Development and application of blended learning at the level of doctoral studies

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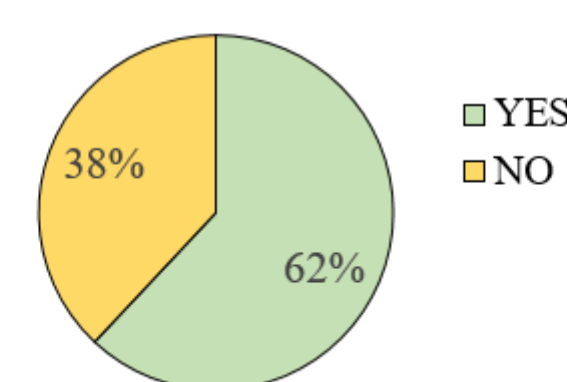(5) University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Jamnikarjeva ulica 101, Ljubljana, Slovenia
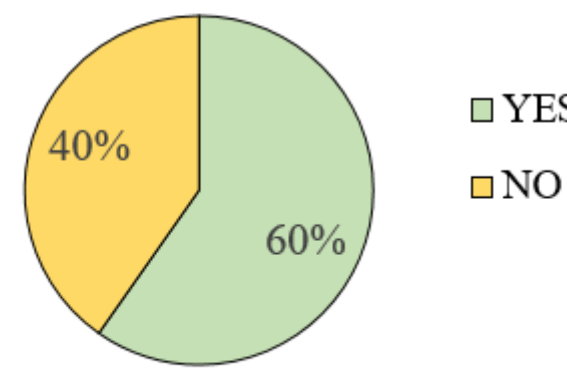(6) Piktorama d.o.o., Ižanska cesta 34 b, Ljubljana, Slovenia

The use of information and communication technologies (ICT) in higher education is inevitable. Their use in educational processes has many advantages and can improve their quality if used appropriately. In recent years, the use of blended learning has increased among educators and teachers. Blended learning is characterized by combining distance learning through digital media with traditional classroom learning (face-to-face learning). This paper presents the results of the use of blended learning in the international, interdisciplinary doctoral summer school Environmental Protection, which was held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, in the summer of 2016.
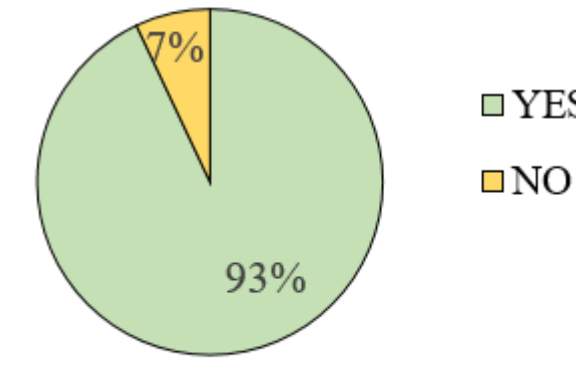
MOTIVATION

What is your opinion of a summer school held partly by distance learning (via the Internet) and partly using conventional teaching methods? Does such manner of learning seem interesting to you?
62% YES / 38% NO

Would you take part in the summer school with the suggested program, if it would involve the methodology of blended learning?
60% YES / 40% NO

Are in advance recorded lectures that you can watch at a time that suits you an advantage of this curriculum?
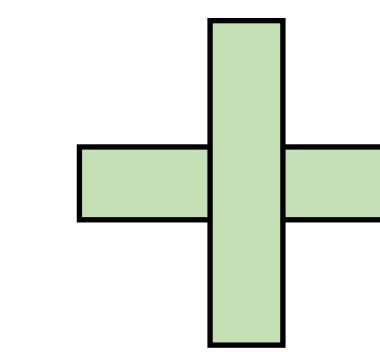93% YES / 7% NO

Pie charts show the most important results of the survey, which gave rise to the summer school using blended learning methods at the level of doctoral studies.

SUMMARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

- 15 in advance recorded lectures on the topic of environmental protection (distance learning)
- Lecturers from 8 countries and 8 universities
- More than 20 doctoral students from 7 European countries and 7 universities
- Combination of distance learning, face-to-face learning in classroom, field and laboratory work
- Interdisciplinary and international discussion on environmental issues
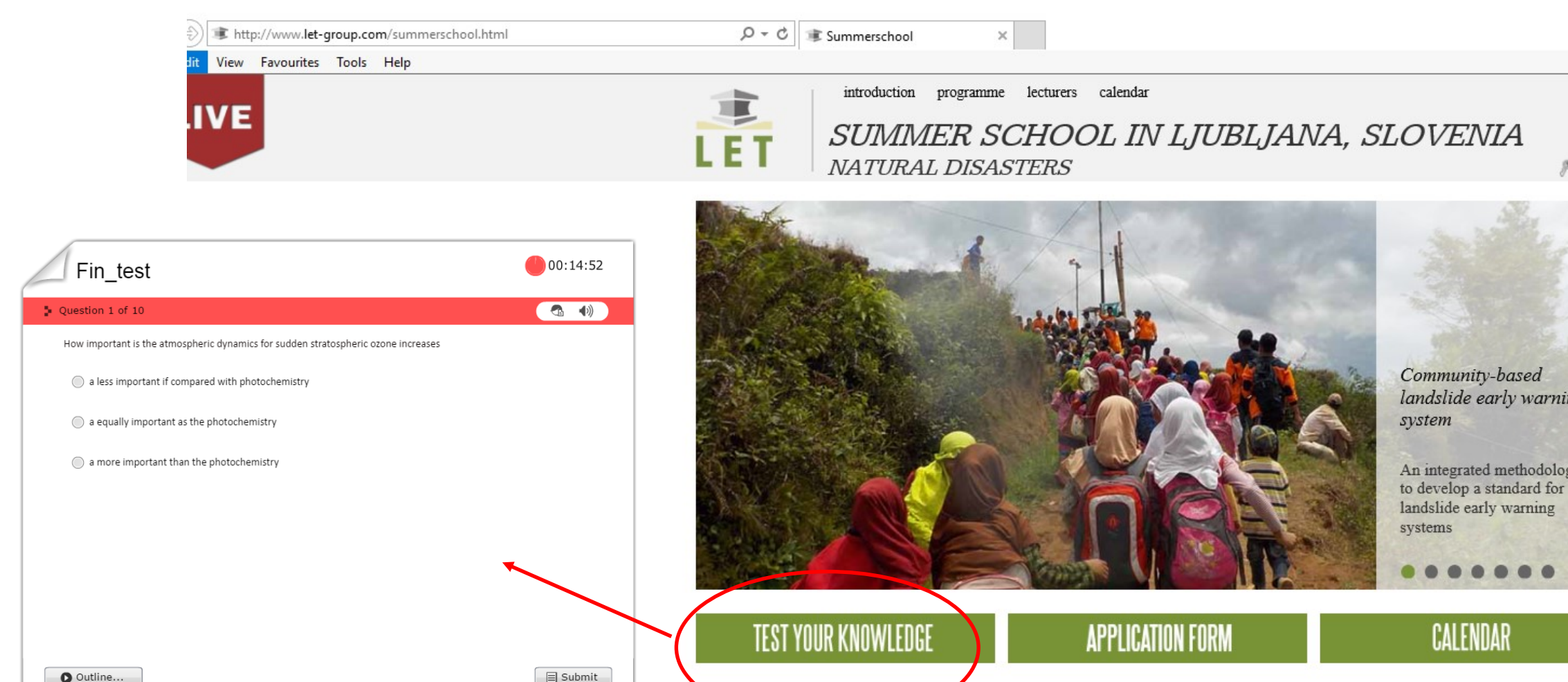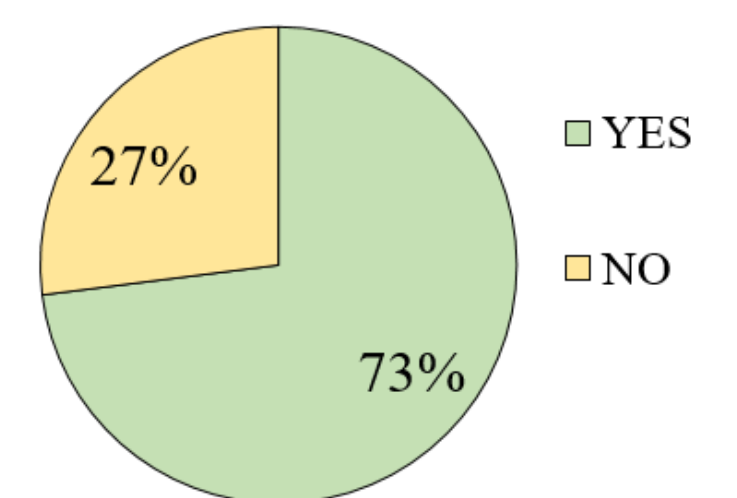
DISTANCE LEARNING + FACE-TO-FACE LEARNING = BLENDED LEARNING

Were your expectations fulfilled after the first two weeks of the summer school?
73% YES / 27% NO

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- 2nd international interdisciplinary doctoral summer school **NATURAL DISASTERS (21 MAY—10 JUNE 2017)**
- Part of the 2nd summer school will be participation at the **4th World Landslide Forum**
- Closing conference at the Second World Open Educational Resources Congress, which will be held **in September 2017 under the auspices of UNESCO**

4th WLF 2017
4th World Landslide Forum
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