Thank you to the students who completed our questionnaire: **Understanding Assistive Technology (AT) Use of Students with Disabilities.** Below are some initial results that we found from the data. Any questions or comments please email Lauren at goegan@ualberta.ca.
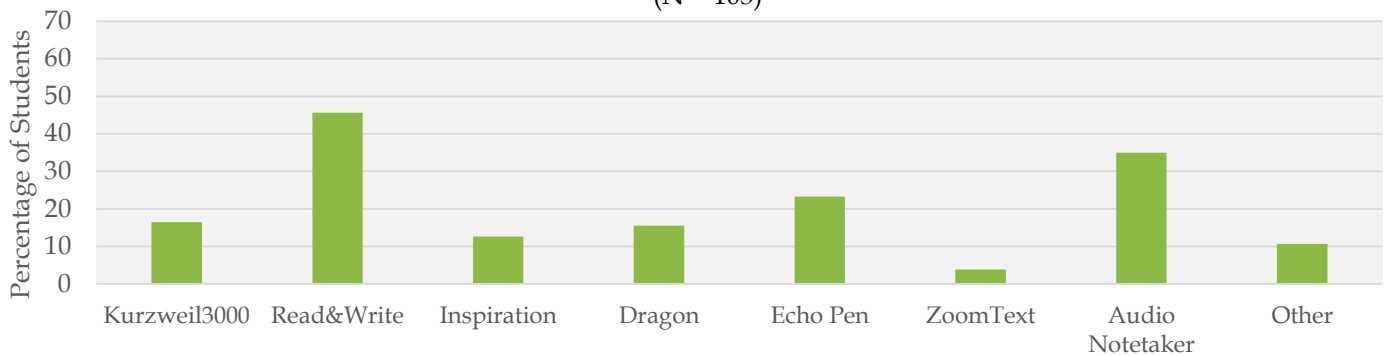
Who Participated?

- 103 students chose to complete the questionnaire across three post-secondary institutions.
- The students ranged in age from 17 to 53 (mean age of 27.4).
- Students reported being diagnosed with various primary disabilities including: psychiatric disorders (N=19), learning disabilities (N=34), ADHD (N=19), autism spectrum disorder (N=3), blind or partially sighted (N=4), acquired brain injury (N=4), mobility disabilities (N=6) and other diagnoses (N=14).
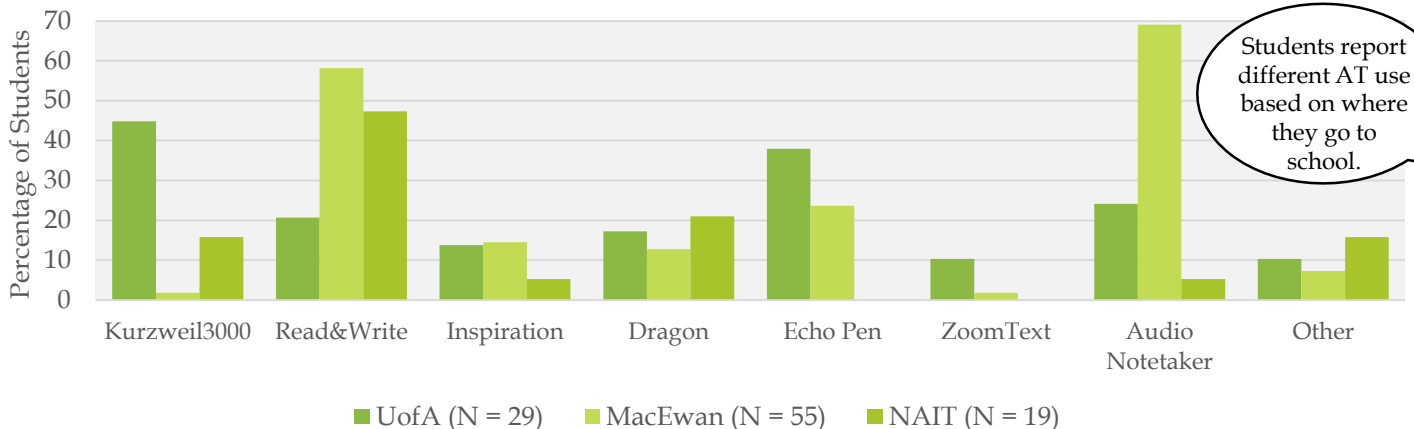
What Percentage of Students use Each AT?
(N = 103)

