

# A Multimedia Digital Repository Needs Assessment and Evaluation: Comparing 2003 and 2007



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<http://www.healcentral.org/>

## WHAT IS THE HEALTH EDUCATION ASSETS LIBRARY (HEAL)?

- **Mission:** To provide free digital content of the highest quality that meets the needs of today's health sciences educators and learners
- **Resources:** Over 22,000 resources (videos, images, animations, websites, PowerPoint files)
- **Users:** Over 7,000+ registered users
- **Usage:** Over 10,000+ unique visits per month

## OBJECTIVE:

The Health Education Assets Library (HEAL) is a digital library containing over 22,000 freely available health sciences multimedia education resources. The HEAL team conducted a needs assessment survey of health sciences educators in 2003 and then again in 2007.

## METHODS:

The survey in 2003 was promoted to health sciences educators through relevant health sciences education email lists. In 2007, the survey was again promoted using the relevant email lists. It was also sent to over 4000 HEAL users who had signed up for the HEAL email list. The objectives of the survey were to determine support for the digital library, get input about collection development, identify the multimedia formats that are most commonly needed in health sciences education, determine which obstacles for sharing exists and how incentives for sharing can be created, and determine whether the digital library met user needs over the four year period. The 2007 survey received Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval in February 2007 and was conducted in February and March 2007. Both surveys were conducted online and took less than ten minutes to complete.

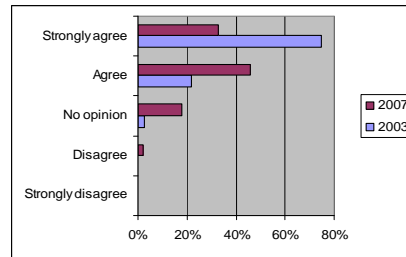
## RESULTS: 2003 vs. 2007

- 2003 survey: 356 respondents
- 2007 survey: 268 respondents

## 2003 vs. 2007: Selected Questions

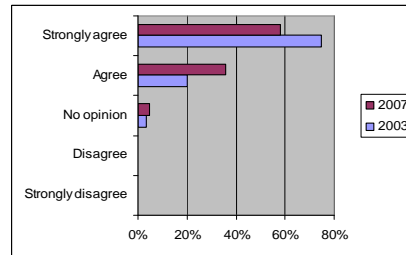
### QUESTION:

"A standardized method for cataloging multimedia resources is desirable:"



### QUESTION:

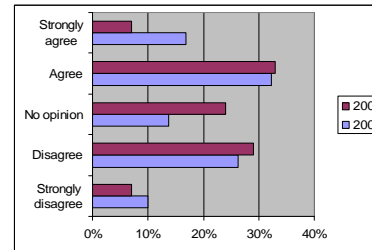
"I would like access to other free, specialized collections of multimedia through HEAL .:"



## 2003 vs. 2007: Selected Questions

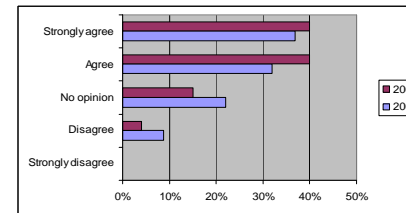
### QUESTION:

"I find it technically difficult to insert multimedia in my teaching materials:"



### QUESTION:

"A peer-review process is an incentive for educator to contribute to HEAL .:"

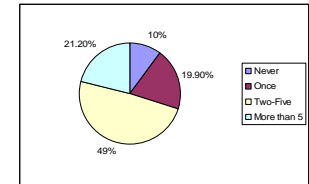


## RESULTS: 2007

- Specific questions about HEAL were included in the 2007 survey.

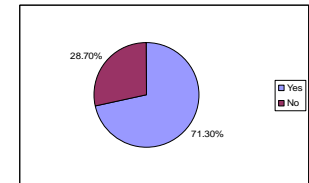
### QUESTION:

"How many times have you used HEAL?"



### QUESTION:

"For HEAL Users: Did you find items relevant to your search?"



## CONCLUSIONS

- Participants continued to acknowledge the need for a multimedia repository of shareable teaching resources.
- Participants still found incorporating multimedia into their teaching difficult.
- 71% of HEAL users found what they were looking for in HEAL.