Evaluating the digital library: 5: Undergraduate students use of pcs

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Users and uses of digital library module:

University of Parma, 23/ 10/08

Library

Loughborough University

Content

- background

- results

Background: Reasons for exploring students' interaction with information and its impact

- Nature of impact and interaction is changing rapidly

    - move from print to electronic information
    - PC use central to many areas of learning
    - increasing use of group study and assessment
    - different learning styles
    - use of pcs proliferating across campus (including Library)

- different student expectations and needs in 2006 / 7

Library

Loughborough University

Background

Explore how students' relationship with electronic information was evolving across both Universities

- how students choose what labs to use
- what software students frequently use
- when they use PCs
- joint with La Trobe, Australia

Background: project partners

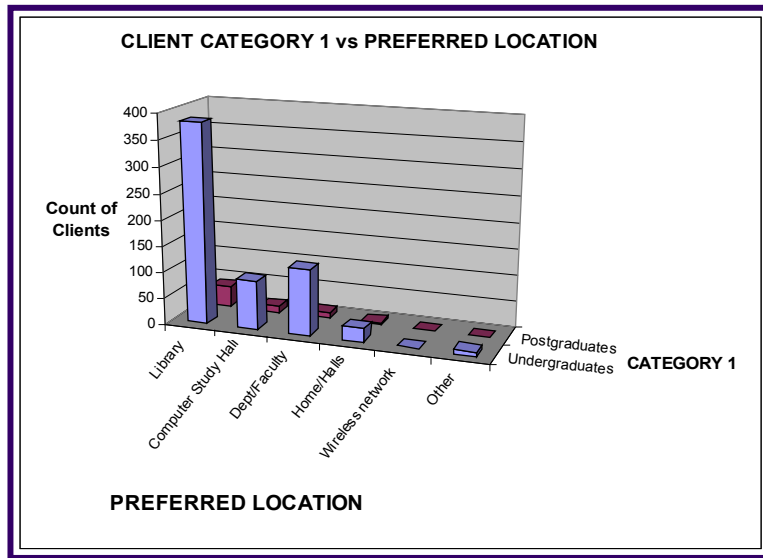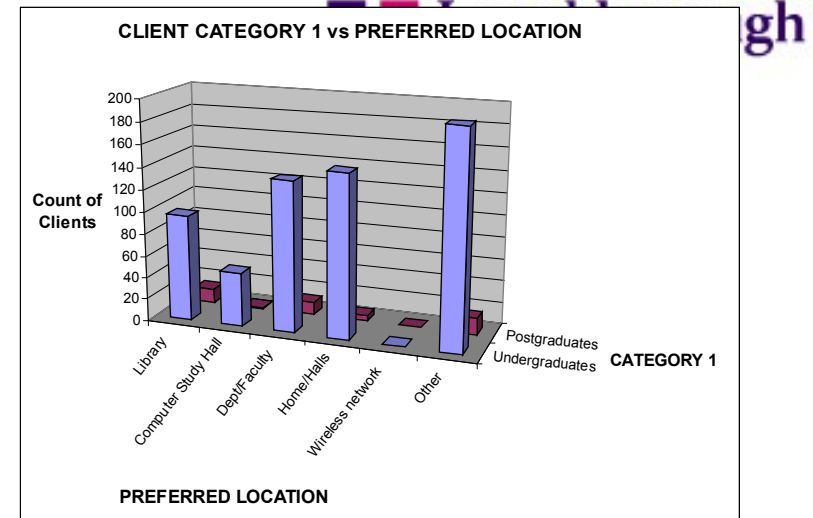**La Trobe University, Bundoora Campus**