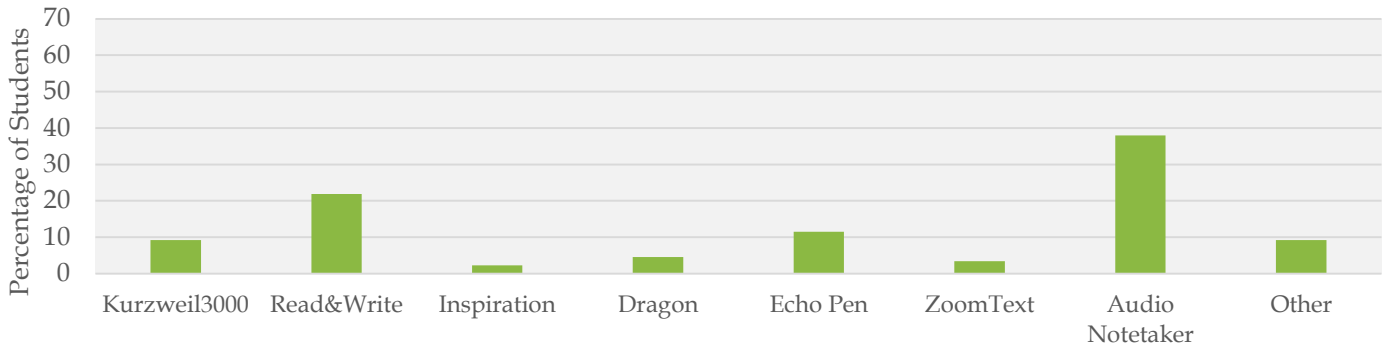## How Does That Break Down by Institution?

Students report different AT use based on where they go to school.
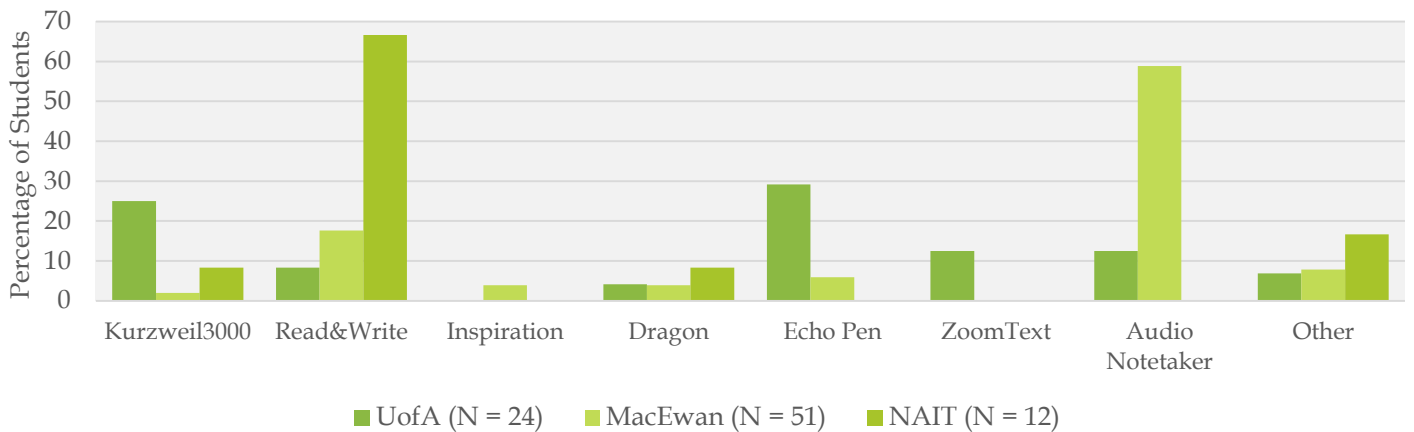
■ UofA (N = 29)   ■ MacEwan (N = 55)   ■ NAIT (N = 19)

Please check out our website here as more information on this project becomes available.

What Percentage of Students Report Using Each AT the Most?
(N = 87)

Chart: Percentage of Students (y-axis 0–70) by AT type:
- Kurzweil3000: ~9
- Read&Write: ~22
- Inspiration: ~2
- Dragon: ~4
- Echo Pen: ~11
- ZoomText: ~3
- Audio Notetaker: ~38
- Other: ~9

How Does That Break Down by Institution?

Chart: Percentage of Students (y-axis 0–70) by AT type for UofA, MacEwan, NAIT:
- Kurzweil3000: UofA ~25, MacEwan ~2, NAIT ~8
- Read&Write: UofA ~8, MacEwan ~18, NAIT ~67
- Inspiration: MacEwan ~4
- Dragon: UofA ~4, MacEwan ~4, NAIT ~8
- Echo Pen: UofA ~29, MacEwan ~6
- ZoomText: UofA ~12
- Audio Notetaker: UofA ~12, MacEwan ~59
- Other: UofA ~7, MacEwan ~8, NAIT ~16

■ UofA (N = 24)   ■ MacEwan (N = 51)   ■ NAIT (N = 12)

Most Popular AT varies by post-secondary institution.

- At UofA the most popular is **Kurzweil3000** and the **Echo Pen**
- At MacEwan the most popular is **Audio Notetaker**
- At NAIT the most popular is **Read&Write**

Do Students still use their AT?

