

Access Issues from Three Different Perspectives

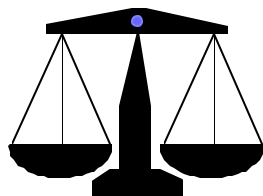
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The Three Perspectives

- ◆ Hardware/Software
- ◆ Student Learning
- ◆ Students with Disabilities



Background

- ◆ SCALE Project (Ory, Arvan)
- ◆ Educational Psychology



SCALE Evaluation

- ◆ Three year evaluation
- ◆ 7,000 students
- ◆ Over 100 student groups
- ◆ 120 faculty
- ◆ 7 quasi-experiments
- ◆ 5 courses monitored



Hardware

- ◆ Machine Accessibility
- ◆ Graduate Students



Software

- ◆ Ease versus Quality
- ◆ Web-based Software
- ◆ Training



Student Learning

- ◆ Intrinsic versus Extrinsic Motivation
- ◆ Learning Styles



Students with Disabilities

- ◆ Web-Based Instruction:
 - ◆ Offered Anywhere...
 - ◆ At Any Time...
 - ◆ For Anyone?



Reasonable Accommodations

Modifications to course materials or activities that serve to enable a qualified student with a disability to have an equal opportunity to attain the same level of performance as a similarly qualified student without a disability.

Required by law in accordance with the following:

- ◆ Americans with Disabilities Act (1990)
- ◆ Rehabilitation Act (1973)
- ◆ Civil Rights Act (1964)



Evaluation Methods

- ◆ Computer-Facilitated Focus Groups and Individual Interviews
- ◆ Computer-Based Analysis Tools



Computer-Based Analysis Tools

Bobby <<http://www.cast.org/bobby>>

- ◆ An analysis of the source code of the individual Web pages in each of the evaluands was conducted using Bobby, a Web-based analysis tool designed to help determine page features that may be inaccessible for person with disabilities.

Lynx

- ◆ A text-mode browser used by many students with disabilities, particularly visual disabilities.



Findings

- ◆ Layout Issues
- ◆ Graphics
- ◆ Multimedia Components



Additional Accessibility Resources

Access.Edu

<<http://lrs.ed.uiuc.edu/access>>

- ◆ Companies
- ◆ Organizations
- ◆ Tools, Tutorials, & Web Design Guides



Closing Thoughts

“Accessibility does not mean minimal page design, it means thoughtful page design”

– WAI, 1998

“True accessibility is ultimately a human endeavor”

– CAST, 1998