Loughborough University

Results: Category of Respondents

La Trobe Uni (Bundoora Campus)   **Loughborough University**

CLIENT CATEGORY 1 vs PREFERRED LOCATION

Count of Clients

Library, Computer Study Hall, Dept/Faculty, Home/Halls, Wireless network, Other

Postgraduates, Undergraduates

CATEGORY 1

PREFERRED LOCATION

CLIENT CATEGORY 1 vs PREFERRED LOCATION

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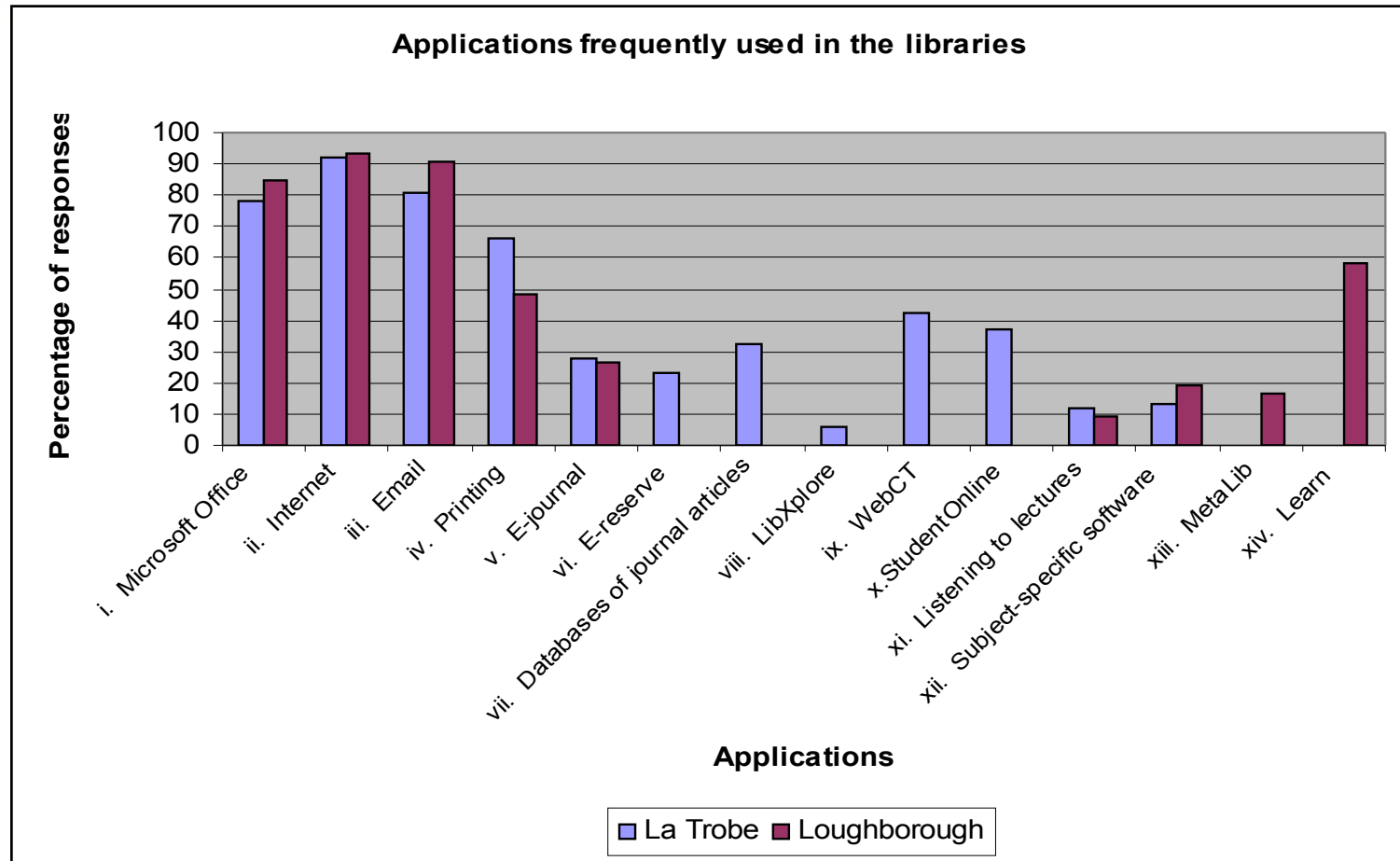
Postgraduates, Undergraduates
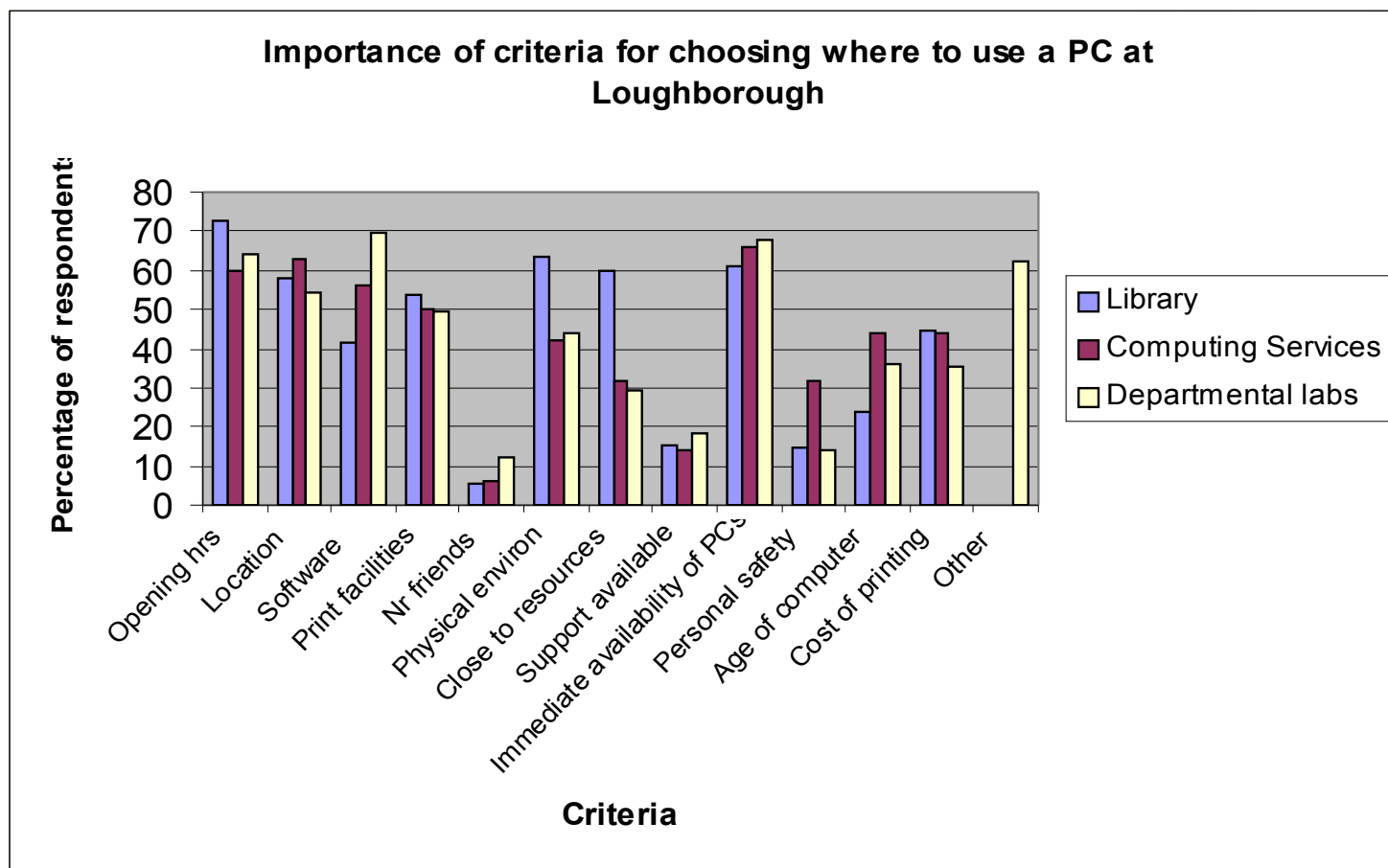
CATEGORY 1

