

**Blackboard Template Committee**  
**Academic Council Update**  
**May 10, 2012**

**Committee Members:**

**Co-Chairs:** Catherine LaPalombara (AA) and Rhonda Spells (eLearning)

**Faculty:** Beth Baldwin (English), Bridget Bartlebaugh (IET), Regina Bentley (DVM), Tammy O'Donnell (Theatre)

**Others:** Edward Schelb (Instructional Designer/TRC),

**Charge of the Committee:** To develop a template for Blackboard courses that would standardize navigation to create a consistent course environment for students

**What we have done:**

- Created a template for Blackboard courses
  - Input from faculty, eLearning staff and Instructional Designer
- Faculty Pilot (~60 faculty)
  - All Online Express Participants (~40 faculty)
  - Nursing Hybrid Courses (8 faculty)
  - Committee Members (4 faculty)
  - Faculty Volunteers (~8)
- Solicited feedback from pilot group
  - Positive feedback from faculty
    - General feedback: “once I got used to the new template idea, everything else was great”
    - “I have found the changes to the template we came up with to be 100% positive”
  - Feedback from Students
- Modified template based on feedback from pilot group

**Recommendations:**

- Academic Council approve the template as developed and piloted by the committee
- Academic Council approve the timeline for implementation of the Blackboard Course Template for all faculty

**Timeline**

- **Fall 2012:** Faculty Pilot the current template
  - Template will be used to create Bb courses
  - Committee will solicit feedback from faculty on the pilot
  - Committee will make template adjustments as needed
- **Spring 2013:** Faculty transition course set-up to the new template
- **Summer 2013:** Use of approved template is required for all courses
- **Summer 2012-Spring 2013:**
  - Workshops/consultations to assist faculty during the transition to the new template
  - Assess Student Course Satisfaction