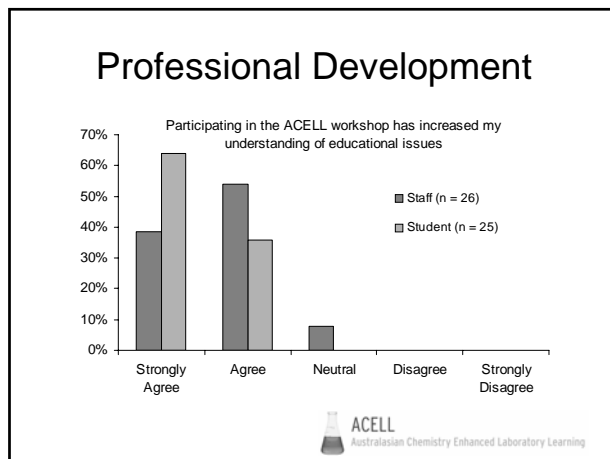
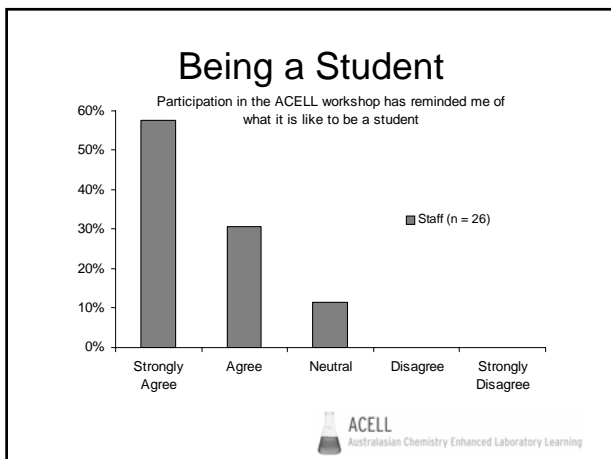
- “It made me sit down and think carefully about what I wanted my students to get out of my experiment, and how I could judge if they had been successful”
- “Educational issues – as a scientist, I felt lacking in educational knowledge”
- “Getting ideas that I can incorporate into my labs”



Staff Feedback

- “Demonstrating my experiment to others without my current students ‘prior’ knowledge”
- “Doing the experiments and assessing the process rather than the outcome”
- “How the students performed better than the staff in some experiments!”



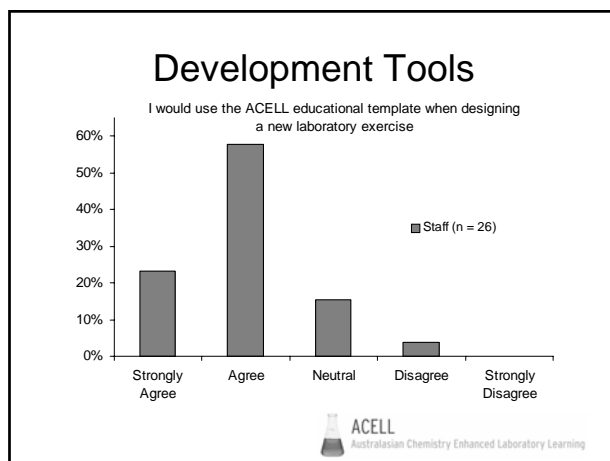
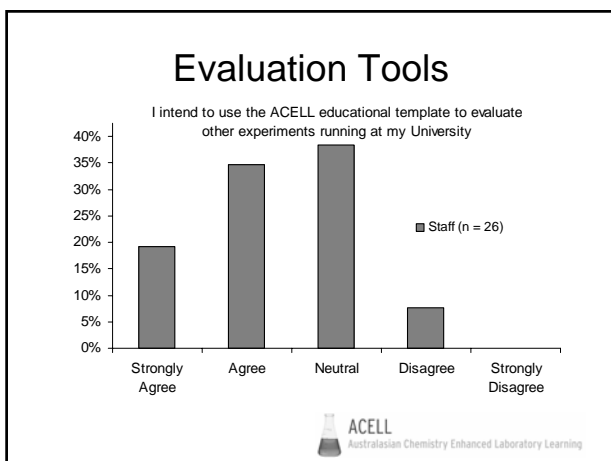


Beyond Workshop

Intention and interview evidence for...

- Implementing A(P)CELL experiments
- Evaluating existing experiments
- Developing new experiments
- Ongoing networking, including staff / student

ACELL
Australasian Chemistry Enhanced Laboratory Learning



Publications

- 13 APCELL experiments published
- More experiments online / reviewing
- Publications about A(P)CELL
- Education information provided on the ACELL website



Where to?

- Mini-workshop in Adelaide at OPC07
 - Ongoing participation
 - Expansion of the community of practice
- Other workshops?
- Other countries?
- Other areas of science?
- Universal access to experiments and their educational analysis



Acknowledgements

- Staff and student delegates
- HREC at the University of Sydney



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ACELL Website

<http://acell.chem.usyd.edu.au>

