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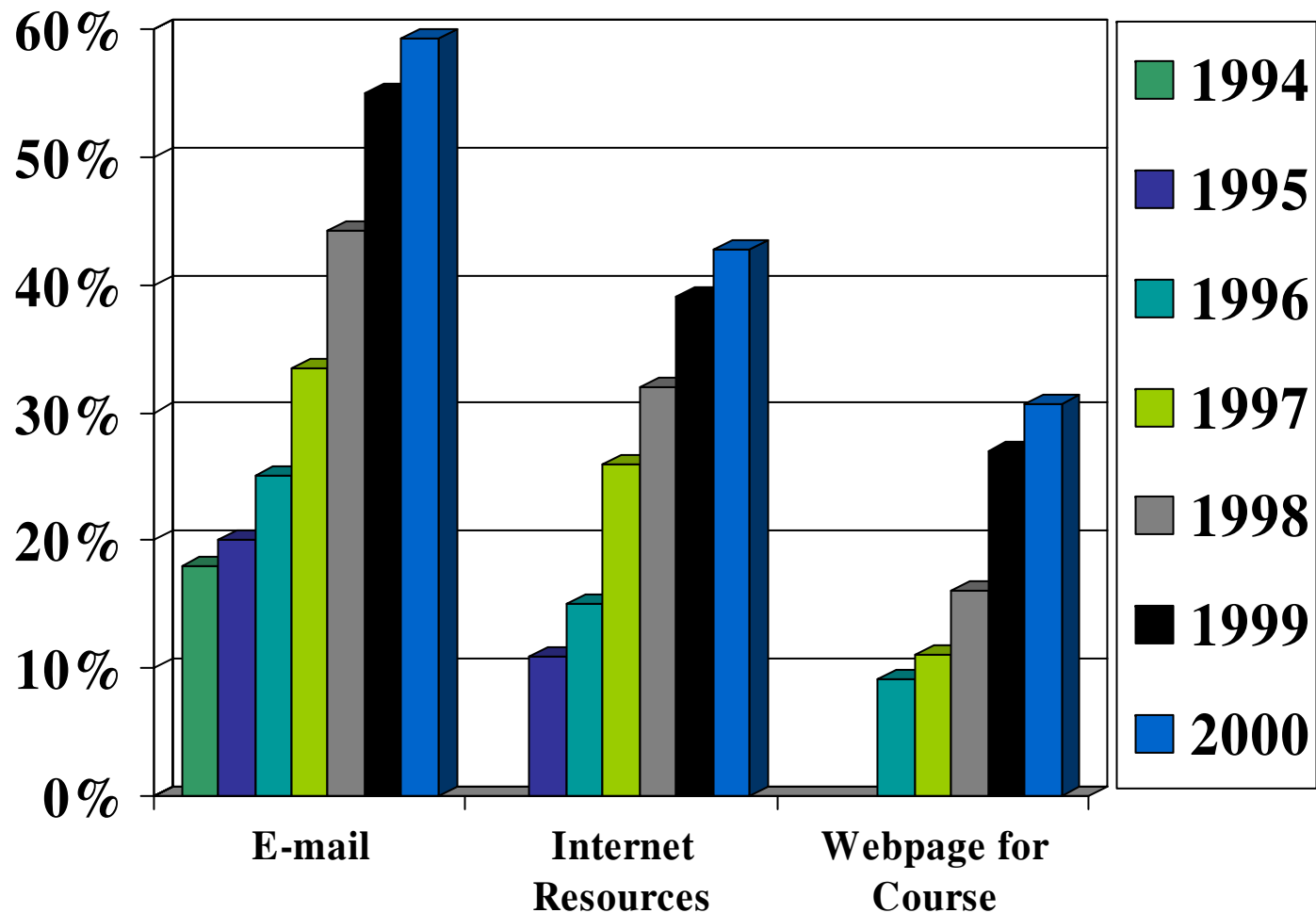
# University System of Georgia Faculty Usage of Course Management Systems (CMS) Survey

Dr. H. Hilliard Gastfriend  
(hilliard.gastfriend@usg.edu)

