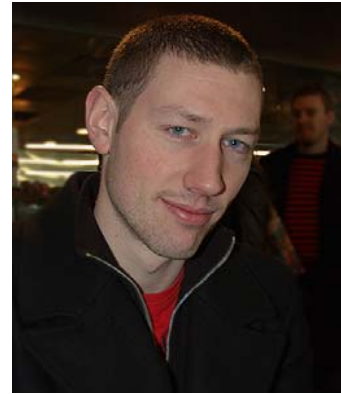


SMS services in distance education - experiences from NKI



Aleksander Dye
researcher and system developer
NKI Distance Education

The slides are available via:

<http://www.dye.no/articles/>

A presentation (30 min) at the mLearning conference
in Dublin, Sep 7th. 2007.

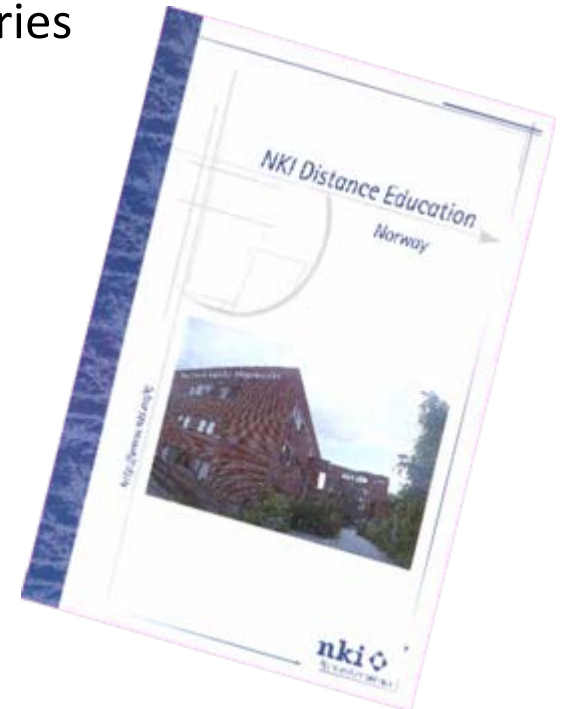
Agenda

- About NKI
- Mobile learning
- SMS
- The future of computing
- Screen shots
- Questionnaire
- Q&A

NKI Internet College: www.nettskolen.com

August 2007

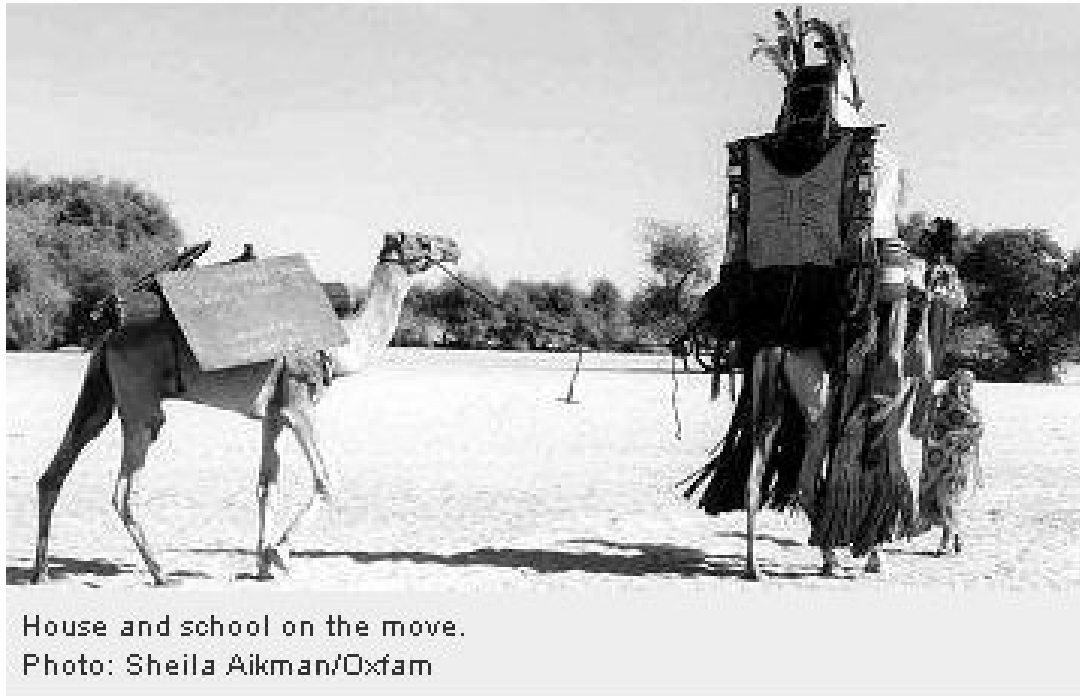
- Operated by NKI Distance Education (www.nki.no)
- Online education since 1987 (About 80 000 course enrolments)
- Broad spectrum of subjects from secondary to master level
- About 450 distance education courses online
- About 8600 online students in at least 37 countries
- About 70 % women
- Revenue of 8 million Euros in 2006
- You may start whenever you like
- Individual progress plans
- Always room for more students
- Exams at local schools and embassies
- Online students get better grades



