

Blackboard 9 Implementation Targets

General Project Overview

- **Spring and Summer 2010**
 - Initial system testing and development
 - Technical staff training
 - Faculty and staff training materials development
 - Engage faculty pilot group

- **Fall 2010**
 - Moratorium on Blackboard 8 training, technical support will continue
 - Run pilot group
 - Starting September 2010, retrain all faculty and staff on Blackboard 9 for release in Spring 2011
 - Provide development courses as training is completed
 - Migrate courses and system settings between semesters

- **Spring 2011**
 - Rollout Bb 9.1 after Christmas break

Faculty Retraining Concerns and Requirements

The Fall 2009 Faculty Count (per Fact Book)

- **126 full time faculty**
- **148 adjunct.**
- **Total – 274** (this count will likely be higher in Fall 2010 with KTA and other initiatives to replace faculty positions)

Faculty are not currently required to attend any training to access Blackboard. While this has been less problematic in the past due to the gradual and limited use of the system, it has already proven problematic for support and maintenance with the growth of programs like KTA.

Retraining all faculty, part-time faculty, and staff who use the system for non-academic courses will require full cooperation and dedicated initiatives from IT and the academic units. While not everyone uses Blackboard, we **estimate nearly 60% (163 of 274)** of the faculty population used Blackboard in some capacity during Fall 2010. That number will likely grow with promotion of the Blackboard 9 features and new initiatives such as KTA.

Assuming $\frac{1}{2}$ of faculty (probably a low number), retraining and first time training may approach 200 or more individuals in Fall 2010, we will need to run at least 20-30 training sessions throughout the semester to try and accommodate. If they do not get retrained or try to all show up for individual support, we have a high risk for failure and inability to address the support load before launch and will not be able to address the needs with our existing staff when we launch.

We recommend:

- Some requirement for retraining be implemented
- Faculty learn how to appropriately archive and copy courses
- An incentive for retraining will be creation of a development course in the new environment so that they can build their course and ask questions throughout the Fall term, providing them time to adequately prepare for the cutover in Spring 2011