Blackboard 9.1 is here at USD!

Academic Technology Services (ATS) is in the process of migrating from WebCT to Blackboard 9.1 in a staged transition. The WebCT server will be decommissioned on August 1, 2012. It’s time for Spring Cleaning! What does this mean for you, and how can you prepare?

- **Request a Sandbox course.** You can test the features of Blackboard 9.1 or begin building your Spring course inside of a Sandbox. You can request as many Sandbox courses as you like! Request yours here: [http://bit.ly/USDbbCourseRequest](http://bit.ly/USDbbCourseRequest)

- **Attend training.** Blackboard 9.1 is not an upgrade, but a new program combining Blackboard and WebCT features and functions, plus more. Because of the new interfaces and modules added (Community & Content) and our support structure, we strongly urge faculty to attend training.

- **Trainings we offer/recommend:** A variety of training options are available throughout the year to suit faculty needs and schedules:
  - Online videos and tutorials: [http://ondemand.blackboard.com](http://ondemand.blackboard.com)
  - OnSite presentations
  - Scheduled workshops: [http://www.sandiego.edu/tutorials](http://www.sandiego.edu/tutorials)
  - Customized training for your department (groups of 8+) by request
  - Individual consultations: *After you attend training,* if you need course-design assistance, you can schedule an appointment with an instructional support analyst by emailing iteam@sandiego.edu

- **If you are already a super user:** We offer shorter sneak preview sessions, our comprehensive training workshop, and in-depth topic workshops. Comprehensive training covers everything from USD-specific Blackboard 9.1 information to uploading lecture slides to posting and weighting your grades. In-depth topics include using the Grade Center, blogs, multimedia tools or assessment tools in Blackboard 9.1 and more. You can view and sign up for training offerings here: [http://www.sandiego.edu/tutorials](http://www.sandiego.edu/tutorials)

- **Request your Spring courses.** After attending a training workshop, request your Spring Blackboard 9.1 courses via the course request form. Requested courses will be activated and populated with registered students beginning in early Spring.

- **Moving WebCT content to Blackboard.** You can request to have your WebCT courses migrated to a Blackboard 9.1 Sandbox course if you do not want to lose your content, or wish to compare the two side by side and note the differences in content layout and where different features reside. Taking the time to do this will help you get comfortable with the new system, and help you to refine your course content to best fit inside Blackboard 9.1.

- **Faculty who’ve previously taught in WebCT** may continue to teach in WebCT throughout the Spring, but courses will be taught solely in Blackboard starting in Fall 2012. All new faculty requesting courses and new USD courses will be activated in Blackboard 9.1. Remember,
WebCT will be decommissioned on August 1, 2012. If you haven’t migrated your course content to Blackboard by then, it will be lost.

Migration Timeline and planning: For more on preparing for the Blackboard migration, please visit our web site: http://www.sandiego.edu/blackboard

This is a great timing and opportunity to rethink and refresh your course content and design. We can provide help and resources to assist you in the process.

You can contact the iTeam at x7400, iteam@sandiego.edu or by dropping in to Maher 194 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Happy migrating!
Your Technology Support Team—The iTeam