

Adaptive Technology in

The
Commons

Memorial University of Newfoundland



Agenda

- Introduction to The Commons at MUN
- Adaptive Tech in 2004 at The Commons
- Key Events
- Adaptive Tech in 2008 at The Commons
- AT beyond 2008
- Current Challenges
- Recommendations



The Commons

- Opened in Jan 2004 in the QEII library
- 145 computers + 41 Electronic classroom
- Over 1.5 million pages printer per year
- 5 permanent staff, COOP, 26 Student Staff
- Services: Application Support, Info Research, Digital Media, Adaptive Tech, Writing Help, MUN @ Home
- ~ 2000 Logins per day
- 1 FTE writing tutor
- Librarians ,Information & Research Help desk 67 hr/wk
- **4.5** Departments involved (C&C, Library)

2004 A.T.

- Limited access & support
- Limited ownership
- Hard to configure
- One workstation
- Out of date technology
- Some upgrading of hardware
- Users tell us that current facility inadequate in terms of physical design and technologies offered

Key Events

- 2004 - AT Survey aimed at relevant students
- 2005 - Transfer of AT ownership to The Commons
- 2005 - Funding Application
- 2005 - Visit to the ILRC
- 2006 - Client application support
- 2006 - Relationship with Blundon Centre
- 2007 - Capital budget established
- 2007 - Online tutorials
- 2008 - Independent review of A.T. on Campus



2008 A.T.

- AT in the main Commons + AT Room
- One-on-one tutoring
- Working with Blundon Centre
- Updated Equipment & Software
- Operating Budget
- Online resources
- Help Button
- AT section in our yearly plan

What next?

- AT desk in the New electronic classroom
- Centre of AT expertise
- Permanent staff dedicated to AT
- Improved tracking of AT usage
- Open house for AT
- Continual review and updating of equipment & software

Challenges

- Cost of equipment
- Providing consistent service via students
- Staffing without additional resources
- Staying current with Adaptive Technology
- Advertising Services to students
- What to purchase next
- Securing funding

Recommendations

- Acquire knowledge from others
- Tutoring and support
- Establish funding & staffing
- Create long and short term planning
- Have dedicated staff





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Links

- MUN's Commons
 - <http://thecommons.mun.ca>
- Blundon Centre
 - <http://www.mun.ca/blundon>
- ILRC
 - <http://www.ilrc.nf.ca>
- Commons Digital Dash
 - <http://www.cs.mun.ca/~thecommons>
- AT pictures at The Commons
 - <http://www.cs.mun.ca/~thecommons/Pics/AT/>