Our definition of mobile learning

mLearning is learning that can take place anytime, anywhere with the help of a mobile computer device. The device must be capable of presenting learning content and providing wireless two-way communication between teacher(s) and student(s). Typically, an educational organization administrates both the course content and the communication services.

Mobil learning in the beginning



House and school on the move.
Photo: Sheila Aikman/Oxfam

Mobile education in Darfur, Western Sudan

Technological challenges



Today



Possible today, but do we want it...



NKI's EU-supported m-learning projects

1. [M-learning](#): From e-learning to m-learning (2001-2002)
2. [Mobile Learning](#): The Next Generation of Learning (2003-2005)
3. [Incorporating mobile learning into mainstream education and training](#) (2005-2007)
4. [The role of mobile learning in European education](#) (2006-2008)

SMS example 1.

Prospective registrations Jan. 2006

- Via www.nki.no: 6124
- Via SMS: 3611
- Via telephone: 144

- 512 students enrolled without being registered as prospectives

SMS example 2.

Data quality

- We struggle with incorrect e-mail addresses to students.
- September 2006 e-mail newsletter to our 7445 online students.
- 42 students with the address not@registered.
- Newsletter to the remaining 7403 students.
- Error messages from 421 students (6.2 % errors).
- Mobile numbers for 207 of these 421 students.
- SMS to 207, requesting them to correct their e-mail addresses.
- 52 error messages
- 155 SMS messages resulted in 108 corrected e-mail addresses.
- About 70% success rate...

What the future might bring...

- Computers in the future may weigh no more than 1.5 tons.
 - Popular Mechanics, forecasting the relentless march of science (1949).

What will 2034 bring

- According to Moore's Law, computer power doubles every 18 months, meaning that computers will be a **million times more powerful** by 2034.
- According to [Nielsen's Law of Internet bandwidth](#), connectivity to the home grows by 50% per year; by 2034, we'll have **200,000 times more bandwidth**.

My PC i 2034...

- I'll own a computer that runs at **3 PHz CPU speed**, has a **petabyte of memory**, half an exabyte of harddisk-equivalent storage, and connects to the Internet with a bandwidth of a **quarter terabit per second**
 - (peta is 10^{15} , or a million giga; exa is 10^{18} , or a billion giga).
- My computer display, will have a resolution of about 20,000 x 10,000 pixels (as opposed to the miserly 1440x 900 pixels on my current monitor).

What does this mean for our PCs?

