



Blackboard Learn Implementation

Blackboard was upgraded on December 25th. The new system experienced slowness and data not syncing between Banner and Blackboard. The problems have been addressed but the system still runs slow when logging on to admin. accounts in searching for courses during troubleshooting.

Some registered students or assigned faculty may not see their Blackboard courses or see the courses in which they are not enrolled or assigned. In such cases, please contact distance learning staff at 860-343-5756 or mxccdistanace@mxcc.commmnet.edu.

Students and faculty were granted access to Blackboard Virtual Campus and Library Research Help sites.

Distance Learning

Fall 2015 & Winter 2015

Backed up the content with student records and exported Grade Center for all online courses. The backup files are archived in Distance Learning.

Spring 2016

Sixty-seven online courses are offered with 1,578 registered seats, reflecting a 3% increase over Spring 2015 enrollment.

Five sessions of orientations were provided to help new online students get started.

Uploaded syllabi for all online and hybrid courses to Spring 2016 Online/Hybrid Course list for future advising.

After one week into the spring semester, we followed up with online students who had not logged on by sending them logon instructions and technical help contact information.

Since February 18th, Distance Learning is working in collaboration with the Academic Success Center to offer online tutoring services for students taking Math, English, and Social Science courses. Students may submit their essays for a tutor to review. Students may also request a session of online tutoring via WebEx. The online tutoring service is accessible via the Virtual Campus site on Blackboard.

Educational Technology

21st Century Classrooms

MxCC received \$235,800 for the Phase II project. The MxCC's Statement of Work will need to be submitted to the system team leader by April 1st. An Instructional Advisory Group meeting was held on February 9th to discuss the Pegasus Green proposal and next steps. In February and March, members will work with Red Thread consultants to design the learning spaces.

Life & Health Science Grant

- Ten online courses were copied and granted access to Microburst staff for grant review.
- Per faculty request, booster modules were imported to Spring 2016 courses.

Technology Clinics sessions were provided by our staff during three New Student Orientations.

The Blackboard tutorials were updated at <http://mxcc.edu/distance2/orientation>

We offered Email/Blackboard training for new faculty during New Adjunct Orientation.

Spring 2016 Technology workshops are planned:

- Getting Started with Blackboard
- Blackboard Grade Center and Online Tests
- LinkedIn 101 & LinkedIn 201
- Cool Apps for Productivity and Teaching

Spring 2016 Educational Technology Newsletter

Registration for training is required. Location for training will be given upon registration.

Complete schedule available at: <http://mxcc.edu/ett/>

Register by emailing mxccdistanace@mxcc.commmnet.edu with your name, phone number, date, time and title of the training session you would like to attend.

Blackboard Learn: Grade Center and Online Tests

Prerequisites: Faculty have attended Getting Started with Blackboard Learn.

This session will show how to create columns in Grade Center as well as how to create weighted total or total columns for grade calculation. It will also cover how to create an online test and provide tips to import test banks from publishers.

Friday, 2/26/16, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, Middletown campus

LinkedIn 201: Beyond the Basics

Have a LinkedIn profile and not quite sure what to do next? Want to finish off your profile? What are groups and how do I use them? How do I write a recommendation for a student or a professional colleague within LinkedIn? Learn how growing your professional network virtually via LinkedIn may enhance IRL (in real life) networking.

Friday, 3/4/16 10:00 am - 11:30 am, Middletown campus

Cool Apps for Productivity and Teaching

Smart devices have saturated our society, and the many apps available for them have become instrumental tools to help create a more efficient and productive life. This session will cover apps that will help your productivity in and out of the classroom. Please bring your mobile device.

Friday, 3/11/16 10:00 am - 11:30 am, Middletown campus



MxCC Distance Learning encourages MxCC faculty to submit their course for this award.

The Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium (CTDLC) invites faculty to submit their course for consideration for its new Exemplar Course Award. The Exemplar Course Award will serve to share the excellent work of faculty and staff across the eLearning community via brief video presentations that will reside on the CTDLC website. Awards proposal **deadline for submissions is March 25th, 2016.**

Recipients of this award will:

Be recognized at [CTDLC's annual conference, May 25th, 2016 at Fairfield University](#) and participate in a panel discussion featuring their courses;

- Be allowed to display the CTDLC Exemplar Course Award logo on websites and in printed materials indicating that they have been awarded the 2016 Exemplar Course Award;
- Be showcased via a video representation of the course, a key element in the application and selection process, on CTDLC's Exemplar Course showcase webpage.

More information can be found at http://www.ctdlc.org/exemplar_course_awards.

MxCC Distance Learning is located in Founders 131/131A

mxccdistanace@mxcc.commmnet.edu ~ 860-343-5756 ~ Monday to Friday 8:00 am —5:00 pm

Yi Guan-Raczkowski, Director of Distance Learning/Ed Tech

Sandra Couture, Educational Technology Specialist