Here's what's new in CIDT!

CIDT: News

Blackboard Updates

Cloud Storage Integration

With this release, instructors and students have access to an aggregated cloud service that lets users connect to their preferred cloud storage accounts (OneDrive, OneDrive for Business, Box, DropBox, and Google Drive) and place content directly into their course. More information can be found here: Add Files from Cloud Storage

Grading in Blackboard Instructor App

This release provides support for grading in Blackboard Instructor. Instructors and graders can now easily identify courses where they need to grade student submissions. They can review, annotate, and grade submissions and quickly publish the grades back to students. More information on grading in Blackboard Instructor can be found here: Blackboard Instructor Grading

Download Annotated PDF's

Users were accustomed to downloading annotated files when Crocodoc handled inline file rendering. With the switch to New Box View, this capability wasn't available and highly requested. Blackboard listened and developed the ability to download annotated files using the New Box View.

In this release, both instructors and students can download certain file types (DOC, DOCX, PDF, PPT, PPTX, XLS, XLSX) with annotations as an annotated PDF. Students can download the annotated file after their submission has been graded. Visit Inline Grading and New Box View Update on the Blackboard Community for more information and a video demonstration.

Resolved Issues

* Quick Learner Feedback Assignment Attachments Results in 404 - Article #48651

* Error Displayed when Attempting to Access Assessments – Article #49524

* Discrepancy Between Total Number of Hits in Access/Content and Access/Date Sections of the All User Activity Inside Content Areas Course Report - Article #45862

Courses are now Automated!

CampusConnect and Blackboard recently received a pretty exciting update. Now, any course in CampusConnect is automatically created in Blackboard! This means that instructors will be enrolled in their courses as they are created, and Blackboard will automatically update the adding/dropping of students throughout the semester. Each course will start with the standard course template, and the student enrollment is updated every five minutes.

Course Copy Request Form

Although courses are now automatically generated in Blackboard, course copies are not. If you would like your course to be copied over from a previous semester, be sure to fill out the Course Copy Request Form! You can find it here: Course Copy Request Form

Not Anymore/GOLD

As students begin enrolling for next semester's classes, you may begin receiving inquiries about a "Safe Schools: Not Anymore" hold on their CampusConnect account. The "Not Anymore" program is the updated version of Southeastern's previous "Haven: Sexual Assault" training module. If you or your students would like to know more about how to access the "Not Anymore" program, please contact CIDT at (580)745-3185 or CIDT@se.edu.

Along with the "Not Anymore" program, please remember to remind your students about completing their GOLD orientation! If students have not submitted their completion badges by the beginning of the Spring semester, they may fall behind in their course. If you have any questions, feel free to contact CIDT!

Pros/Cons of Digital Publisher Content

Many e-books integrate digitally with Blackboard and have been a valuable resource to enhance many of our courses. It is important to know the pros and cons regarding their use though. The information below is not intended to promote either side; however, it provides some key points to consider when deciding whether or not you should use this digital content.

Pros:

(1) Embedded Content: E-books have interactions that promote student engagement and learning, such as videos, games, puzzles, and quizzes.
(2) Pushes grades to Blackboard: When the e-book is integrated with Blackboard, graded activities completed in the book / publisher site can be pushed to the Blackboard grade center.
(3) Accessibility: Digital content provides more accessible content for students who need screen readers and other accommodations.
(4) Mobile Friendly: Digital content can often be easily accessed via mobile devices.
(5) Lower cost: E-books are often more affordable for students than printed books.

Cons:

(1) Blackboard time reports are skewed: When students access publisher content from within Blackboard, Blackboard will log the overall time spent, but because it does not recognize the location where students have gone, it will not reflect the location of their time.
(2) Academic Integrity: While tests given within Blackboard can use Respondus to ensure academic integrity, this tool cannot be applied to tests and quizzes completed within a publisher site. (Please note that many publishers allow test banks to be imported to Blackboard, which would then allow the use of Respondus.)

Pros/Cons of Digital Publisher Content Cont...

Cons Continued:

(3) Limited Tech Support: Publishers prefer faculty to work directly with their own representatives and do not provide access to CIDT to provide further support. (But, we do as much as we can!)
(4) Student appeals: Work completed within publisher content cannot be accessed by Southeastern to confirm or refute any issues that may be reported in student appeals.
(5) Course copy / course archival: When courses are copied or archived, the publisher content does not carry over with other content. Publisher integrations will need to be re-applied separately from the course copy for each course.

Quality Matters Training Announcement

CIDT will be hosting another Quality Matters training on January 10th, 2019. This work shop is designed to help with the creation and instruction of Blackboard online courses, and completion of the training will result in a QM Certification.

Time: 8:30am tp 4:30pm
Date: January 10th, 2019
Location: Russell Building 116 (Computer Lab)

If you would like to participate, please contact Alisha Ridenour at aridenhour@se.edu

Area of Expertise: Business Management

Current/Recent Projects: Assisting CIDT Staff and Undergraduate Assistants, helping to develop Blackboard courses, processing information, and proctoring Pearson Vue testing facility

Favorite Quote: "We're all mad here..." -Lewis Carroll

Favorite color: Blue

Birthday: February 13th