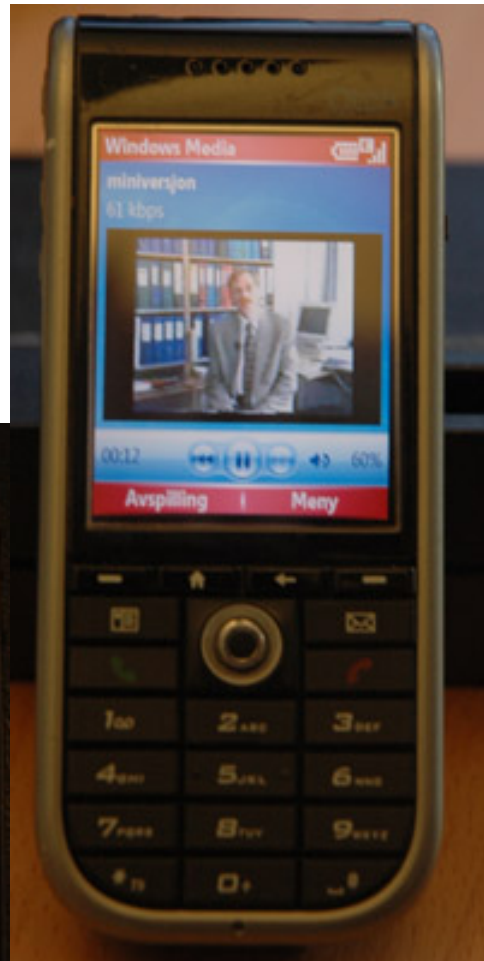
- Our personal computer will remember anything we've ever seen or done in both cyberspace and meatspace. A complete HDTV record of every waking hour of your life will consume 0.01 EB, or 2% of your harddisk.
- Is there then a possibility that mLearning will be of use...

Screen-shots and comments

- Course page for mobile phones
- Sending SMSes

Learn to Learn

(link for mobile phones)



Studadm, sms sending GUI

SMS demonstration page

[Se errors and recived SMS](#)

Send SMS message to

Navn	E-post adresse	Bruker ID	Status	Mobil Nummer.
Aleksander Dye	ad@nki.no	S521985	OK	92239729