Board of Regents, University System of Georgia  
Advanced Learning Technologies



# Technology Use in Courses



*2000 National Survey of Information Technology in Higher Education*  
*Kenneth Green, October 2000*

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# Course Management Systems

- E-mail
- Bulletin Boards
- Chat
- Content Delivery
- Internet Links
- Online Testing
- Student Tracking
- File Exchange



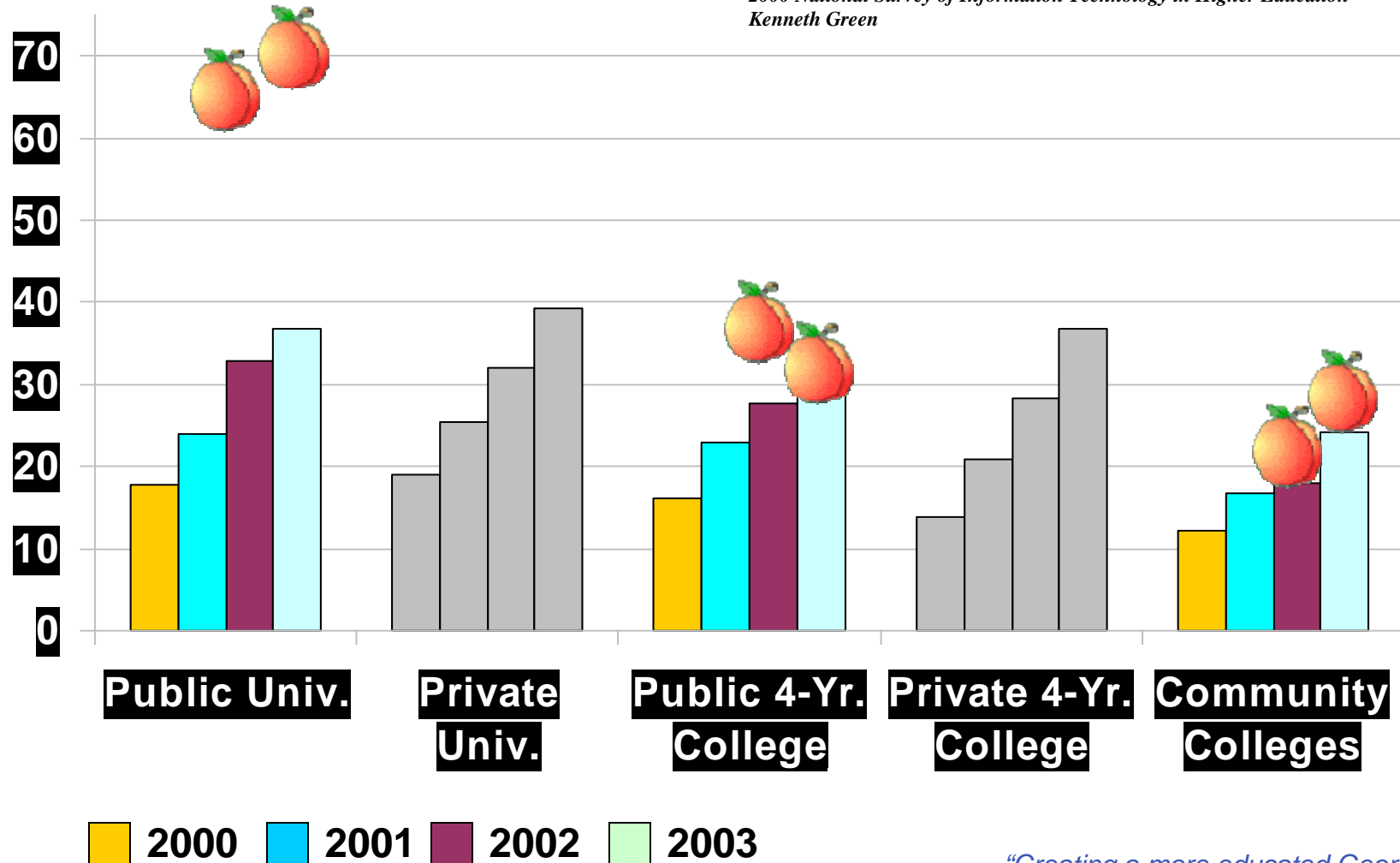


## *Rising Use of IT in Instruction*

# Course Management Tools

Percentage of courses using course mgmt tools, by sector, 2000-2003

*2000 National Survey of Information Technology in Higher Education  
Kenneth Green*



