

An aerial photograph of a university campus. The central focus is a tall, grey stone tower with a red-tiled roof and a small balcony. To the left, a tall palm tree stands against a clear blue sky. In the background, other university buildings and green hills are visible. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

# Accessibility Study on PDF Documents

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# Agenda

- **Study Overview**
- **The Methodology**
- **The Results**
- **Discussions**
- **Next Steps**
- **Points of Contact**
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# Study Overview

- **As one of its goals for the 2013-14AY, the Accessible Instructional Materials (AIM) committee sought to assess the accessibility of PDF documents used by SJSU faculty.**
- **A list of all courses being offered at SJSU during Spring 2014 was obtained from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Analytics.**
- **Between April 3 -30, 2014, emails were sent to the instructors of all 1350 courses being taught with enrollments of 30 or more students. The emails requested that the instructor report whether they used PDF documents (other than the course syllabus) in the designated course, and if so, it requested that they submit one to check its accessibility.**

# The Methodology

**With reference to specified course(s), faculty, by college, were asked to respond to the following:**

- **Reply with “No pdf documents” if no pdf document is used for specified course(s)**
- **Reply with one sample attachment, excluding the syllabus, if pdf documents are used for specified course(s)**

## **Our Process:**

- **Rename pdf documents with specified course number and group them by college**
- **Test to listen if pdf documents are readable by Acrobat Reader**
- **With visual check of important images, test to listen if alternative text descriptions were able to be read aloud by Acrobat Reader. If not, partial accessible.**

# The Overall Results

- **Total number of requests sent = 1350**
- **Total number of responses received = 352 (27%)**
  - **No PDF documents posted = 152 (44.3%)**
  - **Total number of respondents submitted PDF documents = 196 (55.7%)**
    - **Not or partial accessible PDF documents = 34 (17.3 %)**
    - **Accessible PDF documents = 162 (82.7%)**

# Results by College

- A total of 1350 requests were sent to faculty by college with 352 (27%) returned responses.
- Out of the 352 responses, 156 respondents (44.3%) do not use PDF documents and 196 (55.7%) use and submit their sample PDF documents.

Colleges	Total Requests sent	Total Returns	No PDF used	Yes PDF submitted
Applied Sciences & Arts	228	63 (27.6%)	23 (36.5%)	40 (63.5%)
Business	249	53 (21.3%)	25 (47.2%)	28 (52.8%)
Education	76	28 (34.2%)	10 (35.7%)	18 (64.3%)
Engineering	154	39 (25.3%)	14 (35.9%)	25 (64.1%)
Humanities & the Arts	160	40 (25%)	18 (45%)	22 (55%)
Sciences	228	62 (27.2%)	30 (48.4%)	32 (51.6%)
Social Sciences	255	67 (26.3%)	36 (53.7%)	31 (46.3%)
<b>Total =</b>	<b>1350</b>	<b>352 (27%)</b>	<b>156 (44.3%)</b>	<b>196 (55.7%)</b>

# Accessible PDF Results by College

➤ **82.7 % of the submitted PDFs are accessible.**

➤ **17.3% of the submitted PDFs are not accessible.**

Colleges	Yes PDFs submitted	PDF Accessible	PDF Not/Partial Accessible
Applied Sciences & Arts	40	31 (77.5%)	8+1* (22.5%)
Business	28	26 (92.9%)	1+1* (7.1%)
Education	18	17 (94.4%)	1 (5.6%)
Engineering	25	21 (84%)	2+2* (16%)
Humanities & the Arts	22	20 (90.9%)	2 (9.1%)
Sciences	32	24 (75%)	8 (25%)
Social Sciences	31	23 (71%)	8 (29%)
<b>Total =</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>162 (82.7%)</b>	<b>34 (17.3%)</b>

**\* Text was readable but images were missing alt text**

# Discussion

- **The total return rate was 27% with a range across college from 21.3% to 34.2%**
- **From the 196 submitted PDFs, 162 (82.7%) are accessible and 34 (17.3%) are not accessible**
- **Common problems in non- or partial accessible PDFs are:**
  - scanned images
  - Text was readable but images were missing alt text
  - Text was readable but formula on test questions were not readable

# Next Steps

- **Post the results on CFD accessibility webpage**
- **Present results to ATI IM committee, Academic Senate, UCCD, others?**
- **Present the data to each college, curriculum review committee, departments?!**
- **Collect any feedback or follow-up actions**
- **Other comments, issues or concerns?!**

# Points of Contact

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**Thank you!!**

**Questions?**