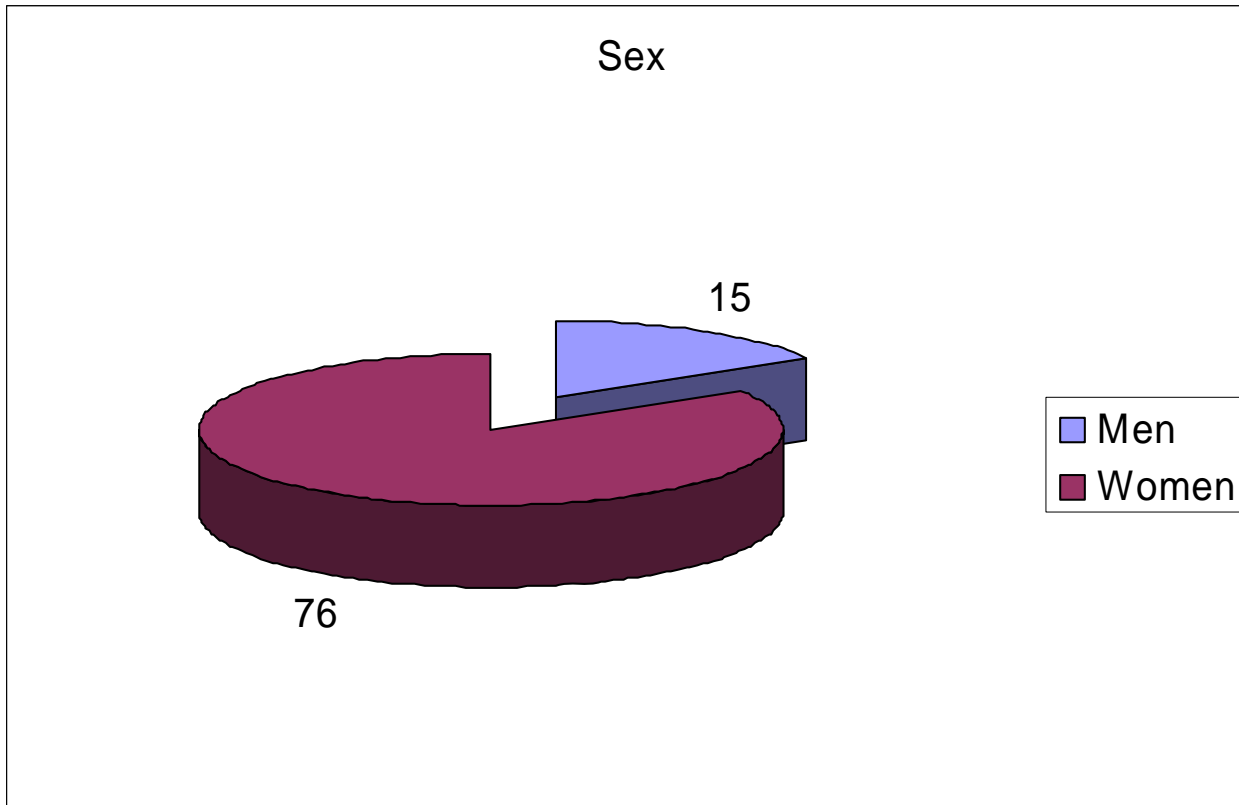
Type your message here

Other sms services

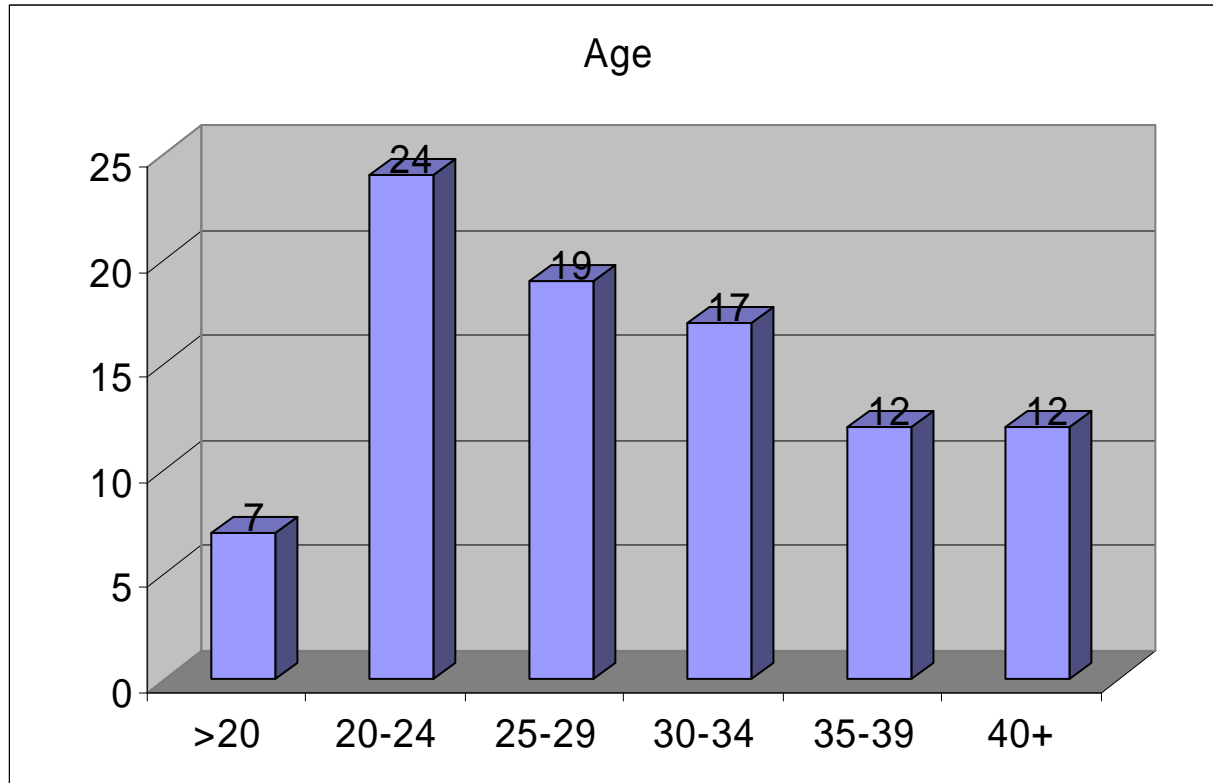
Questionnaire

- 22 questions
- 91 answers 31.08.2007
- Different backgrounds and previous education
- Represents new and experienced students at NKI

