FYI

2010/04/04

LMS DECISION SHOWCASE - THURSDAY, APRIL 8

Thursday April 8th at the Spring Showcase we will begin in earnest the discussion and process for deciding the replacement for Blackboard Vista. (see http://www.nau.edu/~d-elearn/events/index.php)

Where: Forestry Rm 17 (Building 82 South Campus)
When: 9:30am - 1:30pm, Thursday April 8th

Agenda

- At 9:30 we will start with discussions/presentations on current and emerging services and tools available through the e-Learning Center
- From 10:00 - 11:30 we will discuss and have a presentation on current options and trends for Learning Management Systems and alternatively personally developed Network Learning Environments.
- From 11:30-noon, refreshments to augment your sack lunch you might bring
- From noon - 1:30 we will present overviews of the two most likely candidates to replace Bb Vista, first Bb Learn and second Moodle.

Background

Our current Learning Management System (LMS) is Blackboard Vista. Blackboard announced that Vista will no longer be available for our use in 2013. Working backwards, accounting for 12 months to take care of incompletes and grade challenges, our last courses offered in Vista should be no later than Fall 2011. Assuming it will take about 12 months to migrate all our courses we need to start the process by
January 2011. Therefore, our decision must be made no later than mid to late Fall 2010. As we collect information and have materials to share, see the LMS Decision Committee site at http://www2.nau.edu/~provo-p/pacac/.

Be Involved

There are really four different ways or levels you can be involved in this decision.

1. Come to public events, review online materials and videos where the options are discussed, then provide your thoughts through the detailed survey(s) we will be sending out.

2. Spend some time in the test environments to experience the potential option, then complete surveys or participate in focus groups to share your thoughts and recommendations.

3. Develop materials in one of the systems we review in pilot/test mode for one of your online classes or as a supplement for an in person class offered summer 2010 or Fall 2010. In Fall 2010 we will present results of these test courses and feedback from the faculty and students involved.

4. Wait until the decision is made but then attend training to be prepared to happily move old material or to develop new materials in the new system.

What Next

Within a couple of weeks you will receive a survey/request for information to help us determine your priorities and issues with the current system, assess your needs for the replacement, and for you to convey your desired level of involvement in this decision process.

E-Learning and ITS can and will support whatever system the university community can come to consensus as the best direction for NAU's online course activities. As a result of this process the decision/recommendation to the President and his Cabinet will be made by the Provost's Academic Computing Advisory Committee. (see http://www2.nau.edu/~provo-p/pacac/)