72% said Yes!*
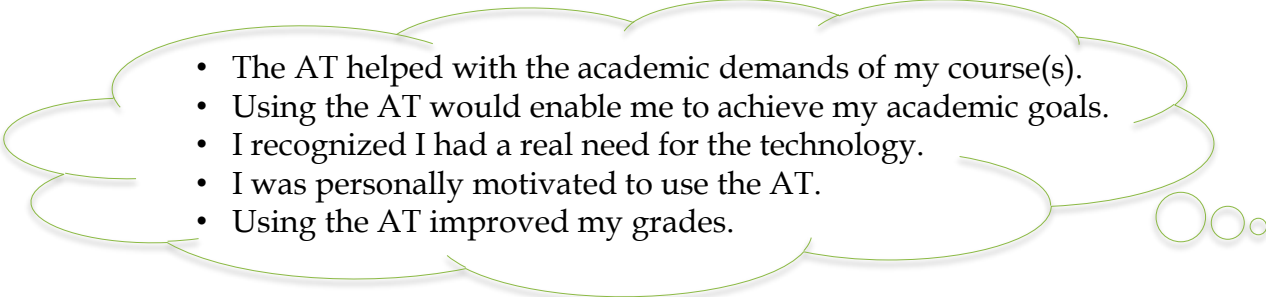
*However, that number varies by institution.

58% said Yes from UofA

83% said Yes from MacEwan

57% said Yes from NAIT

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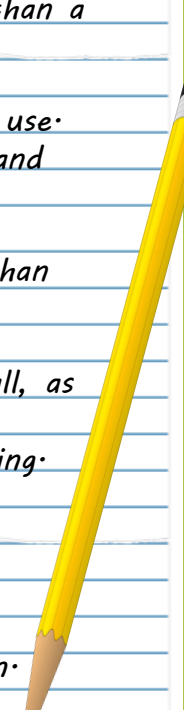# Why Do Some Students Still Use their AT, and Others Do Not?

Those who still used their AT were more likely to agree with the following statements than those who had stopped.

- The AT helped with the academic demands of my course(s).
- Using the AT would enable me to achieve my academic goals.
- I recognized I had a real need for the technology.
- I was personally motivated to use the AT.
- Using the AT improved my grades.

Here is what students said about their experiences with AT:

I still use the AT because:	I don't use the AT anymore because:
• It helps me manage time and process ideas better.	• It stopped working properly so I found other things that would work.
• It helps me stay on track with my textbook readings.	• [the AT] was not necessary — did not receive enough benefit.
• It's a necessary learning tool for me.	• I found it more of a hassle than a benefit.
• It's helpful when I'm studying and writing my assignments.	• It was overly complicated to use. It stopped working properly and was hard to fix.
• Helps reviewing and fits my study style.	
• It makes the process faster, and I typically make less mistakes, as a result I'm understanding more of what I'm reading or writing.	• I found it distracting more than anything.
• It has helped me to go back and listen to things I missed in class.	• I was not helpful to me at all, as I was already used to more traditional methods of studying.
• It is easy to use, and helps me keep up in classes, enhances my studying.	• It creates extra work.
	• I found a better solution.
• I find I am a much more successful student with the AT.	• I graduated from my program.

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Students Experiences with Training and AT

Do Student Report Having Received Training AT?
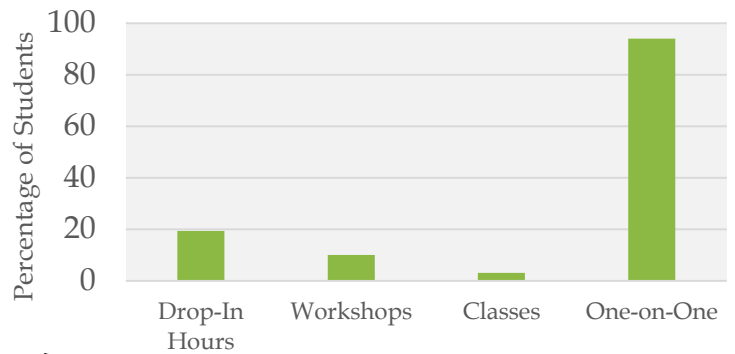
74% said Yes!*

*However, that varies by institution.

↓

63% said Yes from UofA
85% said Yes from MacEwan
58% said Yes from NAIT

What Training do Students Access?

Percentage of Students

	Drop-In Hours	Workshops	Classes	One-on-One

Overwhelmingly, students report accessing One-on-One support over any other type of AT training

Furthermore, the type of training students access does not differ by post-secondary institution.

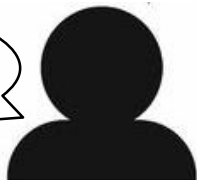## What Motivates Students to Participate in AT Training?

I felt that if I wanted to use the AT effectively, then I would need to know how to use it properly.

To make sure I was using it correctly.

I wanted to be able to have an idea of how best to use the AT, rather than try to figure it out on my own.

To make sure I'm getting the most of what I was offered and that I'm using it to the best of my ability.

I was encouraged by staff to pursue looking into AT.

I would like to improve my academic perform.

Please check out our website here as more information on this project becomes available.