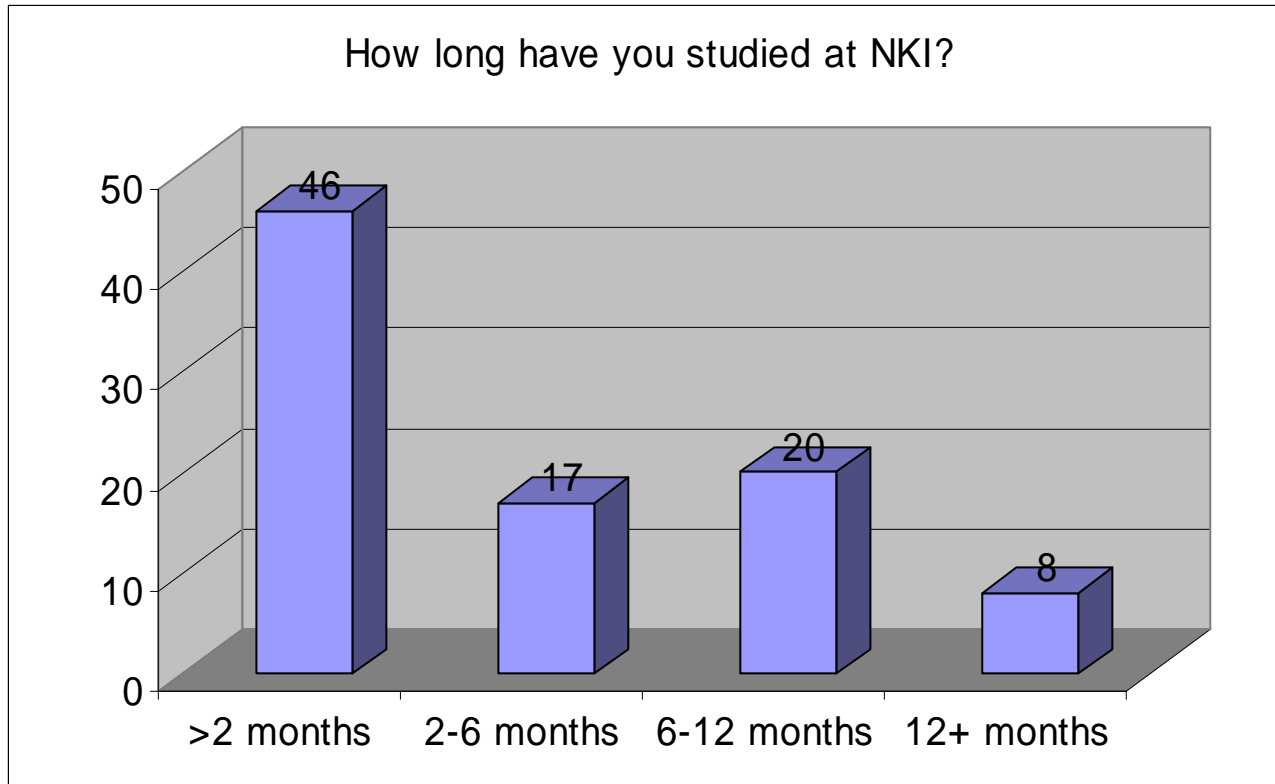
Experience and results



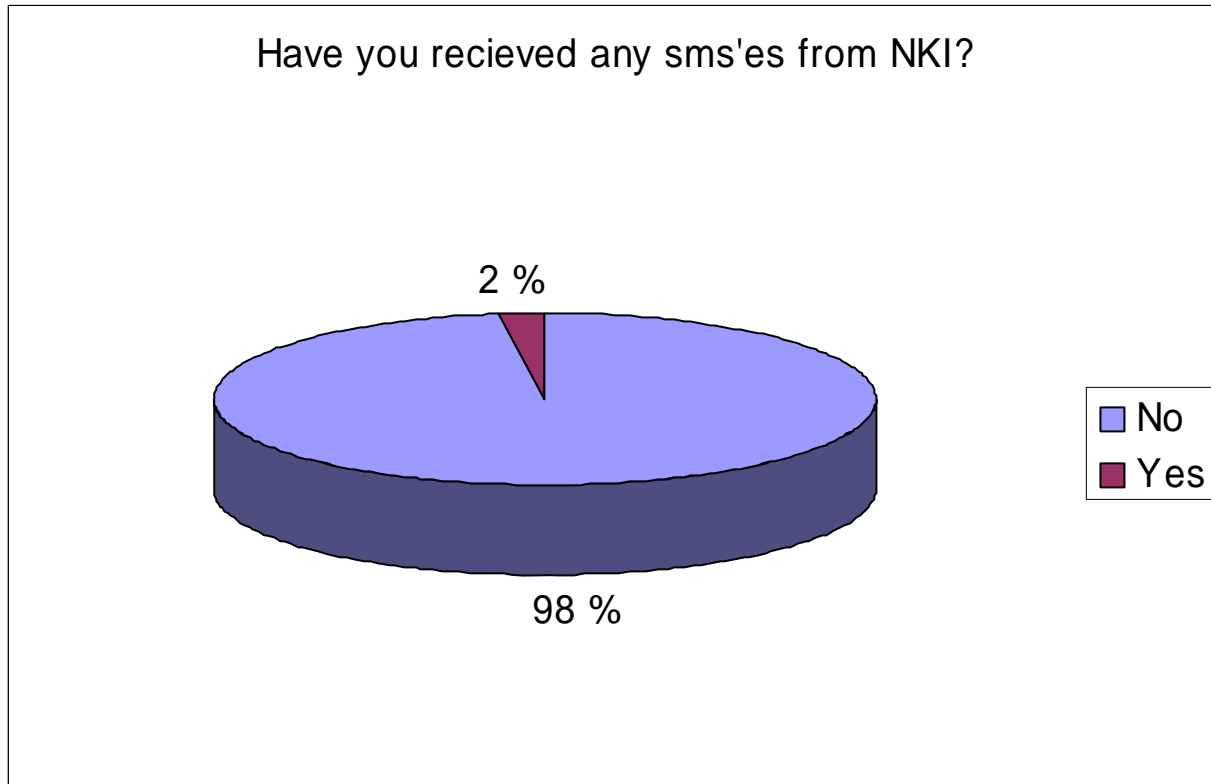
Experience and results



Experience and results

