

## Electricity and Magnetism Survey

Summer term, 2004

This group of students was chosen to assess the new lab manual over the old, as they used the old manual for Physics 115 and the new manual for Physics 225. The survey was distributed in all lecture sections, as part of a separate lecture survey near midterm. Roughly 100 students submitted responses to at least some of the questions.

The multiple choice questions were:

**Please indicate your relationship to Physics 225 (Phys 2 lab) by choosing the statement that fits you best.**

(a) I am not in Physics 225 this term.	9
(b) I am in Physics 225, but did not have Physics 115 at Kettering University.	1
(c) I am taking Physics 225 for the first time this term, and took Physics 115 (Phys 1 lab) during a previous term.	93
(d) I am taking Physics 225 this term, and took at least part of Physics 225 during a previous term.	3

Overall Responses

Those who answered “c” or “d” above were asked to:

**Rate the *clarity of the instructions* in the new manual compared to the old.**

(a) Significantly improved.	24
(b) More or less the same.	61
(c) Less clear than the previous version.	8

**Rate the *helpfulness and useability* of the new manual compared to the old.**

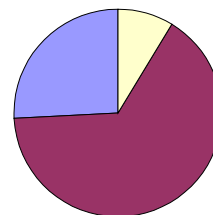
(a) Significantly improved.	28
(b) More or less the same.	60
(c) Less clear than the previous version.	6

**Rate the *relevance and explanations* in the new manual compared to the old.**

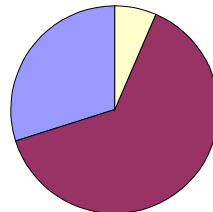
(a) Significantly improved.	33
(b) More or less the same.	20
(c) Less clear than the previous version.	3

**Summary Comment:** Except for the *relevance* category, the new manual was generally regarded as more or less the same as the old. This is a positive result, in that one of the goals of the revision was to create a consistent look and feel to the introductory lab courses. Certainly, the major changes in the revision were editing for clarity and consistency, and not in substance or content. In all three categories of quality, students felt that the new lab manual was not a step backward from their previous experience. It also appears that students would like to see a manual with greater clarity, setting a direction for the next revision.

Clarity



Helpfulness



Relevance

