



Welcome to the survey on the use of electronic lab books during the test phase at UDE.

The survey is only for people who have used an ELN at UDE as part of the testing process. If you are interested in using an ELN, please feel free to contact us (https://www.uni-due.de/rds/kontakt_formular.php). The questionnaire contains approximately 30 questions. Please take the time of about 15 minutes to complete the questionnaire in order to further enable or improve operations at UDE.

Section A: General questions

A1. Which lab book are you currently using?

eLabFTW	<input type="checkbox"/>
SciNote	<input type="checkbox"/>
eLabFTW and paper lab book	<input type="checkbox"/>
SciNote and paper lab book	<input type="checkbox"/>
paper lab book only	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other

A2. Have you worked with ELNs before? If yes, please specify the software used in the comment field.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

A3. How many experiments have you already created in the ELN during the test run?

none	<input type="checkbox"/>
1-2	<input type="checkbox"/>
< 50	<input type="checkbox"/>
> 50	<input type="checkbox"/>



Section B: Within your group/organization

B1. What function/role do you have in the group/organization?

- B.Sc./M.Sc. student
- PhD student
- PostDoc
- Prof.
- Team assistance/Technician
- Other

B2. Who is responsible within the ELN for maintaining shared equipment (devices, chemicals, ..., e.g. eLabFTW database items)?

The question refers to how the organization of the operation of ELNs is organized within your group.

- Student/scientific assistant
- PhD student
- PostDoc
- Prof.
- Team assistance/Technician
- Other

Other

B3. Who is responsible within the ELN for user management?

The question refers to how the organization of the operation of ELNs is organized within your group.

- Student/scientific assistant
- PhD student
- PostDoc
- Prof.
- Team assistance/Technician
- Other

Other



B4. How important is the sharing of the experiment within your group depending on the status?

	Very important	Important	Nice to have	Not necessary
Sharing final results	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sharing intermediate results	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sharing over the entire research period	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section C: Visibility supervisor

C1. How important is sharing the experiment depending on the people shared with?

	Very important	Important	Nice to have	Not necessary
Team assistance/Technician	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student assistance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PhD student	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supervisor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Students (Bachelor / Master or Interns)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
other colleague	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C2. Can supervisors look at the entries?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>
I don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>

C3. Would it be useful that the supervisor can look at the experiments?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes, but access only by arrangement for a certain time	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes, but access only after completion of the experiment	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section D: Benefits and reuse

D1. What benefits did you hope to gain from using ELNs when you first started?

Sharing experiments more easily	<input type="checkbox"/>
Using the status function (e.g. running, success)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Easier sample management	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creation of material databases within the ELN	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linking of items in the (material)database	<input type="checkbox"/>



- Duplicating already created experiments
- Using templates
- Attachment of files
- Timestamp function
- Scheduler, planner for usage classification
- Assignment of tags
- Data export
- Other

Other

D2. Which of the above benefits have occurred? Please briefly explain your assessment.

Sharing experiments more easily

Comment

Using the status function (e.g. running, success)

Comment

Easier sample management

Comment

Creation of material databases within the ELN

Comment

Linking of items in the (material)database

Comment

Duplicating already created experiments

Comment

Using templates

Comment



Attachment of files

Comment

Timestamp function

Comment

Scheduler, planner for usage classification

Comment

Assignment of tags

Comment

Data export

Comment

Other

Other

Section E: ContinueUsingELN

E1. Are you planning to continue using the ELN after the test phase?

Yes, only ELN

Yes, ELN and paper notebook

No

Not yet decided

E2. What features would be nice to have?

Offline use

Adding still missing (external) databases (which ones?)

Assignment of persistent identifiers

Search across all fields (metadata, tags, title, description)

More individual release options (e.g. release for individual persons)

Connection to LIMS (Laboratory Information and Management System) or other software (e.g. FlowJo, GraphPad Prism, ChemDoodle)

Special input and processing tools (e.g. scientific calculator, formula editor, dictaphone, digital pen, animal module, antibodies module, plasmids module, strains and cells module)

Improved organization of calendar entries (prevent deletion of appointments, prioritization of entries, avoid overlapping of appointments, reminders in the schedule)



Other

Other

E3. Which features are missing for further use?

The comment fields are optional, you are welcome to add additions to the selection items

Offline use

Comment

Adding still missing (external) databases (which ones?)

Comment

Assignment of persistent identifiers

Comment

Search across all fields (metadata, tags, title, description)

Comment

More individual release options (e.g. release for individual persons)

Comment

Connection to LIMS (Laboratory Information and Management System) or other software (e.g. FlowJo, GraphPad Prism, ChemDoodle)

Comment

Special input and processing tools (e.g. scientific calculator, formula editor, dictaphone, digital pen, animal module, antibodies module, plasmids module, strains and cells module)

Comment

Improved organization of calendar entries (prevent deletion of appointments, prioritization of entries, avoid overlapping of appointments, reminders in the schedule)

Comment



Other

Other

E4. Do you plan to use ELNs in teaching?

Yes

I am thinking about it

No

Section F: For practical use

F1. How did you begin using ELNs? What problems have occurred? What worked better than originally thought?

F2. Have you integrated existing databases/lists in the ELN or built new databases?

Yes, we use databases/lists within my group

No, not yet

F3. If possible, please describe what kind of database/list you have integrated into the ELN.

Section G: Search

G1. When you search the ELN, what exactly are you looking for?

Old lab entries

Keywords

Metadata

Title or description of the experiment

Other

Other



Section H: Usability and search

H1. The Operation via your device was ...

	very good	good	error-prone	not usable
Laptop/PC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Smartphone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tablet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

H2. The handling of the software was ...

	fully agree	mainly agree	neutral	mainly disagree	fully disagree
easy/intuitive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
well compatible with laboratory safety regulations (e.g. the wearing of gloves)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

H3. Do you use the ELN collaboratively?

Yes, within the group	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes, with UDE-internal collaborations partner	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes, with UDE-external collaborations partner	<input type="checkbox"/>
No, not at all	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other

H4. Do you collaborate with users who use other ELNs? If yes, please enter in the comment field which one is used and how the collaboration works.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section I: Support

I1. Was the introduction and overview of functions via video conference helpful?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No, please specify what is missing	<input type="checkbox"/>



I2. Would a written handout on how to use the ELN software be helpful?

Yes, that would be helpful

No, that is not necessary

I3. Are you generally interested in advanced training? (e.g. creation of templates)

Yes, please offer something like this

No, that is not necessary

I4. If you are planning to integrate a database/list into the ELN, would you be interested in assistance in this process through Research Data Services (RDS)?

Yes, that would be helpful

No, that is not necessary

Section J: Additional Support

J1. Are there aspects and assistance that were not covered in the introductory training but would have made it easier to get started using?

Yes, please specify in the comment field

No, all the necessary information was covered in the introduction

J2. What additional support would have been helpful?



Section K: Papercuts and Workarounds

K1. What frustrates you in your use of the ELN? Which step regularly leads to dissatisfaction (e.g. scrolling back to the right place when something has been saved or entered)

K2. What workarounds have you created for problems?

K3. Are there any comments you would like to share?

Thank you for your participation in the survey. By the way, from now on we also offer an online consultation about ELNs. Please feel free to drop by and exchange your questions and problems concerning ELNs at UDE.