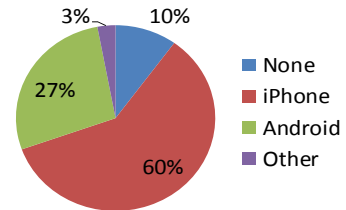




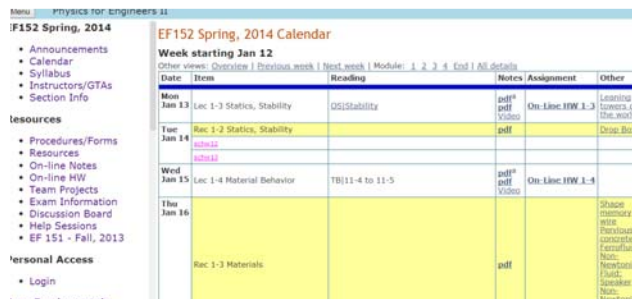
# Inside engage

## New Look to EF Class Web Sites

Prof. Schleiter kept himself busy over the holiday break by updating the Engineering Fundamentals class web sites. The primary purpose was to make the web sites easier to use on phones. As shown on the graph, 90% of our students own a smartphone. The page header for class pages was reduced to one line so you did not have to scroll down to get to the information you want, the left menu can



be toggled on and off with one tap allowing the menu to be hid when not needed, and the font size was increased on links to make it easier to select. The anecdotal feedback has been positive, as many students use their phones for the online homework and other class functions.



## EF Research Featured in International Innovation

The Engineering Fundamentals research into student engagement through homework was featured in the recent issue of International Innovation. International Innovation, published by Research Media, is the leading global dissemination resource for the wider scientific, technology and research communities, dedicated to disseminating the latest science, research and technological innovations on a global level. The article, "Making the Grade", discusses the role homework plays in improving student learning, and the bonus strategy we have used to encourage completion of assignments. The article can be viewed at [http://ef.engr.utk.edu/efd/publications/p23-25\\_Richard\\_Bennett.pdf](http://ef.engr.utk.edu/efd/publications/p23-25_Richard_Bennett.pdf).

## New EF Study Room

Two years ago we opened a study room in Estabrook that is staffed in the afternoon by undergraduate assistants. The study room became quite popular, and we outgrew the current space. We were able to move into a larger study room over the holiday break that is about twice as large and has plenty of electrical outlets, which the previous study room did not have. Some of the feedback we received last semester was:



- Study room was awesome! It is probably the main reason I'm passing this class. It was so convenient to be able to get help almost any time of the day. I did all of my homework here, and it helped me a lot. I probably learned more in the study room than I did in lecture.
- Currently filling this out from the study room. Definitely going to use it more next semester.
- The study room is quiet. I like how only engineers are in there, so you can have an environment that is helpful for doing engineering homework. We could work together.