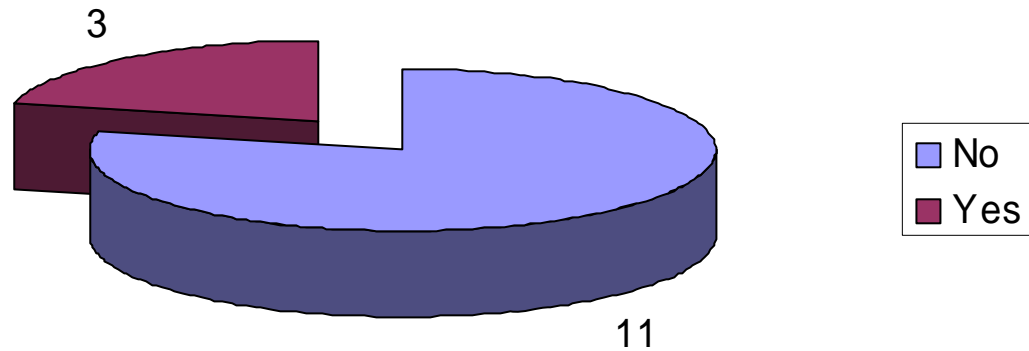


Experience and results



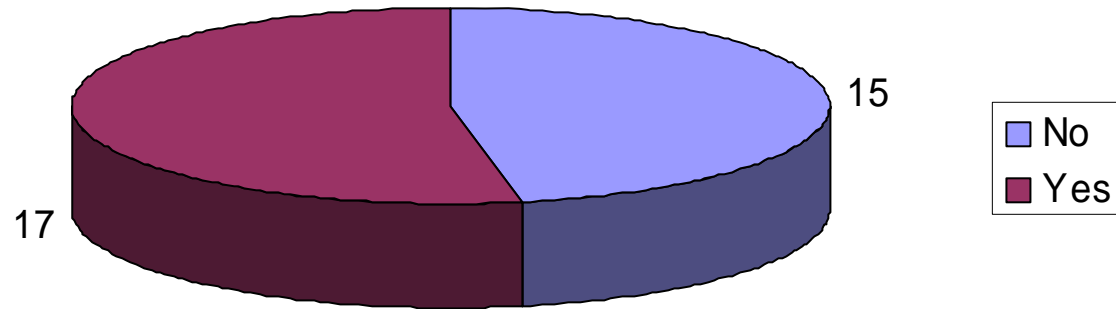
Experience and results

Do you know if your phone can view web pages?



