Information Technology Services

Blackboard Communities

In Fall 2022 the campus will be using D2L's Brightspace as our Digital Learning Environment (DLE). Brightspace does not have the same "Community" feature that Blackboard has, so we are offering to meet with leaders of communities to explore alternate options. Communities were used for a variety of tasks and there is no one tool that replaces all of those tasks. The solution you select will depend largely on the purpose of your community. Here are some common scenarios:

Communities Used for Storing Content:

Faculty and staff are responsible for downloading any community content they want to retain. Follow these instructions for downloading the files in order to back up your existing content:

https://newpaltz.teamdynamix.com/TDClient/1905/Portal/KB/ArticleDet?ID=142109

- For sharing files with faculty and staff, Microsoft Teams is likely to be a good option. Teams allows for sharing, storing, and collaborating on files with other faculty and staff. If your department does not yet have a Team and would like one please submit a ticket at:
 https://newpaltz.teamdynamix.com/TDClient/1905/Portal/Requests/ServiceDet?
- ID=16122
 For sharing files with students a department website might be an option if it is appropriate for those files to be publicly accessible. For some groups, Hawksites (a CampusPress site) may be an option for sharing information with

Communities Used for Communicating with Students:

students.

Many faculty and staff used Blackboard Communities for communicating with groups of students, often based on their majors, minors, and concentrations. We are developing a new tool for this task. We will share more details early in the fall semester and there will be training for this tool.

If you have any questions about your Blackboard Community or would like to discuss this further please email <u>blackboard@newpaltz.edu</u>.



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