The ECAR SS18 Results Summary

The ECAR survey gave us some basic information about our student body. A third of our students were independent with their own dependents, and about another third were independent but without dependents. Over 70% of our students held jobs other than work study jobs while enrolled in our classes. Nearly 2/3 of our students were independent, working adults, and almost ¾ identified as female.

Overall our students say they are having excellent overall experiences with technology at Northland Community and Technical College (NCTC) as compared to the system or Minnesota colleges.

NCTC: 41.3%   All AA/2 year colleges: 32.4%

System: 30.9%   All US Institutions: 27.3%

MN colleges: 33.2%

These experiences include the Wi-Fi in our classrooms/instructional spaces and campus libraries and even the institutional login. More of Northland's student rate these as excellent than students in any other category. The extremely low percentages for the system and Minnesota colleges for the classroom/instructional spaces question is puzzling. In spite of Northland's higher numbers than other groups of institutions, there is still room for improvement.

Wi-Fi Experience - Classroom/Instructional Spaces, Percentage of students who rated this excellent:	Wi-Fi Experience - Campus Libraries, Percentage of students who rated this excellent:	Wi-Fi Experience - Institutional Login
NCTC: 48.9%	NCTC: 52.4%	NCTC: 46.9%
System: 9.9%	System: 30.5%	System: 28.7%
MN colleges: 11.5%	MN colleges: 33%	MN colleges: 31.8%
All AA/2 year colleges: 34.9%	All AA/2 year colleges: 28.9%	All AA/2 year colleges: 32%
All US Institutions: 35.6%	All US Institutions: 32.1%	All US Institutions: 27.3%

Most of Northland's students and more than students in any other category used our LMS for most or all of their courses and were satisfied or very satisfied with it.

In the past 12 months how much did you use your institution's learning management system? Percentage of students who stated most or all of my courses:	Please indicate your overall satisfaction with the learning management system. Percentage of students who stated they were satisfied or very satisfied:
NCTC: 90.5%	NCTC: 87%
System: 87.2%	System: 80.1%
MN colleges: 87.2%	MN colleges: 81.5%
All AA/2 year colleges: 84.8%	All AA/2 year colleges: 79.7%
All US Institutions: 85.4%	All US Institutions: 74.5%

Northland's Institutional Online Success Tools have been used by the majority of our students, but with mixed results. For students, the guidance toward future courses, the early alert system, and the performance improvement help were very or extremely useful. Other tools however, such as those that suggested new/different academic resources, degree mapping or planning tools and tools showing when degree requirements were completed were less useful to Northland's students. Whether Northland was rated more highly than other categories of institutions, there is still room to improve our institutional online tools to make them more useful to our students.

Institutional Online Success Tools Usefulness - Guidance about courses you might consider taking in the future, Percentage of students who rated this very useful or extremely useful:	Institutional Online Success Tools Usefulness - Early Alert Systems, Percentage of students who rated this very useful or extremely useful:	Institutional Online Success Tools Usefulness - Tools that suggest how to improve performance in a course, Percentage of students who rated this very useful or extremely useful:
NCTC: 50.3%	NCTC: 50.8%	NCTC: 41.7%
System: 38.9%	System: 40.3%	System: 36.3%
MN colleges: 39.9%	MN colleges: 41.1%	MN colleges: 38%
All AA/2 year colleges: 39.8%	All AA/2 year colleges: 41.2%	All AA/2 year colleges: 39.2%
All US Institutions: 39.8%	All US Institutions: 41.2%	All US Institutions: 35.5%

Institutional Online Success Tools Usefulness - Tools that suggest new or different academic resources, Percentage of students who rated this moderately, very or extremely useful:	Institutional Online Success Tools Usefulness - Degree planning or mapping tools that identify courses, needed to complete your degree, Percentage of students who rated this moderately, very or extremely useful	Institutional Online Success Tools Usefulness - Degree audit tools that show the degree requirements completed, Percentage of students who rated this moderately, very or extremely useful:
NCTC: 60%	NCTC: 87.6%	NCTC: 89.5%
System: 63%	System: 88.6%	System: 92%
MN colleges: 61%	MN colleges: 87.3%	MN colleges: 90.6%
All AA/2 year colleges: 63%	All AA/2 year colleges: 86.7%	All AA/2 year colleges: 89.9%
All US Institutions: 68.1%	All US Institutions: 89.7%	All US Institutions: 90.92%

Northland students feel that their instructors use technology to engage them, encourage them to use technology to deepen learning, for creative or critical thinking tasks in greater percentages than students in every other category.

My instructors typically…use technology to engage me in the learning process. Percentage of students who agreed or strongly agreed:	My instructors typically… encourage me to use my own technology devices during class to deepen learning. Percentage of students who agreed or strongly agreed:	My instructors typically… encourage me to use technology for creative or critical-thinking tasks.
NCTC: 73.7%	NCTC: 51%	NCTC: 60.1%
System: 67.1%	System: 40.5%	System: 53.8%
MN colleges: 68.7%	MN colleges: 42.1%	MN colleges: 55.3%

All AA/2 year colleges: 67.8%	All AA/2 year colleges: 41.1%	All AA/2 year colleges: 54.6%
All US Institutions: 62.5%	All US Institutions: 38.2%	All US Institutions: 49.3%

Northland students feel that they use laptops as a learning tool in class and use technology relevant to their careers and that adequately prepares them for their future careers.

My instructors typically… have me use my laptop as a learning tool in class.	My instructors typically… technologies that I use in my courses now are relevant to my career.	My instructors typically… technological skills that I develop in my courses now will adequately prepare me for my career.
NCTC: 63.8%	NCTC: 75.8%	NCTC: 76.3%
System: 46.9%	System: 65.4%	System: 65.9%
MN colleges: 47.4%	MN colleges: 66.3%	MN colleges: 67.2%
All AA/2 year colleges: 46.1%	All AA/2 year colleges: 65.8%	All AA/2 year colleges: 66.8%
All US Institutions: 47.2%	All US Institutions: 62.3%	All US Institutions: 63.6%

The questions regarding accessible or adaptive technologies, both awareness and support, had too few respondents to really come to any conclusions.