ITAC ~ February 7, 2002: Blackboard 5.5 Update

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Recent Update:
In December 2001 the Blackboard Project Team (CIT, OIT), with consultation from Blackboard, Inc.

Professional Services:
- Updated hardware
  - Production: Sun 420 application server (4 GB RAM), Sun 420 database server (4 GB), connected to Shark Array for disk space
  - Test: Sun 220 application server (2 GB); Sun 420 database server (4 GB), Shark
  - Failsafe database: on one of the Sun 420 database servers
  - Upgrade/development: Sun 220 (2 GB), application/database combined
- Installed new Blackboard version, with SSL
- Migrated CourseInfo data to new Blackboard servers
- Installed Kerberos authentication module

Current Status:
Blackboard 5.5.1 Build 139

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses Created for Spring 2002</th>
<th>Spring 2002 Student Enrollments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Graduate 4]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divinity</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pratt</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>613 (567 unique)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total distinct other users, Spring 2002: 902
Total distinct faculty users, Spring 2002: 496

Plans for Spring/Summer 2002:
- Upgrade to Blackboard 5.5.1 Build 150
- Increase integration with PeopleSoft, University systems
- Form Blackboard Advisory Group composed of representatives from across campus
- Provide user feedback e-mail list, voluntary subscription
- Resolve Blackboard policy issues identified by CIT, users, Blackboard Team

Issues Arising Through Increased Use of Blackboard on Campus:
- Open vs. closed site and faculty control of course site content
- Faculty beginning to consolidate course materials in one place
- Space for course projects not tied to one instance of a course
- Use of Blackboard’s portal features: for courses, for more?