Conclusions

(1) In what ways are faculty and staff using technology, personally and professionally?

Many faculty and staff members are utilizing technology in both aspects of their lives. Only 29.8% of them are not using a social networking site, such as Facebook or MySpace, and an equal 29.8% reported using one of these sites every day. Of these sites, almost 90% of them use Facebook.

(2) Are faculty and staff using Blackboard to its full potential?

After correlating internet usage and blackboard usage, we cannot conclude that the correlation between internet usage and Blackboard use is significant. In other words, just because the faculty and staff are using technology, they aren't necessarily utilizing what is available to its full potential. Furthermore, our results showed that even within the category of those who do utilize this service, some of the applications are rarely used.

(3) Is the newly implemented technology effective in the preparation and execution of classes, thus making it a worthwhile area to invest Truman's money?

After looking at the information collected from this survey, we can conclude that of the faculty that used Smartboards, there is a slightly larger population that believed the smart boards were effective. However, almost half of the population believed that Smartboards were not an effective tool in the class room. Although many faculty members have not had the opportunity to utilize a Smartboard in their classes, our results bring to light that the smart rooms may not be the best tool for all class room procedures. After running the K-W test, we concluded that the faculty members that are using the Smartboards frequently do find them significantly effective. One of the problems that our group encountered when analyzing the data was the diversity of the departments that participated in the study. Many departments only had a few participants representing them, and of them even less had used a smart room, so it was difficult to conclude rather different departments had specific opinions in the smart rooms. However, before spending the large sum of money that these rooms take to create, further investigation into the perceived effectiveness concerning each specific department would be beneficial.