PREFERRED LOCATION

- both institutions had a similar number of responses to the Survey.
  - La Trobe (757 responses)
  - Loughborough (697)
- majority of respondents were undergraduate and full time

Range: applications frequently used in the libraries

Applications frequently used in the libraries

Lboro: criteria for choosing PC location
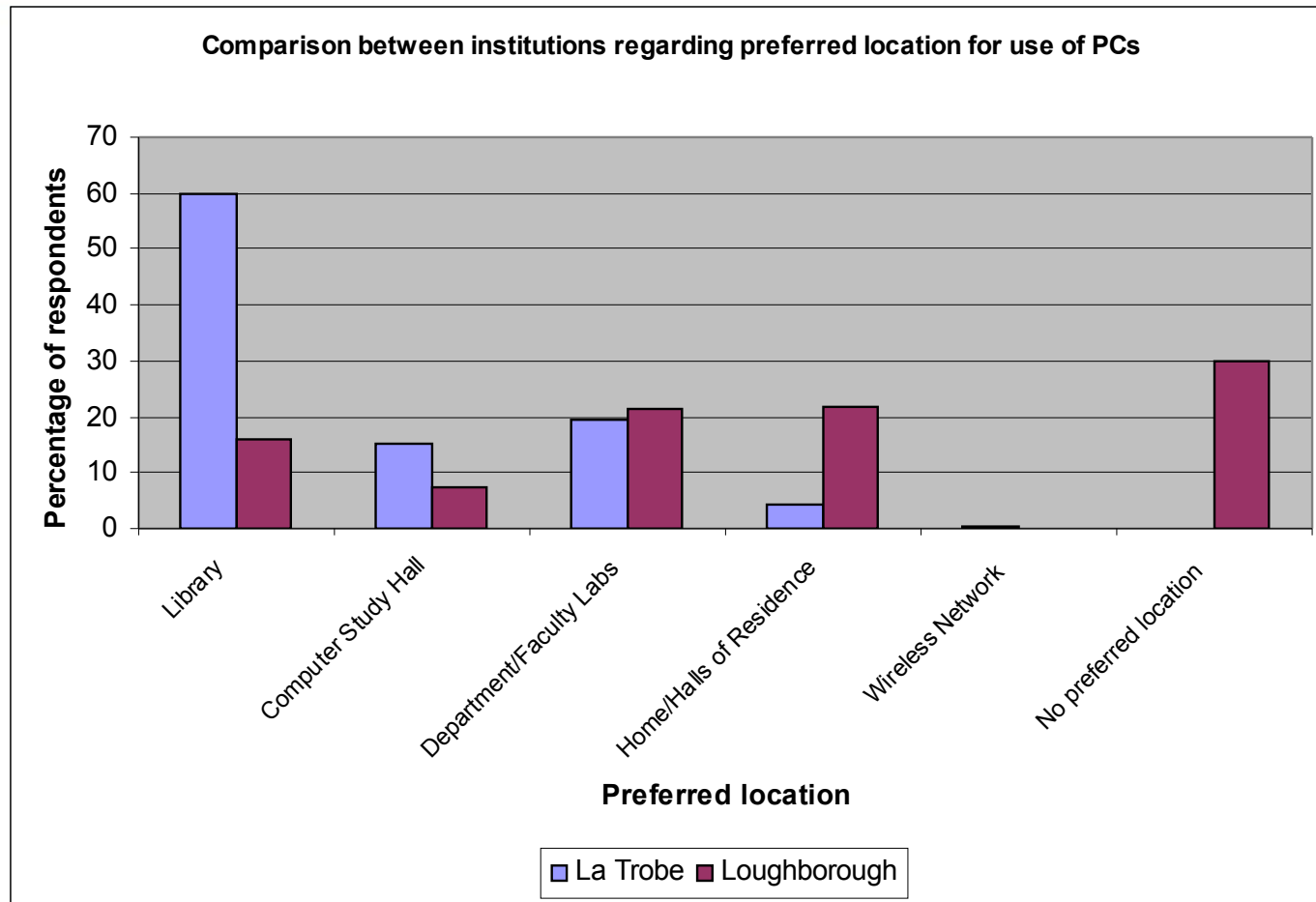
Information literacy implications

