

Strategies to improve your online teaching now!

Brian Udermann – Director of Online Education
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

December 5, 2014

U.S. DOL Information



This product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the grantee and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability or ownership.

Brian Udermann

Professional

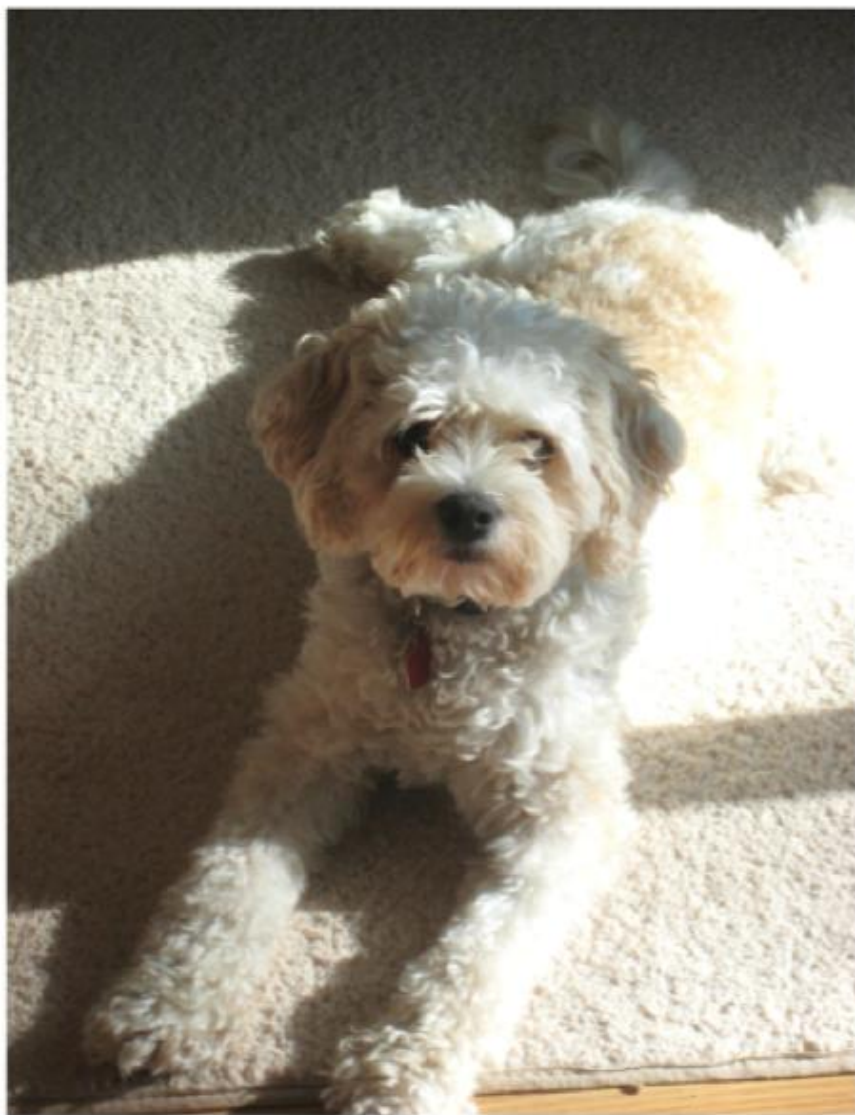
- 10 years of online teaching experience
- Director of Online Education at UW-L since 2007
- Voted president of my 8th grade class



Brian Udermann

Personal

- Spend a lot of time outdoors
- Married to Cari for 21 years
- Love ice cream, peanut m&m's, diet mountain dew, beef jerky & ice cream



Primary objective

Give you some tips and strategies that you can use to improve your online courses

Test your knowledge...

1. What percent of colleges and universities offer fully online degree programs?

- A. 32
- B. 42
- C. 52
- D. 62

Test your knowledge...

1. What percent of colleges and universities offer fully online degree programs?
 - A. 32
 - B. 42
 - C. 52
 - D. 62 *



Test your knowledge...

2. What percent of faculty say their institutions are “pushing too much online instruction?”

- A. 25
- B. 45
- C. 65
- D. 85

Test your knowledge...

