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Evaluating the Effectiveness of Blended Learning Strategies in Navy Training

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Blended Learning Strategies
Evaluating its Effectiveness in Navy Training

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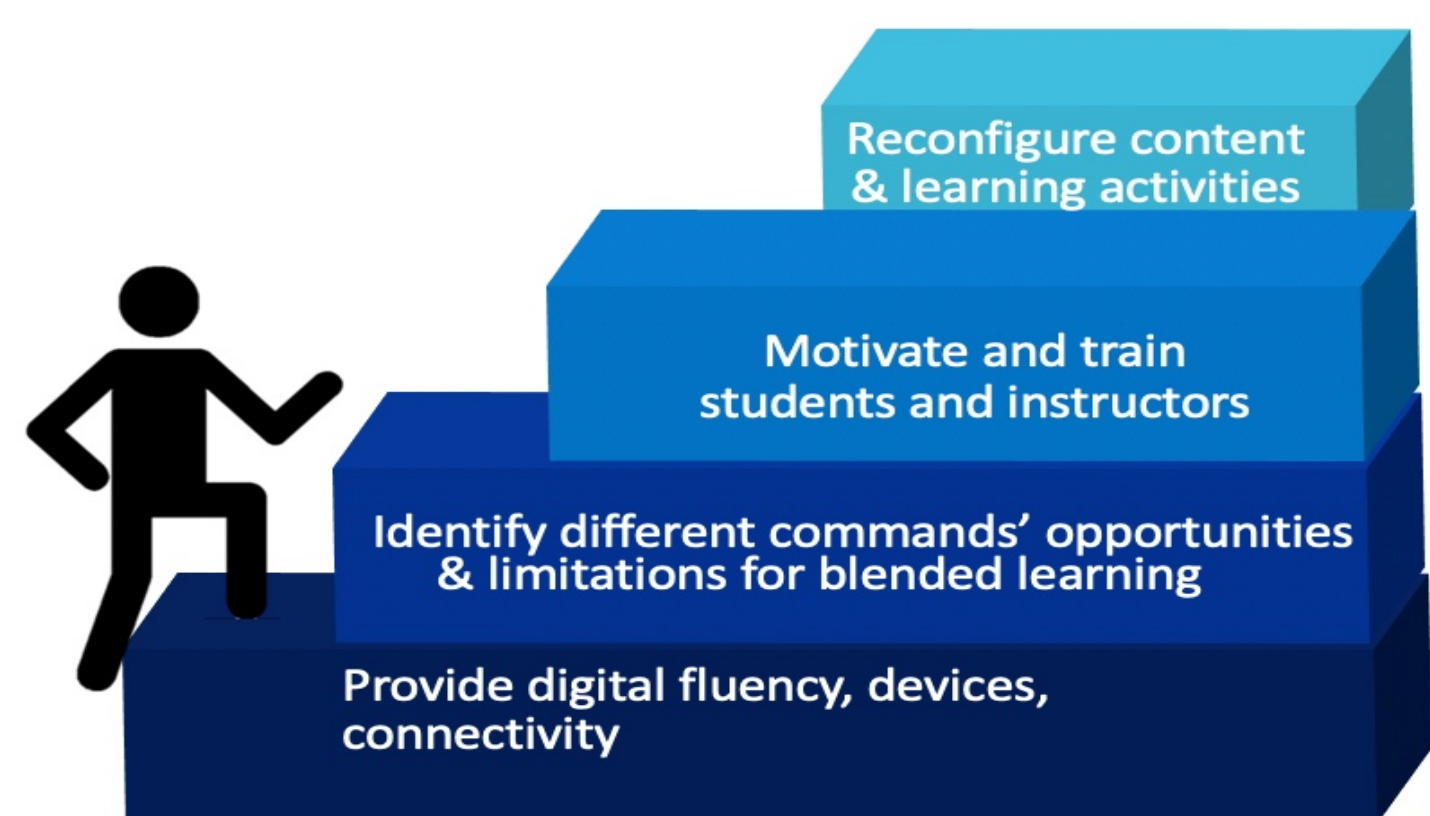NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL

Background

- The transformative Ready Relevant Learning (RRL) effort is transitioning the Navy to a modern, science-of-learning approach.

- To adequately address the development of personalized and adaptive training techniques required by RRL, Navy leaders require a better understanding of blended learning.

- This requires evaluation of blended learning strategies using existing Navy training curriculum in designed reconfigurations that mix web-based interactive content and in-class activities.

