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Moving the Masses: Modifying Training to Meet Faculty Needs

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MOVING THE MASSES:
MODIFYING TRAINING TO MEET FACULTY NEEDS

BLACKBOARD WORLD 2013
#MOVING

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July 10, 2013
About the Presenter

Brett Creech, Educational Technologist

- I have worked with Blackboard for over 8 years.
- Member of the Consulting and Training team within Purdue’s Teaching and Learning Technologies Group, Information Technology at Purdue.

Several other facts:
- MS Degree in Student Affairs and Higher Education.
- Adjunct online faculty at Ivy Tech Community College’s Lafayette campus.

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ABOUT PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1869 and Named for benefactor John Purdue

- Purdue system includes 4 campuses, 10 Statewide Technology sites, and several programs at IUPUI.
- Enrollment: 75,703 students statewide.

- Consulting and Training Team
  - Part of Information Technology at Purdue (Central IT)
  - Team Overview:
    - Manager
    - 6 Educational Technologists
    - 2 Assistive Technology Specialists
    - 2 Support Specialists
    - 8 Student Employees
A Very Brief History of Purdue’s LMS Experience

- Purdue started using WebCT around 1997
- Moved to Vista 1.2/2.0 in 2003
- Last Vista installation: Vista 8
- Started Blackboard Learn pilot in Fall 2011
  - 4 courses, 4 faculty, 44 students
- Expanded pilots in Spring, Summer 2012
  - 22 courses, 48 faculty, 4000+ students in Spring 2012
  - 134 courses, 109 faculty, 2000+ students in Summer 2012
- Fall 2012: Faculty option to use Blackboard Learn or Vista
  - Learn: 1,013 courses, 1,821 course sections, 1,491 faculty participating, 31,036 students enrolled.
- Spring 2013: All courses in Blackboard Learn
- December 2013: Vista to be decommissioned.
ISSUE: FACULTY TRAINING

Or, How to Move Thousands of Faculty to a New LMS

• Multiple Logistical Concerns With Change:
  – Purdue has 3 Campuses: West Lafayette, Calumet, North Central
  – Statewide Network of School of Technology campuses
  – Need for using system with non-academic courses:
    • Professional/Continuing Education
    • 4-H
    • Purdue Extension Offices
    • Intercollegiate Athletics
  – Faculty on sabbatical and away from campus

• Multiple People-Related Concerns With Change:
  – Who likes change?
  – Thousands of full-time faculty, part-time faculty, teaching assistants, course coordinators, assistants, etc, who needed as quickly as possible to help accommodate move.
  – Less than 10 full-time staff dedicated to help with training
WHAT DID WE DO?

Changes in Training Were Required!

Previous training for Vista had been demonstrations, with limited hands-on training.

Decision made to alter training for Blackboard Learn:

- Training sessions created to logically cover certain material
- Session handouts created with practical exercises for trainees
- Sessions revamped:
  - One facilitator, multiple assistants
  - Self-paced, hands-on lessons
  - Supplemental learning materials (videos) created that mirror the lessons.
WHY DID WE DO THIS?

The reasons aren’t all that shocking...

Our training style was altered for several reasons:

• Needed to address the multiple learning styles of our trainees.
• Found that trainees were spending time in the session on things like email, Facebook, web surfing, and other non-related tasks.
• Allow more savvy faculty to move at their own pace, while also being able to provide 1:1 assistance to those who need extra help.
• Able to train more people; approximately 35 at a time.
WHAT DID WE END UP WITH?

A Whole New Training Experience!

We ended up with multiple training sessions:

- Learn Essentials
- Collaborative Tools
- Assignments and Assessments
- Grade Center
- Moving Content from Vista to Learn
- Respondus
- Team-built Assessment Guide for Learn
- Sessions delivered via Adobe Connect for Statewide Technology faculty.
ARE WE DONE CHANGING OUR TRAINING?

Not While New Features are Introduced in Service Packs!

We’re ready for change!

- Created new process to update documentation and workshop materials for impending upgrade to SP11.
- Offering both self-paced and directed options for our Essentials workshop.
- Preparing a fully online Blackboard training course for release in Fall 2013.
- Offering a website with our handouts and training videos that correspond with our training courses.
- We actively use the results of performance surveys to see where we can improve.
RESOURCES

Otherwise known as things you can use!

- Handout of our current *Essentials* workshop

- Our Workshops website: [http://www.itap.purdue.edu/learning/tools/blackboard/learn_workshops.html](http://www.itap.purdue.edu/learning/tools/blackboard/learn_workshops.html)

THANK YOU!!!

Your time is appreciated!

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• If you would like to provide feedback for this session please email: BbWorldFeedback@blackboard.com

• The title of this session is: Moving the Masses – Modifying Training to Meet Faculty Needs.