What we heard – recap from last year

• Unplanned outages are frustrating
• The LMS needs to be reliable (available) and robust (fast)
• Some teaching and learning tools desired are not in the LMS
• Correct annoying functionality issues
• Class rosters need to be correct
• Blackboard is a valuable tool
• Reconsider using Blackboard for Mason’s LMS
Thank you for your feedback!!

- Academic Technology Advisory Council
- Faculty Senate Technology Policy Committee
- courses@gmu.edu
ATAC Recommendations

• Transition to Blackboard 9.1. Consider:
  – Resolving instability issues with Blackboard Managed Hosting
  – Automatically creating courses and course rosters
  – Supporting current plug-ins (e.g. SafeAssign, Respondus, others)
  – Allowing migration time—run Campus Edition 8 and Blackboard 9.1 simultaneously for one semester
  – Migrating courses from CE8 to Bb 9.1
  – Providing adequate training and support
  – Integrating the learning system with the myMason portal
  – Incorporating new teaching and learning tools
  – Supporting mathematical features
  – (and accessibility)
Transition to Blackboard 9.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Summer 2010</th>
<th>Fall 2010</th>
<th>Spring 2011</th>
<th>Summer 2011</th>
<th>Fall 2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planning</td>
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<td>Pilot</td>
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<td>Dual System Access</td>
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<td>CE8 Sunset</td>
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<td>9.1 Deployed System</td>
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Workshops, one on one consultations, online tutorials and migrations services are available now and will expand.
As of Fall 2011, courses will be accessed via
http://mymason.gmu.edu
Transition to Blackboard 9.1

Benefits

- Greater product stability in native Blackboard tool
- Capacity to email students from Blackboard
- Improved gradebook functionality
- Imbedded wikis
- New types of assessment questions and pools, including math focused questions
- New options for evaluation (e.g. course report, early warning)
- Mashups (YouTube videos, flickr pool and presentation slide share)
- More...
Academic Technology Advisory Council

- Nada Dabbagh, CEHD, ATAC Chair
- Mark Addleson, SPP
- Charlene Douglas, CHHS
- Rebecca Ericson, COS
- Jesse Guessford, CVPA
- Chi-Hyon Lee, SOM
- Brenda Mueller, CEHD

- Kammy Sanghera, IT&E and Faculty Senate Information Technology Policy Committee
- Scott Watkins, Libraries
- Alok Yadav, CHSS
- Cathy Evans, Office of the Provost
- Laura Phelps, ITU, ATAC Co-Chair
- Susan Kehoe, ITU
New ways we have responded

- Campus Edition 8 ➔ Blackboard 9.1 Transition Project Plan

- Class rosters: Daily scripts, 3 times per day during peak
- Course shells: Fall 2010 classes available to faculty on July 30
- Communication and support:
  - [http://courses.gmu.edu](http://courses.gmu.edu), courses@gmu.edu, Twitter: BBatMason, 2 new full-time LMS administrators

- Blackboard World 2010: ATAC participation
- Defined business processes for Bb Managed Hosting
Answers to Questions

• Average daily log-ins for Spring 2010: 13,000
• Active Users as of 9/7/10: 21,153
• Unique faculty between 8/23/10 – 9/8/10: 1,246

• George Mason is acquiring the course section merge tool for Blackboard 9.1
## FY 2009-2010 Costs for Blackboard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Cost/FTE</th>
<th>Cost/Active User</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff (includes fringe)</td>
<td>$238,661</td>
<td>$7.10</td>
<td>$11.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual license: Blackboard Learn</td>
<td>$78,855</td>
<td>$2.35</td>
<td>$3.73</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blackboard Managed Hosting</td>
<td>$133,932</td>
<td>$3.99</td>
<td>$6.33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staging/Testing</td>
<td>$13,000</td>
<td>$0.39</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$464,448</td>
<td>$13.83</td>
<td>$21.95</td>
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