

# Numeracy Initiative at the University of Guelph *One Year Later*

Dr. Michelle Edwards  
edwardsm@uoguelph.ca  
Data Resource Centre  
University of Guelph

# Purpose of Numeracy Initiative

- Build new opportunities for students to improve their numeracy and quantitative reasoning skills, and overcome their insecurities over dealing with numbers

# Purpose of Numeracy Initiative

- Enrich programs with high competencies in numeric and quantitative reasoning skills as well as reach out to those programs that are traditionally weak

# Funding

- Learning Enhancement Fund – 2006/2007
- In-kind contributions from partners

# Driven by Student – Power

- 2 Co-op students
  - Computing & Information Science – UG
  - Applied Computing – Guelph-Humber
- 1 Summer student
- 2 PT Graduate Student
  - Computing & Information Science
  - Mathematics & Statistics

# Student - Teamwork

- 1 developed the Repository
- 1 developed Flash module templates
- 2 developed content
- 1 developed webpage and helped me supervise Co-op students

# Using Flash to create LOs

- **Created templates**
  - 4 topics
  - 5 topics
  - 6 topics
- **Quiz templates**
  - Multiple choice
  - Fill in the blank
  - True or false
  - Hot spot
  - Drag 'n drop
  - Checkmark

# Tour of Repository

## Numeracy and Quantitative Reasoning Initiative



# Student Feedback

“... the students said that they would use the site and recommend it to students who were looking to refresh their numeracy skills. A number said they would use it to refresh themselves on a previously learning concept!”

# Student Feedback

“... students were asking if the professors for some of their courses are currently involved in the project and could links to the numeracy site be posted on the course websites or Blackboard?”

# Faculty Use

- Math & Stats
  - Incorporated into the first year Calculus course
  - More integrated approach this Fall
  - Create quizzes that link directly to modules

# Faculty Use

- Family Relations & Applied Nutrition
  - Research Help and Statistical Literacy session
- Economics
  - Resource listed on 1<sup>st</sup> year course outlines

# Next Steps

- More Learning Objects
  - Statistics – PT Grad Student W&S '08
  - Mathematics – URA Summer '08
  - Chemistry – URA Summer '08
  - Economics – GTA Summer '08
  - Nanoscience - ?????

# Next Steps

- Create Static documents based on Learning Objects – Summer student '08
- Revisit webpage to make it more user friendly – Fall '08

# Next Steps

- Identify new partners
  - Clinical studies – Ontario Veterinary College ??
  - Engineering Department ??
  - Sociology ??

# New funding – 2008/2009

- New Learning Enhancement Fund application

**Successful – More content!**



Where is it?

[www.uoguelph.ca/numeracy](http://www.uoguelph.ca/numeracy)