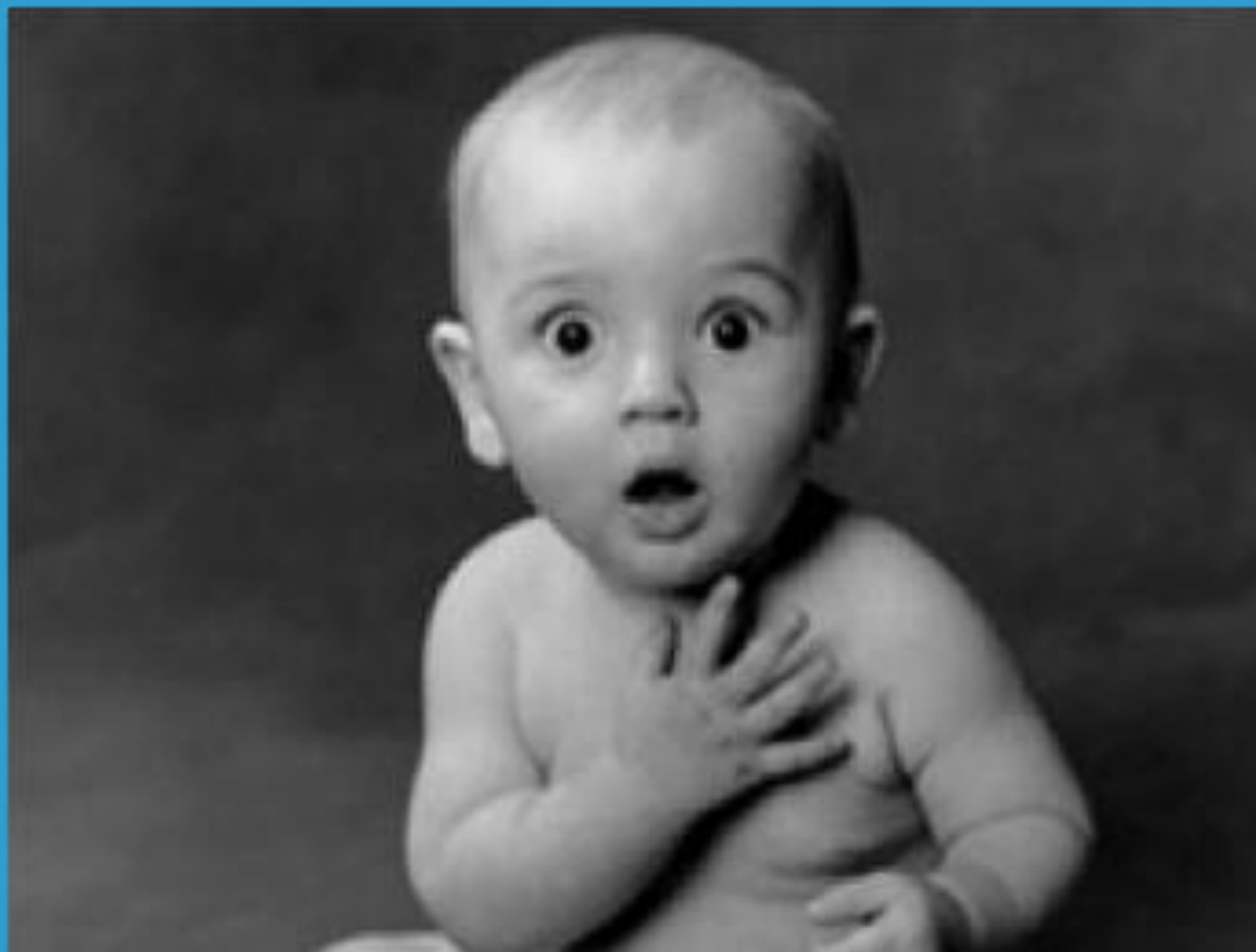
2. What percent of faculty say their institutions are “pushing too much online instruction?”

A. 25 *

B. 45

C. 65

D. 85



Test your knowledge...

