Blackboard Updates

Drag and Drop Files
When instructors create content items, assignments, and web links, they can drag files from their computers to the “hot spot” in the Attach Files area.

Dropbox Integration
Users can attach files in the Content Editor and submit assignments from their personal Dropbox accounts using this new cloud service integration.

Submission Confirmation Receipts
Instructors can keep track of all student submissions, regardless of whether the attempt or assignment is deleted, or the submission history is changed. A submission receipt is captured at the time of submission and includes information such as attached file information, date, and time. This feature provides evidence for academic disputes. A receipt is generated for each group member when a student submits on behalf of the group, and the anonymous state of an assignment is respected. For assignments with multiple attempts, students receive a different number for each submission.

Improved Behavior for Self and Peer Assessments
Non-participants during the submission period are excluded from the evaluation process. Submitters with partial or complete submissions will be distributed to peers for evaluations. By pairing an assessment with Adaptive Release, it’s possible to configure Self- and Peer-Assessments for individual groups.

Reminders
Instructors can send email reminders from Grade Center to students and members of groups who have missing coursework. Students receive a system-generated email that lists the course, coursework, and the due date if included. Instructors can also send reminders for assignments with anonymous or delegated grading enabled. To protect anonymity, students’ names and attempt statuses aren’t revealed.

Fewer Needs Grading Items
When multiple-attempt assessments are set to calculate using the first or last attempt, there are potentially numerous other attempts that will never be used for the grade calculation. This can be problematic in anonymous or delegated grading scenarios where it can be difficult to determine which attempts are associated with students and therefore require grading. A new filter is now available both in the Needs Grading workflow, as well as within the Grade Center, to show or hide these attempts. Attempts that won't calculate towards the assessment grade are now indicated with an icon.

Course Activity Report Enhancement
The Course Activity Overview report has been updated to improve the experience for larger enrollment courses. Instructors can filter the report and break down the calculations of student activity by course groups.
**Online Courses**

**Proctoring Service for Online Learning**
Proctoring services provide a secure, convenient way for instructors to administer online exams to students in remote locations. Selecting a proctoring service to support your online or blended course will depend on many factors. Academic Technologies, along with other campus partners, have completed an evaluation of six proctoring solutions, and have concluded that two vendors will meet current instructor needs, ProctorU and Examity.

**For more information on these resources visit:**


**Questions email:**

acadtech@cornell.edu

**Blackboard Updates**

**Blackboard End of Semester Information**
At the end of the semester, there are several cleanup activities we recommend as best practice:

- Collecting and archiving student assignments
- Exporting the Grade Center
- Exporting course content for offline backup

**For more information visit:**

http://bbhelp.cit.cornell.edu/end-of-semester/

**Classroom Technologies**

**Turnitin New Features in June**
Turnitin Feedback Studio will be available starting this June. This new interface streamlines feedback and grading, is accessible, and works on mobile devices.

**Learn more:**


**Blackboard Updates**

**Blackboard Summer & Fall Planning**
Instructors can setup Blackboard course sites for summer and fall semesters by requesting a course in Faculty Center.

**For detailed instructions visit:**

http://bit.ly/2qFBuWu

**Online Courses**

**Cornell Online Community Event**
Creating online courses isn’t something you can just jump into, but those who have done it are making an important contribution to the university’s mission. That was the theme of the third annual meeting of the Cornell Online Learning Community (COLC) March 7, where educators gathered to share their experiences in offering Cornell courses in “Any study, to any person, anytime, anywhere” — the university’s unofficial motto.

COLC began with discussions among the Academic Technologies division of CIT; eCornell, the university’s for-profit online learning subsidiary; the ILR School; the School of Hotel Administration; and the School of Continuing Education and Summer Sessions. Other college units have joined.

Keynote speaker Julia Thom-Levy, associate professor of physics and provost’s fellow for pedagogical innovation, cited evidence that students learn better if they are engaged in discussion or other active participation in class, rather than just sitting and absorbing information. If they can watch lectures online or do self-paced study they can be prepared to participate in the classroom. Research by the provost’s office shows that students agree, she said.

In a panel discussion, faculty members who have developed online courses described their experience. There were “surprises,” said Brad Bell, associate professor of human resource studies in the ILR School: “It’s not the same as building a regular course.”

