

**If you build it, *will* they come?
Using Blackboard Vista to develop an e-Learning Commons.**

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Some Lessons:

- ✓ Have a clearly defined (and focused) raison d'être
- ✓ Look to the content
- ✓ Opt in (ie. recruit) rather than opt-out
- ✓ Promote, promote, promote
- ✓ Seek out partners
- ✓ Be prepared for little initial pick up

Recommended Readings:

- Bender, E. and Gray, D. (1999). The scholarship of teaching and learning. *Research and Creative Activity* 22(1): 3-5.
- Breslin, J.; Decker, S. (2007). The Future of Social Networks on the Internet: The Need for Semantics. *IEEE Internet Computing*, 11, 6: 86-90.
- Huber, M.T. and Hutchings, P. (2005). *The advancement of learning: Building the learning commons*. Jossey-Bass.

Selective Online Examples:

Educause Connect, Teaching and Learning

http://connect.educause.edu/term_view/Teaching+and+Learning

e-Learning Community at the University of British Columbia

https://www.elearning.ubc.ca/home/index.cfm?menuClicked=11%2F&p=main/dsp_community_index.cfm

Digital Learning Commons

<http://www.learningcommons.org/educators/>

The e-Learning Guild

<http://www.elearningguild.com/>

<http://www2.nau.edu/jjd23/eCommons>