- Students use Internet a lot
- Students do not use e-journals or MetaLib a lot
- But do they know what the resources are?
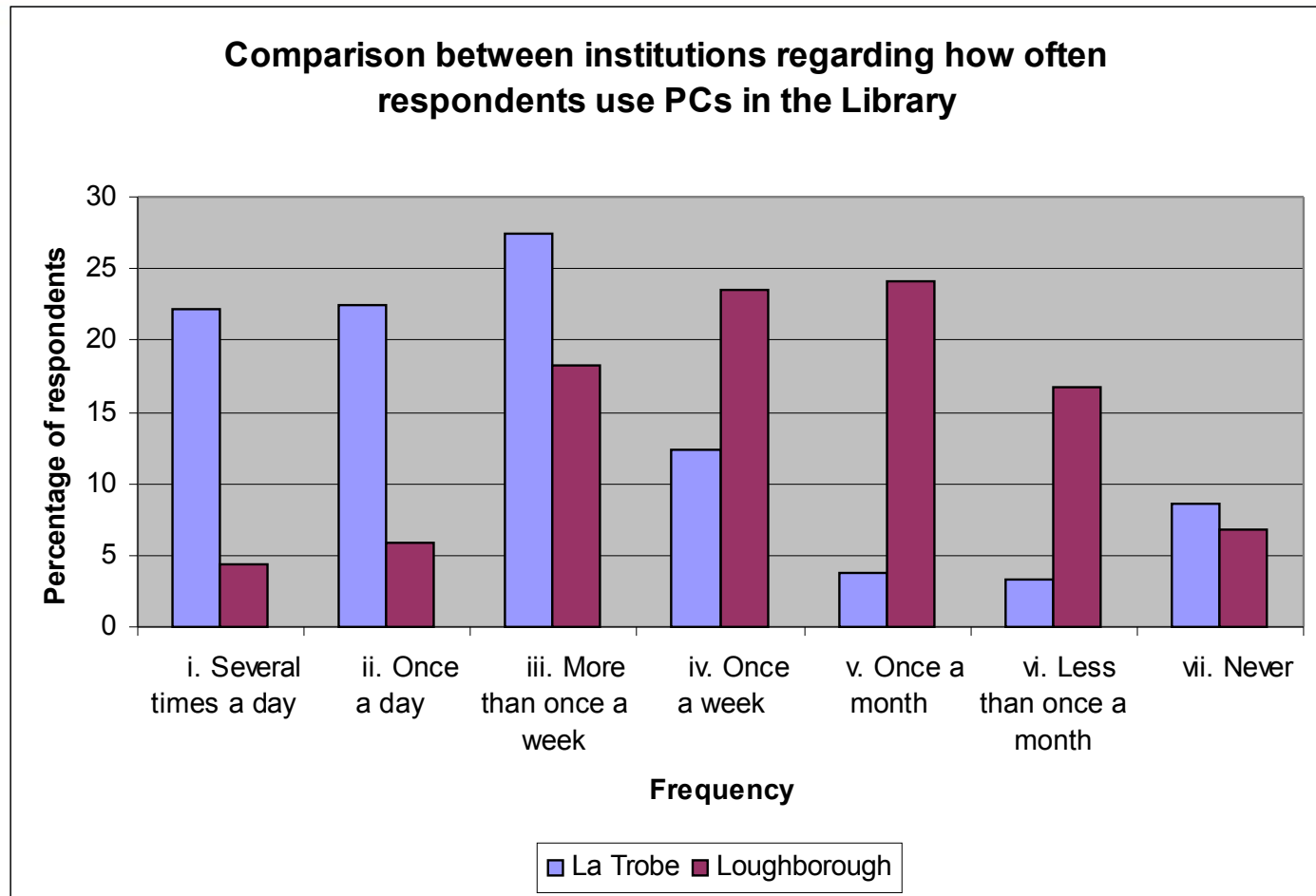
Results: similarities between institutions

- students expected to have immediate access to a PC
- more individual rather than group use of PCs
- Internet, Microsoft Office and e-mail were the heaviest used applications by students
- least used applications were library portals and e-journals
- students perceived that printing was too expensive on campus.
- restrictive to have access to some specialist software only in departmental labs

Results: preferred location for use of PCs

Comparison between institutions regarding preferred location for use of PCs

Results: how often respondents used PCs in Library

Comparison between institutions regarding how often respondents use PCs in the Library