Utilizing New Technologies in Introductory Physics Courses

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Overview

Existing parts of the introductory Physics courses for Life Sciences majors (PHY53 and PHY54) were migrated to Blackboard. Instructors are experimenting with Blackboard functions such as Virtual Classroom, course surveys, quizzes using publisher content, and online grading. In addition, online assessments from Brownstone.edu and the University of Texas Homework Service were employed. In-class polling of student understanding was conducted with the Personal Response System.

Technologies Used

- Blackboard
- Brownstone.edu
- University of Texas Homework Service
- Personal Response System (PRS)

Outcomes

- Increasing availability of course materials
- Maintaining consistency across multiple instructors and sections
- Increasing student interest and participation
- Stimulating active learning by students
- Delivering frequent formative assessment of the current state of student understanding
- Facilitating problem-oriented analysis

Sponsor

Center for Instructional Technology (CIT)