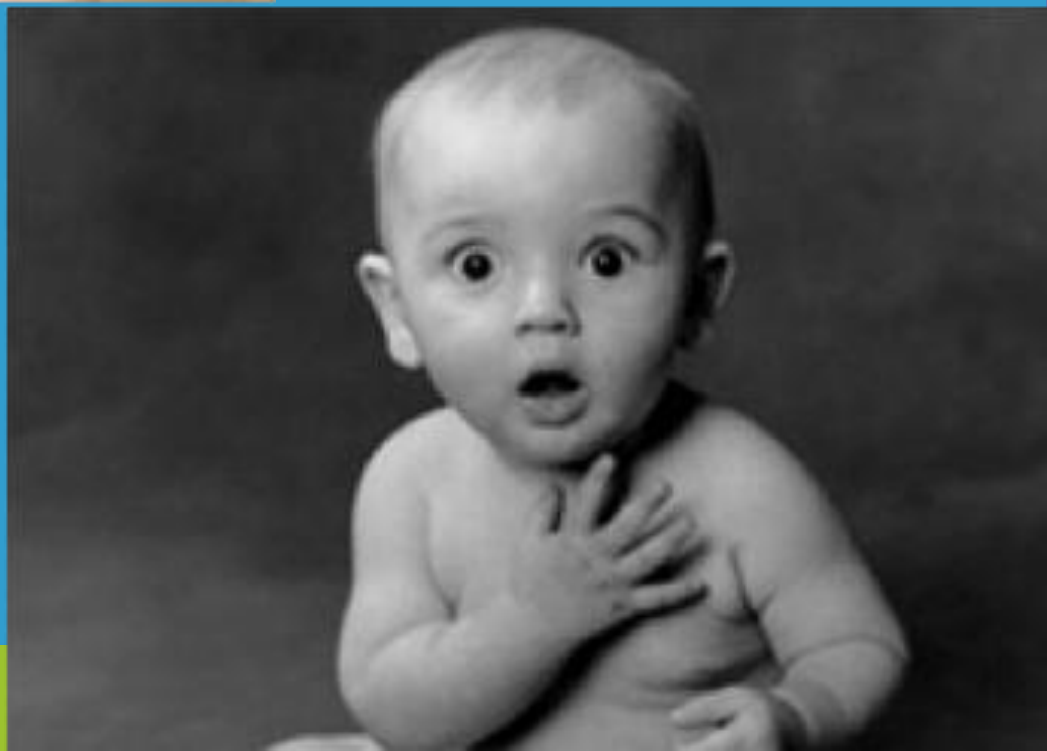
3. The number of students in higher education taking at least one online course is at an all time high of _____ percent.

- A. 33
- B. 53
- C. 73
- D. 93

Test your knowledge...

3. The number of students in higher education taking at least one online course is at an all time high of _____ percent.

- A. 33 *
- B. 53
- C. 73
- D. 93



Common question

How do I even get started?

- Be a student
- Find a mentor
- Join a colleague's course
- Don't let perfect be the enemy of the good



Syllabus

- Contact information
- Preferred method of contact
- Expectations
- Technology requirements
- Student support services
- Grading information
- Information on LMS



Syllabus

- Late work policy
- Details on all activities / assessments
- Info on being an online learner
- Student workload
- Schedule / due dates
- Textbook / software required
- How long students can access the course



Break

QUESTIONS



Online discussions

- Workload
- How many
- Meaningful
- Engaging activities
- Instructor participation



Online discussions

- % of course grade
- Fun / interesting introduction
- Grade to your expectations early
- Incorporate into quizzes / exams
- Immediate response to inappropriate activity



Break

QUESTIONS



Engaging students

Please share one thing that has worked for you in regards to engaging online learners.



Engaging students

- Set the tone early
- Variety in content delivery
- Get them involved
- Relevant to them
- Discussion forums
- Your presence



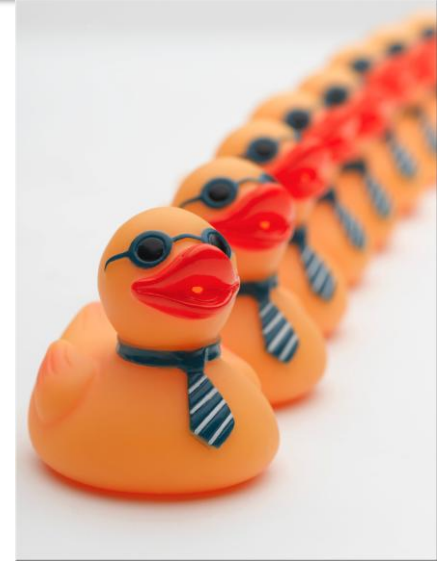
Break

QUESTIONS



Organization

- Navigation is vital
- Utilize hyperlinks
- Course developed prior to teaching it
- Course information in multiple places
- How to get started information for students



Break

QUESTIONS



Instructor presence

Please share one way you make your presence known in your online courses.



Instructor presence

- Major complaint I hear
- Timely & meaningful feedback
- Involvement in discussions forums
- Responding to questions
- Podcasts & videos



Break

QUESTIONS



Workload Management

- Master file for feedback
- Wait on group assignments
- Tools in LMS (e.g., grading)
- Consider during course development
- Student involvement (e.g., discussions)



Break

QUESTIONS



Assessment

- Variety
- Aligned with content & SLO's
- Use rubrics
- Timely & meaningful feedback
- Academic integrity



A few more ideas ...

- Use synchronous sessions
- Utilize guests in your course
- Take advantage of outside resources
- Use current events in your course
- Give some thought to “less is more”

Thank you!

ANY FINAL QUESTIONS

