

Usability Testing - January 21st-22nd, 2014

1st tester

- 7.06 - In the Fall 2013
- Has done western blots and FACS
- 7.03 - was taking it in Fall 2013 and dropped it.

Overall:

Different shade of green or blue --> does not like the two colors together

Center the screen

Go through the program and add all of the "?" marks to sections that need it w/ the corresponding explanations

Be able to delete old experiments

Sign-in:

Provide e-mail confirmation to verify the person who is signing in.

Fix the error message that appears if you use "try an experiment"

Assignment page:

Have the option to open it into a separate window.

Change "Select Your Assignments" to "Assignments"

Design page:

Check the PC default setting for font (font right now is Courier)

Set-up page:

Increase font for "Create new set-up"

Note:

- Wants to choose her technique before actually running her experiments

Select Your Technique page:

Change message for "no available...." for all of the techniques since it is confusing the first time you see it --> appears as if you cannot run any of those techniques.

Change the label "Available...." because it seems confusing.

Make the hyperlink to already available experiments much more clear so that it is clear that this is how you access older experiments.

Flow Cytometry Results page:

Change the message for the analysis tool or change the way the button works so that it is not confusing how to use it.

Western blot page:

Check font on the screen for the "In the Lab" feature because it is not the same

Does not know what the little round things are in black for the "In the Lab Feature" --> make them smaller and instead of black make it gray.

Reference Library:

Thought that it referred to the reference material needed to answer an actual assignment.

User Guide:

Check fonts and spacing.

Contact:

Change the way we ask for contact since we are asking for e-mail at the same time and have her e-mail information.

General Notes:

What she likes:

- Likes the look and feel of the home page
- Likes the 3 different tabs (Assignments, Experiments, & Lab Notebook)
- Likes the Design and Techniques section in the home page

What she does not like:

- Cannot delete experiments
- Be able to see the "hypothesis" as she is working through the application --> maybe will be with the Lab Notebook feature

2nd Tester

- 7.03 - Fall 2011

Overall:

Navigation bar needs arrows to inform directionality.

Put techniques into a drawer within the navigation bar so that they do not think it is clickable.

Label navigation bar "Experiment 1, 2...." to indicate that this is that particular experimental design, etc and not just questions that have to do with the actual assignment.

Make sure to have in multiple places where answers to the questions need to be submitted.

A little bit confused about the navigation bar --> why would you be at different points in different experiments

Set up age:

Change the location of the "Add multiple samples" so that it is to the right and change wording to "Add".

Flow cytometry

Change the progress bar so that it is not as long (have the size of the steps be the same as the western blot progress bar)

Bug: every time you go back to an old experiment it adds a new one.

Flow cytometry analysis:

Change the instructions for the button for drawing drawers and/or change the way the button is displayed and/or add additional buttons

Be able to superimpose the images.

General comments:

- Feels that the western blot functionality is more tangible because you do more than in flow cytometry

Tester #3

- Senior
- 7.06 Fall 2013
- Has done western blots but no flow cytometry
- Has used StarGenetics

Overall:

Confused about the navigation bar --> wants to click on the other techniques --> Include numbers as well as arrows.

Would like some visuals along the program to correspond with each step of a technique

User guide --> graphics of each little step.

Experimental set-up:

Confused about the term "set-up", are you setting up the experimental technique as well.

Verbiage about experimental set-up?

Did not know what the "Copy" icon is.

Flow cytometry analysis:

Is not sure what the analysis tool means but was able to figure out how to use it with the directions.

Western blotting:

Bug with adding marker to the second position

Notes:

What she likes:

- Likes that she can analyze different graphs --> would be even better to be able to overlay different graphs. Likes having this because this was missing in her 7.06 class
- Western blot --> likes how you can come back and forth within the different re-probes to look at different proteins.
- Likes that the western blot is not tedious.
- Good for given her some exposure to techniques.

What she does not like:

- Was not sure what to do with set-up.
- Design page --> rephrase question 3 "what technique would you use and why?"
- Better naming scheme for the "Experiment Name" field.
- Would like to see the biology principles illustrated along the user interface.