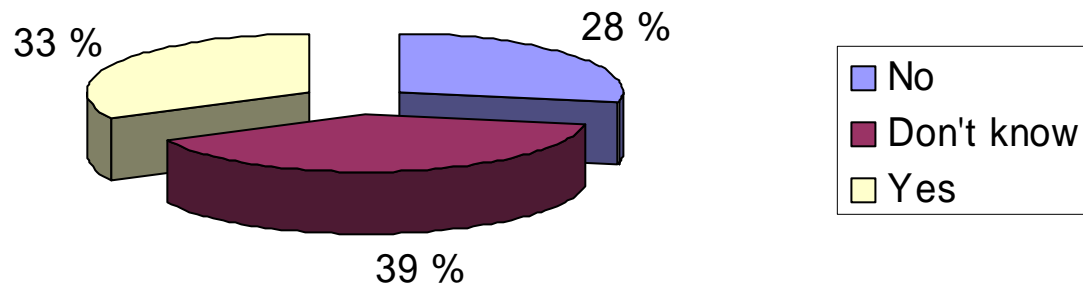
Experience and results

If you use your phone for web, do you find it useful?

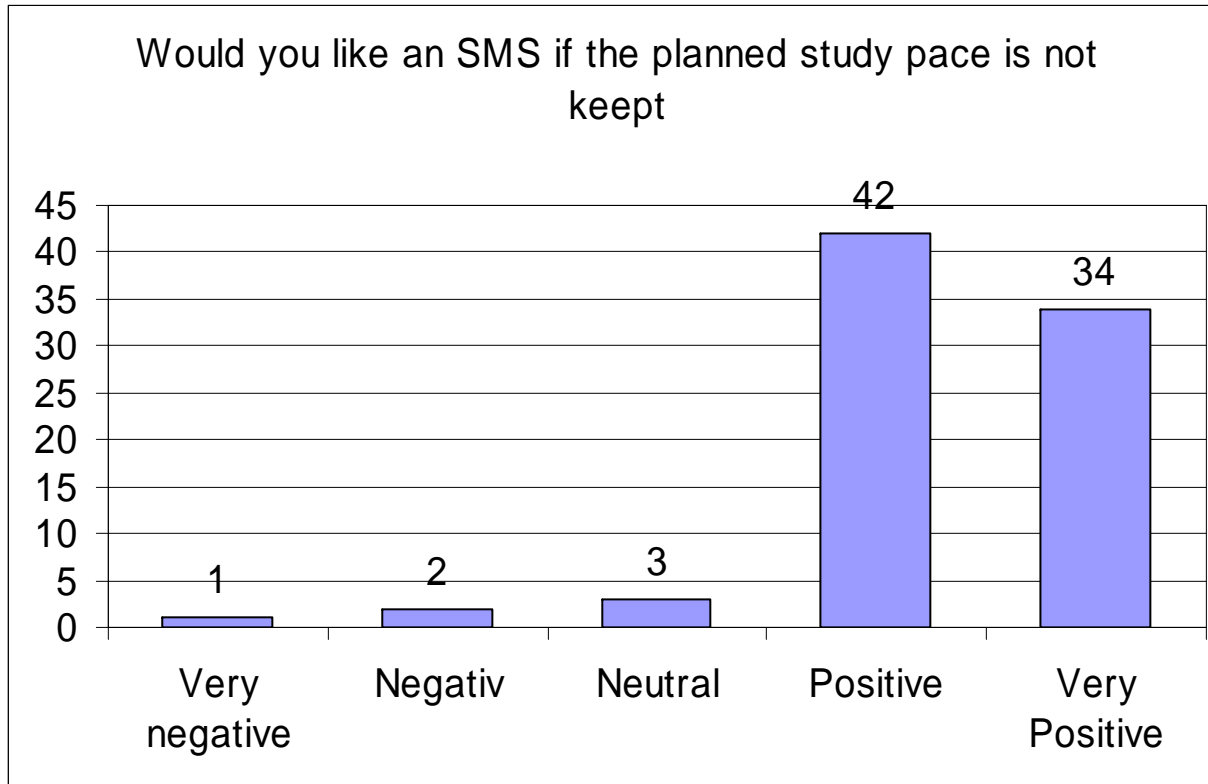


Experience and results

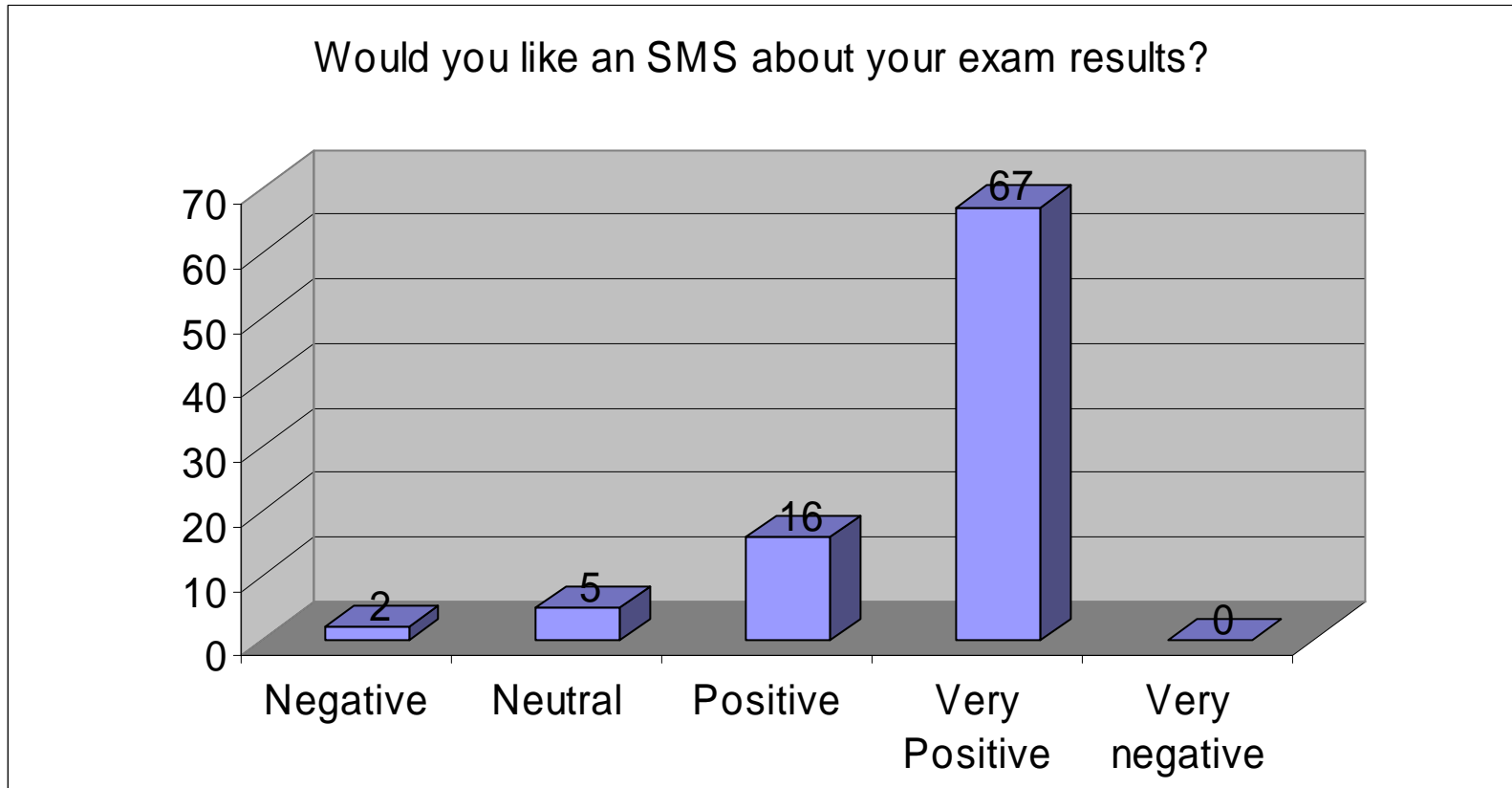
Would you find it useful to access NKIs course and study pages on your mobile phone?



Experience and results



Experience and results



Conclutions

- Students wants information
- SMS is a good option
- SMS works for "everyone", age, sex, education and so on
- 88% knows about internet possibility (31.08.2007)
 - 33% of them uses it
 - 13% use it at NKI's site

Q&A

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