Support for Blackboard 9.1 Course Development/Delivery

On behalf of the Blackboard Transition Core Team, welcome to the second semester of the transition to Blackboard Learn 9.1. More than 420 faculty and staff have participated in Blackboard Training since July 2011, and 106 faculty are utilizing Blackboard Learn 9.1 this spring semester, with a total of 338 course offerings and 5,339 enrolled students. In addition, there are also 1,145 courses on FerrisConnect Vista. Many who trained are preparing their Summer or Fall 2012 courses. Please remember that all courses that utilize FerrisConnect Vista must be switched to Blackboard Learn 9.1 by Fall 2012. It is also important to recognize that early adopters recommend building the course anew rather than migrating from WebCT to Blackboard. Plan ahead to allow sufficient time.

There are many resources available to support you and your efforts to successfully use Blackboard Learn 9.1. These resources include:

1. www.ferris.edu/ferrisconnect
   Since January 2011, when the pilot of Blackboard Learn 9.1 began, a website has been maintained that focuses on both course management systems--Blackboard Learn 9.1 and FerrisConnect Vista. Among the things you'll find there are:
   - Training schedule
   - Information about known issues and how to work around them
   - Advice about which browsers to use
   - TAC hours
   - Student and instructor user manuals
   - And much more!

2. Blackboard On Demand Learning Center (http://ondemand.blackboard.com/)
   The Blackboard On Demand Learning Center is a rich library of short videos and documents that will help instructors and students learn how to use Blackboard Learn 9.1.

3. The Blackboard Learn 9.1 Training Course (available to those who signed up for training; log in to MyFSU and click on the "Learn" bulldog icon).
   Those who have attended the Blackboard Learn 9.1 training session can return to the training course by logging into MyFSU and clicking on the "Learn" bulldog icon near the top right of the page. Once there, you can return to particular modules in the training course, access the Blackboard On Demand Learning Center, and more. This course can also be taken in a self-paced mode, in addition to its use in face-to-face training workshops.
   All enrollees have also been assigned a mentor. Your mentor's name should be included in the training course name; if you don't know who your mentor is, write to Gloria Lukusa at lukusag@ferris.edu

4. Atomic Learning (Log in to MyFSU and look for "Atomic Learning" in the list of links under "Login Links" on the left.)
   The University purchased access to Atomic Learning in late Summer 2011. In addition to more than 100 short, instructional videos on how to use Blackboard Learn 9.1, you will find tutorials on the Office Suite, Photo Story, Camtasia, and thousands more covering a wide range of software products. This resource is available for all faculty, staff, and students.
5. **Faculty Trainers/Mentors**
Faculty throughout the University participated in training in July 2011 and completed the Quality Course Design Framework faculty learning community. The individuals who serve as trainers and mentors, are:

- Eunice Beck, UC
- James Bender, COEHS
- Allison Bernknopf, COP
- Patrick English, CET
- Clifton Franklund, CAS
- Lisa Eshbach, COB
- Kim Hancock, COP
- Harvey Hanna, CAS
- Gloria Lukusa-Barnett, UC
- Sheila MacEachron, CAHS
- Tara McCrackin, KCAD
- Peter Raphael, COB
- Randy Vance, MCO

6. **Technology Assistance Center** (TAC) -- call 231.591.4822
(www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/mytechsupport/tachours.htm)
TAC is available 24/7 to respond to questions you may have.

7. **Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning** (FCTL) -- call 231.591.3826 (www.ferris.edu/fctl)
FCTL has two Instructional Technologists who can assist you--Jackie Hughes (Coordinator of Instructional Technology) and Andrew Peterson (Instructional Technologist). Call ext. 3826 to contact Jackie or Andrew.

8. **Special Workshops**
Watch for a forthcoming brochure that will list special dates when mentors will be on hand in FLITE or in other buildings to provide one-on-one assistance, including the “check off” for readiness for BB 9.1. Extra sessions will be scheduled by request for particular departments, colleges, or other groups.

9. **Requesting a Development Shell**
To get a course development shell, log in to MyFSU, click on the Faculty Services tab, and click on the FerrisConnect Development Course Request form under the FerrisConnect Help Channel.

10. **The Core Team for Blackboard Learn 9.1 Transition**
We are available to respond to questions, problems, etc. We also welcome your suggestions. We are:

- Gloria Lukusa-Barnett (UC): Blackboard Learn 9.1 Training Coordinator (ext. 2842)
- Mary Holmes, Blackboard Learn 9.1 Project Manager (ext. 2067)
- Roberta Teahen (ext. 3805)
- Jackie Hughes (ext. 5439)
- Todd Stanislav (ext. 3541).

Ask questions about how to do things you want in Blackboard 9.1, as many features function differently, and our most experienced users know how to make it work in BB9.1. We hope the resources provided enable you and your students to successfully use Blackboard Learn 9.1 in the teaching and learning process and continue to enhance the quality of instruction at Ferris!