

Needs Assessment for a Teaching Elective at the University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine Lehigh Valley Campus

Kristian Johnson MS

USF MCOM- LVHN Campus, kristian_n.johnson@lvhn.org

Follow this and additional works at: <http://scholarlyworks.lvhn.org/select-program>



Part of the [Medical Education Commons](#)

Published In/Presented At

Johnson, K. (2016, March 9). *Needs Assessment for a Teaching Elective at the University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine Lehigh Valley Campus*. Poster presented at: The SELECT Capstone Project in the Kasych Conference Room, Lehigh Valley Health Network, Allentown, PA.

This Poster is brought to you for free and open access by LVHN Scholarly Works. It has been accepted for inclusion in LVHN Scholarly Works by an authorized administrator. For more information, please contact LibraryServices@lvhn.org.

Needs Assessment for a Teaching Elective at the University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine Lehigh Valley Campus

Kristian Johnson, MS

Lehigh Valley Health Network, Allentown, PA

Introduction

Physicians and residents must be both healthcare experts and teachers simultaneously, as recognized by national accreditation committees like the LCME and ACGME. In order to prepare our future physicians for their roles as educators, research supports early education on the basic principles of teaching, feedback, adult learning, and group facilitations skills during medical school. Early exposure to learning how to teach should be coupled with actual teaching experiences. Teaching experiences can come in many forms, most commonly through peer teaching electives. When senior medical students teach junior students, the small gap between their educational levels allows the learner to feel more at ease and improve their learning capabilities, this is known as social and cognitive congruency. Research shows that student teachers are better prepared to be educators and teaching can improve their GPA and USMLE scores. A teaching elective at the University of South Florida (USF) Morsani College of Medicine is currently offered at one of their two campuses. At the Tampa, Florida campus, the elective allows senior students to act as co-preceptors for preclinical students in their physical exam skills course. Unfortunately, there are no preclinical students at USF's second campus in Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania, therefore a parallel course cannot be offered. Without a teaching elective, the Lehigh Valley campus students are at a disadvantage in their preparation for their future careers as educators.

Problem Statement

A needs assessment, through a literature review and student survey, will provide the necessary background to demonstrate the need for developing a teaching elective at the Lehigh Valley campus.

Methods

A literature search was performed through PubMed and 28 articles were found teaching electives for medical students. Key themes found within the literature were used to create an opinion-based student survey on Typeform.com to better understand the value of medical students as teachers, education on how to teach, teaching opportunities and interest in a teaching elective. The survey was piloted then distributed in December 2015 with a predetermined response goal of 25%. The analytical plan was to review results for themes, focusing specifically on the majority's opinion.

Results

Seventy six surveys were completed, a 38.4% response rate. The majority of students (1) found senior medical students helpful in developing their knowledge (82%), believed (2) learning how to teach (86%) and (3) having teaching opportunities (70%) in medical school are important for their future careers, and (4) are interested in participating in a teaching elective (82%).

Figure 1: Survey Results by Year in Medical School
Question: "For your future medical career, how important is it for you to have experience teaching other students during medical school?"

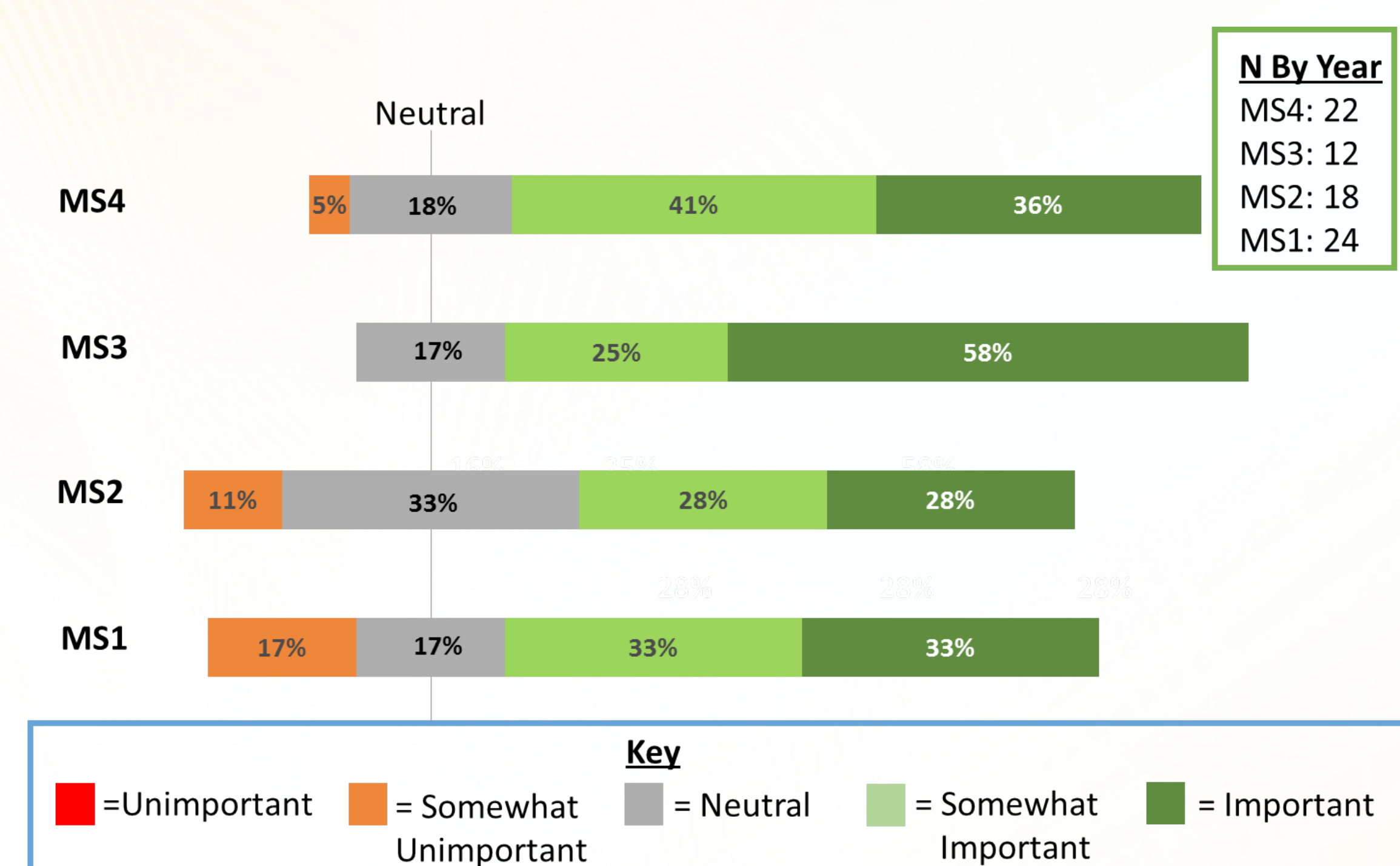
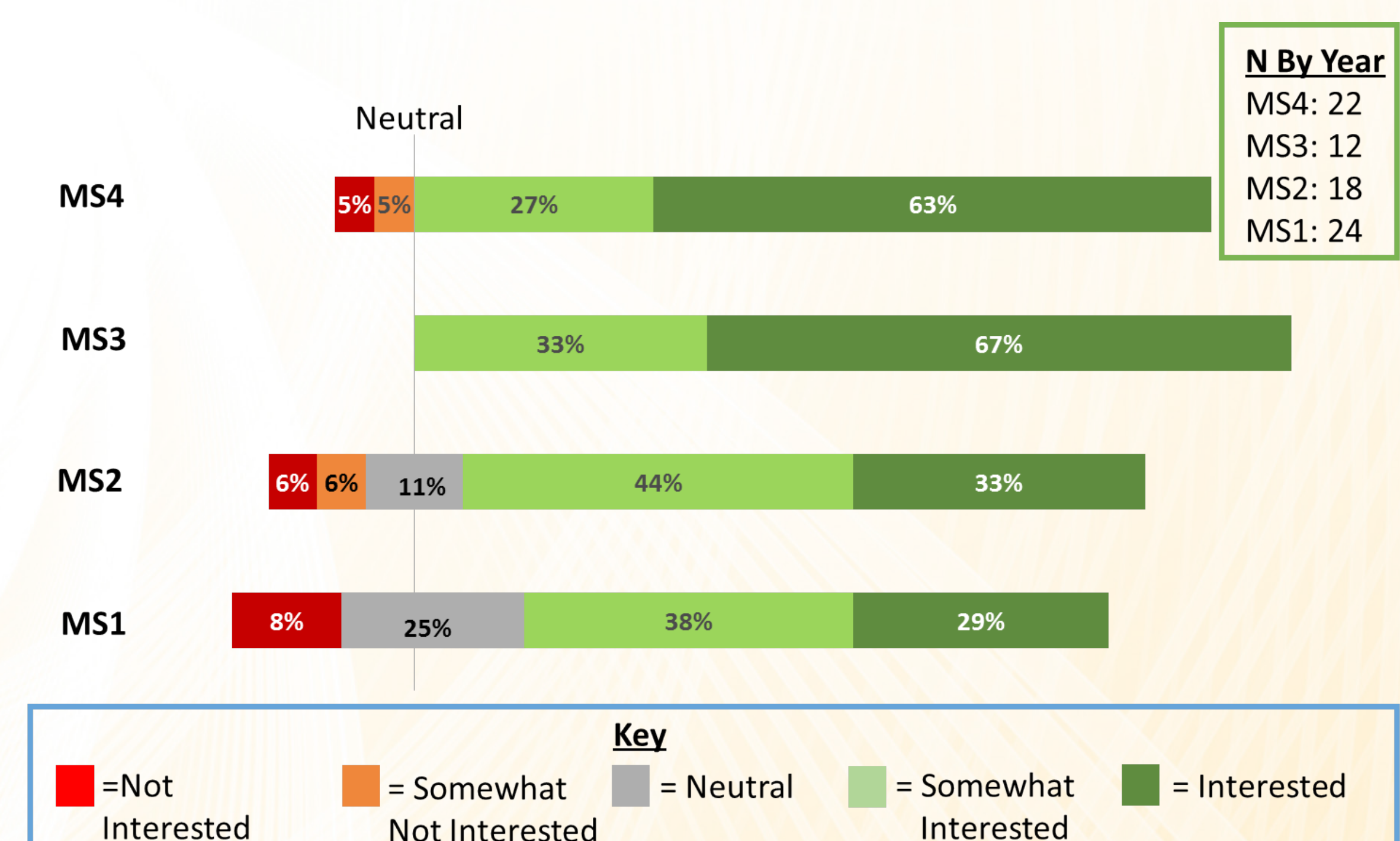


Figure 2: Survey Results by Year in Medical School
Question: "Would you have any interest in participating in a 4th year teaching elective at the Lehigh Valley campus?"



Conclusions

Literature supports the importance of learning teaching skills during medical school. The survey results are consistent with the literature and the students have demonstrated an interest in learning how to teach. However, the Lehigh Valley campus currently does not fulfill this need. A teaching elective at the Lehigh Valley campus will provide students the opportunity to develop as clinical educators.