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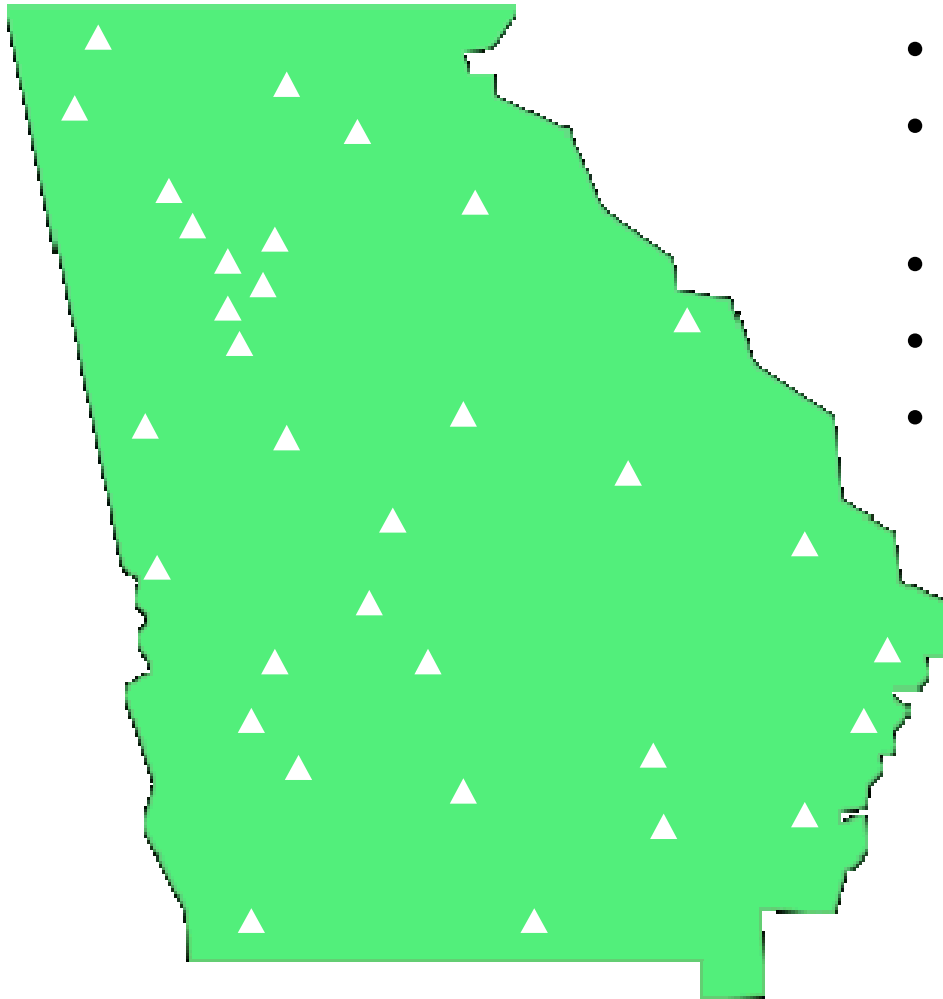


# University System of Georgia (USG)

- 34 public institutions
- FTE student enrollment
  - 247,020 (Fall 2003)
- Total faculty
  - Approx. 9000 (December 2003)



# University System of Georgia WebCT Usage



- 1996 – Individual “early adopter” usage
- 1999 - USG WebCT System Server
  - Hosted over 2,000 courses for 20 institutions
- 2002 – Systemwide Vista License
- 2003 – First institutions migrate to Vista
- 2005- All institutions migrate to Vista



# Historical Review of the CMS Survey

- Educause Center for Applied Research (ECAR) completed a course management systems (CMS) survey for the University of Wisconsin System in May 2003
- Wisconsin's System comprises 15 "institutions"  
(13 universities; 13, 2-yr colleges; statewide extension service)
- 740 faculty responded (6718 FTE, 2002-2003)
- 140 interviews held



