



Learning Management System Team

Durham Technical Community College

Information Session

October 1, 2010

About the LMS Team

- Formed in October 2009 as a task force
 - To educate ourselves and faculty on decisions facing the college and on available options
 - To recommend a future path
 - To outline an implementation timeline
 - To monitor implementation
- Now a standing committee

Rationale

From UNC-Charlotte's *Report to the Provost from the LMS Evaluation Committee* (May 2009):

Like all electronic technologies, LMSs are constantly evolving. This evolution imposes the need for continuous evaluation, consideration of alternatives, and appraisal of the resources and opportunities currently available. ...

Avoiding change is not an option. Initiating change provides the best option for moving in a direction that we own.

Team members

Karen McPhaul, Chair

Tracy Mancini (English/Humanities)

Steve Leadon (Biology)

Brent McCardle (Opticianry)

Charlene West (Info Systems)

Peter Wooldridge (Student Learning)

Becky Roehrs (Con Ed)

Megan Nicholson (ITSD)

Janice Stuart (Adult HS)

Dave Sorenson (ex officio)

Susan Horton (ex officio)

Blackboard at Durham Tech

- Started using Bb in 2000
- Today's use:

Curriculum classes

- 275 instructor users
- 671 sections with Bb sites (80% of all sections)
- 5,400 student users (95% of all students)

Adult High School / Basic Skills

- 4 instructor users
- 12 sections with Bb sites
- 93 student users

Continuing Education

- 30 instructor users
- 1,000+ student users per year

Blackboard and NCCCS

- In 2006, system office began paying for Bb for all community colleges
 - \$1.3 million (2006-07)
 - \$1.5 million (2010-11)
- For Durham Tech's license, they are paying
 - \$37,514 (2010-11)
 - \$41,265 (2011-12 estimate)
- Continued funding by NCCCS is not assured

Motivating factors

- Possible LMS funding changes
- Need to periodically assess
- Blackboard, Inc's reputation
- Availability of new options, particularly open source
 - Moodle
 - Sakai

Open Source vs. Proprietary

- Free?
- Who develops it?
- Can be modified?
- Can a corporation buy it out?

Moodle – General Public License (GPL)

Sakai – Educational Community License (ECL)

NCCCS and Moodle

- August 2009: Assessment Report
“Is Moodle a viable alternative to Bb?”
 - Case studies of 4 colleges that migrated
- August 2010: Feasibility Study
“What is the best LMS for the NCCCS?”
 - Two LMS solution

Evaluation Criteria

- **Usability**
 - Student, faculty, and learning friendly
- **Content conversion and creation**
 - Migrating existing content
- **Interactivity and assessment**
 - Tools for students to collaborate and contribute
 - Tools for instructors to assess and give feedback
- **Interoperability**
 - With Colleague and future products
- **Scalability and sustainability**
 - Cost, support, stability

Forward thinking



Forward thinking





What is it?

- Released in 2002
- Created by Martin Dougiamas as part of his PhD thesis
- Ongoing development coordinated by moodle.org (Dougiamas is lead developer)
- 4 commercial Moodle partners in US offer support, training, consulting, and hosting



Who is using it?

- 10 community colleges in NC
(12 or more are migrating)
- App State, Mt. Olive, UNC-A, NCSU,
UNC-Charlotte, UNC-Pembroke
- Cal State, UCLA, Open University (UK)
- More! (how many?)



How did we learn about it?

What did we think of it?



What is it?

- Released in 2004
- Created through collaborative efforts of MIT, Stanford, Indiana, Michigan, and UC
- Ongoing development coordinated by Sakai Foundation, governed by board of educators
- Several commercial partners offer support, training, consulting, and hosting



Who is using it?

- **UNC-CH began pilot in Spring 2009**
 - 5,000 student users in Fall 2010
- **Univ of Virginia, Virginia Tech, Wake Forest, Georgia Tech, Univ of Florida**
- **More**



How did we learn about it?

What did we think of it?



Blackboard

Where is it going?

- Project NG
 - Bb 8 Gradebook
 - Bb 9.0 & 9.1
 - Redesigned interface
 - New features: Blogs, wikis, journals, “mash ups”
 - Waiting on bug fixes
 - Some training will be needed
- Improving support; quality issues remain



Blackboard

Who is using it?

- Bb retains significant market share (80%?)
- As of August 2010, in NCCCS:
 - 46 colleges use Bb as main LMS
 - 10 colleges use Moodle as main LMS
 - 2 colleges use CampusCruiser as main LMS
- Wake Tech, Fayetteville Tech, Cape Fear are a few large colleges remaining on Bb



Blackboard

How did we learn about it?

What did we think of it?

Where are we now?

- Report to president
 - Sakai pilot
- Support from president
 - LMS faculty choose is LMS they will use
- Datatel Intelligent Learning Platform (ILP)
 - Partnership with Moodlerooms
- No decision yet
 - Expanding Sakai pilot in Spring 2011

When decision is made...

Priorities for implementation

- Training
- Content migration
- Reasonable timeframe
 - During transitional period, would run 2 LMSs

To learn more

- TLC on Sakai Pilot – Nov 5 @ 10:30 am
- Visit our web site and blog
- Visit our meetings!
- Talk to team members
- Try Sakai on your own at
 - <http://mysakai.rsmart.com>



Questions?