Research Objectives

This study conducted a test of blended learning strategies using the Seabees Utility Technician "C" (UTC) School training curriculum reconfigured for a mix of web-based interactive digital content, mobile technology, and traditional in-class activities, to address the following questions:

- What are the outcomes of blended training when compared with those from the current, training learning environment.

- What are the pros and cons of resource use associated with blended learning?

Key Findings

Reconfigure content & learning activities

Motivate and train students and instructors

Identify different commands' opportunities & limitations for blended learning

Provide digital fluency, devices, connectivity

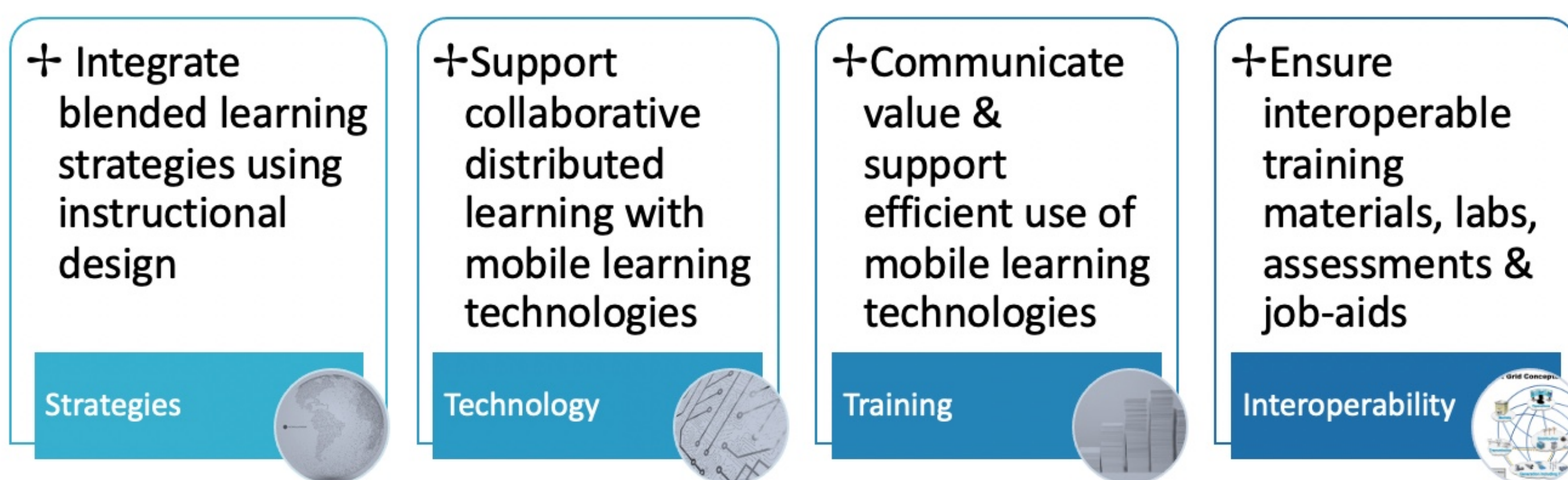*Initial experiences with blended learning strategies show opportunities for implementation in RRL*

The survey and interviews data analysis suggests experiences with blended learning strategies generated value to Sailors and instructors after overcoming technology and connectivity challenges, and present opportunities for continued implementation.

To maximize the potential of the training conducted in blended learning strategies satisfaction with the learning environment needs improvement.

For that, communicate its value to Sailors and instructors, fully leverage mobile learning technologies and ensure connectivity and interconnectivity with the existing training, assessment, and data repository infrastructure.

Recommendations

- To scale the implementation of blended training environments, recommended the Navy decisi(maker accounts for command opportunities and limitations for Sailor access to learning opportur and command expectations for when Sailors can engage in learni

+ Integrate blended learning strategies using instructional design	+Support collaborative distributed learning with mobile learning technologies	+Communicate value & support efficient use of mobile learning technologies	+Ensure interoperable training materials, labs, assessments & job-aids
Strategies	**Technology**	**Training**	**Interoperability**

Roadmap to Implementation of Blended Learning Strategies

Future Work

- Test different models of blended learning to maximize the benefits of synchronous and asynchronous learning.

- Address the connectivity and interoperability challenges that can grow when learners are in distributed learning mode, at different commands.

- Examine the integration of experiential learning opportunities in distributed blended training environments.

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