# USG Adaptation

- To date, 14 institutions have completed or are currently taking the survey
- 1150 faculty have completed the survey
- Estimated completion of survey by all institutions:
  - Spring 2005



## Survey Participation by Institutional Sector

Sector Type	Number	Surveyed
State Universities	7	
2-year Colleges	3	
State Colleges	2	
Research Institutions	1	
Regional Universities	1	



# Survey Sections

- Overall Usage
- Familiarity with CMS
- Using CMS for the First Time
- Using CMS Tools
- CMS Advantages and Disadvantages
- Pedagogy and CMS
- CMS at the USG
- Affiliation and Status



# Survey Format

- Total of 45 questions possible
- Branched survey format—not everyone sees all questions depending upon their answers to key items
  - Major branch point: Do you currently use a CMS?
    - If answer no, respondent by-passes approx. 25 questions on CMS usage
    - If answer yes, respondent sees majority of the 45 questions



# Key Study Questions

- What is the extent of the faculty use of CMS on each campus and system wide?
- What factors encourage faculty to start using a CMS and, once they have started, what factors determine whether faculty increase or decrease their use?
- For what purposes are CMS used?
- What are the pedagogical advantages of using a CMS?
- What barriers prevent faculty from using a CMS?



# Extent of Faculty Usage

- 46 percent of respondents were currently using a CMS.
- 59 percent of respondents were tenured/tenure track faculty.
- 48 percent have been using a CMS for more than three years



# Factors Encouraging Using a CMS

- Learned about it from training offered by on-campus teaching/technology center (26 percent)
- Departmental chair or other administrator asked/requested (20 percent)
- Because of a specific teaching or pedagogical problem or challenge (19 percent)
- Recommendation from peers (16 percent)



# Purposes For Using a CMS

- 15 percent for fully on-line instruction
- 37 percent to enhance their face-to-face instruction
- 15 percent for hybrid course application
- Main reasons for using CMS
  - To supplement lecture materials
  - To provide more interactivity between students and the teaching materials
  - To provide more or more prompt feedback to students



# Barriers to Using A CMS

- Among non-users, the three most common reasons for not using a CMS were:
  - Lack of adequate training in their use (25 percent)
  - No current pedagogical need (20 percent)
  - Belief that CMS is too time consuming to use (10 percent)



# Change in CMS Usage

- 63 percent of respondents reported increasing their use of CMS over time.
- Factors that contributed to increased usage
  - Began to see increased uses for it in teaching
  - Level of comfort with the technology increased and began to use it in new ways
  - Received additional training
  - More features were added or became available within the CMS and so it became a more useful tool
- 8 percent of respondents reported decreasing their use of CMS over time.
- Factors that contributed to decreased usage
  - CMS was too time consuming
  - CMS was too inflexible
  - CMS too difficult to use
  - CMS unsuited to the teaching goals trying to achieve



# Advantages and Disadvantages

## Major advantages of using a CMS

- It provides additional course materials to students (26 percent)
- It organizes course materials (22 percent)
- It provides a convenient gradebook (12 percent)
- It provides course security (e.g., only enrolled students can view course materials) (11 percent)

## Major disadvantages

- CMS are too inflexible or clunky to use (24 percent)
- CMS are too difficult or time consuming to use (22 percent)
- CMS are too limited in their functionality (11 percent)
- CMS lack reliability (7 percent)



# CMS and Student Engagement

- 54 percent of respondents felt that use of CMS increased amount of contact with their students
- 54 percent of respondents felt that use of CMS increased student engagement with the course materials
- 54 percent of respondents felt that use of CMS allowed for inclusion of more interactive activities in their class
- 54 percent of respondents felt that CMS allowed them to accommodate more diverse learning styles



# Important Issues

- After the survey is completed, all institutions and the System will have a solid baseline metric for CMS use and implementation.
- Modified surveys will be deployed approximately every 18-24 months
- Future surveys will increase focus on pedagogical aspects of using CMS for distance/hybrid courses
- Surveys of this type may also help institutions comply with SACCS requirements to assess faculty use and proficiency with technology



# Questions?

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