**Read full Cornell Chronicle article at:**

http://www.news.cornell.edu/stories/2017/03/online-course-creators-meet-and-share-experiences

**Resources for course creators at:**

http://acadtech.cit.cornell.edu/online-learning/

**Contact us at:** elearningsupport@cornell.edu

**Training & Resources**

For information on events for instructors, visit the Center for Teaching Excellents Events page:

https://cte.cornell.edu/events/index.html
Cornell’s Academic Learning Management System Evaluation

Cornell’s review of our academic learning management system (LMS), Blackboard Learn, is underway. With the contract up for renewal on June 30, 2018, Cornell is conducting a formal evaluation, led by Julia Thom-Levy, Provost’s Fellow for Pedagogical Innovation, and Academic Technologies.

The first phase of the evaluation is nearing completion. We have collected faculty, staff, and student feedback concerning current uses of Blackboard and any alternative LMS. Over the past few months, we have:

- Completed a survey of the faculty. We received 723 responses for a 28% response rate. We are currently analyzing that data.
- Conducted interviews with more than 40 representative faculty LMS users.
- Conducted requirements workshops with faculty support organizations such as the Center for Teaching Excellence and the Office of Online Learning in Academic Technologies.
- Conducted focus groups with graduate and undergraduate students.

The second phase of the evaluation is a pilot of three alternative LMS options: Blackboard Ultra, Brightspace, and Canvas. We have recruited a representative group of faculty from across Cornell to pilot each of the systems for the fall 2017 semester. Academic Technologies is working with each vendor to establish sandbox courses that can be provided to interested parties.

The project will conclude with a formal evaluation report that will be presented to the Faculty Senate and the Provost in the spring of 2018. If the decision is to move to a new system, the transition will occur over a series of semesters beginning in fall 2018 and concluding by spring 2020.

For more information or to get involved visit:

https://it.cornell.edu/lmseval

WebEx Retiring June, Use Zoom

WebEx will no longer be available on July 1, 2017. If you have saved recordings in WebEx and want to keep them, you’ll have to move them out of the WebEx environment.

Information on how to move WebEx recordings can be found at:


Zoom, Cornell’s new web conferencing service, also allows for the recording of meetings and webinars. Zoom has many features, including:

- Audio options
- Recording options
- Webinars
- Recorded trainings
- Live polling
- Break out rooms

For more information on Zoom visit the Zoom service page:

https://it.cornell.edu/zoom

New MOOC Teaches Contract Basics

The new Cornell MOOC, Structuring Business Agreements for Success, features numerous examples of situations in which you may need to make a deal and provides practical information and resources to help you construct successful agreements. Understanding how to construct an effective agreement is critical, and yet, many people are unfamiliar with how an effective agreement is structured and what they can do to support a successful deal. Three Cornell Law professors and several practicing attorneys will teach a range of topics that will serve as a foundation for structuring successful contracts. The course begins on May 23, 2017.

Enroll today:

https://www.edx.org/course/structuring-business-agreements-success-cornellx-deal101x
Academic Technologies offers many services and resources to support your teaching and learning needs.

Supported Services
- Manage your courses online (Blackboard)
- Connect online with web conferencing (Zoom, Blackboard Collaborate)
- Check originality of student work (Turnitin)
- Record and share lectures (Panopto, others)
- Collect data using surveys (Qualtrics)
- Get immediate class feedback with classroom polling (>clicker)
- Use the teaching tools available at our Computing Labs and Academic Technology Center
- Assess student work and grade online (Blackboard, Digication ePortfolios)

Getting Help
Self Help:
Visit our help sites for how-tos and answers to frequently asked questions!
- pollinghelp.cit.cornell.edu
- bbhelp.cit.cornell.edu
- eportfoliohelp.cit.cornell.edu
- videohelp.cit.cornell.edu
- collabhelp.cit.cornell.edu

Set up a consultation with an Academic Technologist:
We provide academic technology consultations to assist in selecting the best technologies to support instructional goals, engage students, enhance lectures, collaborate, and manage large courses.

Contact the Academic Technology Center:
Web atc.cit.cornell.edu
Email acadtech@cornell.edu
Call 607-255-9760, 9am - 5pm, Monday through Friday
Walk in 123 CCC, 9am - 5pm, Monday through Friday

Sign up for Teach with Tech eNews: