TLC Europe Online: Client Presentations

Topic: Implementing Innovation and Change

Date: Tuesday, May 26
Time: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm BST

Set Sail for SaaS with Leeds Beckett University

Tom Hey, Leeds Beckett University

Join Leeds Beckett University as we discuss our journey from Blackboard Managed Hosting to Blackboard SaaS, including:

- Why we wanted to move to SaaS, and why we chose to do so in August 2019
- How our recent migration supports (and was supported by) our Technologies for Learning and University strategies, particularly in enhancing the learning and teaching experience and in ensuring a sustainable platform
- Project initiation and planning – ensuring a smooth transition through IT Governance processes and gaining University buy-in to green light the project
- An introduction to Leeds Beckett University's Digital Learning Service and how our service model helped us to deliver this project with minimum fuss
- Project delivery: Collaboration with Blackboard to achieve key milestones on schedule, identifying and managing risks, avoiding the rocks that loom ominously on the horizon of any significant technical project
- Project closure: Post-upgrade snagging, lessons learned and our roadmap
- Opportunity to ask questions

False Value - Can Magic Return

Sandra Stevenson-Revill, University of Derby

Is it time to take a step back, in the session we will look at not only what a VLE is now, but more importantly we will explore what the VLE of the future may look like. Why do educational institutions use them? What are the benefits? We do not have all the answers, but in this session, we will discuss; the VLE from the student and staff perspective and then draw on the business requirements.

How many of us now use Microsoft or Google tools in our teaching? Does this add to the value, why, how? Does a VLE like Blackboard Learn fit into this picture? What happened to the concept of an LMS?

What is the goal of the VLE, how do you measure its success?

As a member of the audience, you will be encouraged to interact with me and disagree with the points made.

Webinars: Upskilling, Sharing Experiences, Connecting Campuses, Saving Time

Dixie Matre, NTNU

NTNU is Norway's largest university with over 40,000 students. The university's headquarters are in Trondheim, with two further main campuses in Gjøvik and Ålesund plus smaller decentralised campuses. NTNU's Teaching and Learning Centre uses webinars to help lecturers learn how to effectively use Blackboard, these webinars are run by our learning assistants regularly. The medical faculty has started to use webinars as part of its further education courses for healthcare professionals in outlying districts. NTNU runs Webinarfestival, a web-based conference, that connects higher education educators from all over Norway to share their experiences with student active learning and digital technology. We run webinars for departments that have staff on different campuses who appreciate that all participants can participate on an equal footing regardless of which campus they work at.

In our session we will discuss the ways that NTNU is using webinars to upskill lecturers and administrative staff as well as how academic departments use webinars in their courses. Practically we will talk about how we have tried to foster a culture of good webinar-manners. We will talk about the programmes available to run webinars and especially our use of Blackboard's Collaborate and how we fully utilise its functions. We will discuss the benefits and disadvantages of using webinars and discuss how best to make webinars successful. We hope to create debate around how webinars are used today and how the higher education sector can reap the benefits offered by them.

From Dandelion to Lion King – A Transformational Journey

Rob Howe, The University of Northampton

Northampton's transformational £330m move to a purpose-built Campus in the centre of the town has involved a significant number of partners and change activities which have attracted international attention. This talk will cover some of the many pedagogical and technical projects which the University engaged in and report on the ongoing journey to meet strategic objectives and improve student experience.

TDM – Trials, Demos and More Features Please

Katie Stripe, Imperial College London

This academic year has been one of trials (of the testing variety and at times of the 'by fire' variety), demos (many, many demos) and an exploration of the new toys sorry features provided by the new 'Training and Development Manager'. This session will take you through our process of designing a new

online course while carrying out a pilot of TDM and how we as a team have found this experience, how our students are finding it and our plans for phase two.

We will share our learning design processes and how they have complimented the TDM features we have been piloting and participants will have the opportunity to explore some of our ideas first-hand and contribute to the session.

I will introduce our 'AA Avatars' and share how they were developed and why, and each team of participants will be invited to design their own Avatars. I will then use the 'AA Avatars' to demo areas of TDM and share tools with the audience that we have embedded within the system.

Finally, at the end I will present our current thinking on how the capabilities of TDM will allow us to provide solutions to many long standing training and development needs across the College

If time permits, we will open the discussion to the audience, to explore the TDM features and how they might be used in other institutions' contexts.

TLC Europe Office Hours

Date: Tuesday, May 26
Time: 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm BST

Blackboard office hours is the place to meet your peers and Blackboard experts. Join these open sessions in a number of Collaborate breakout rooms where experts will be on hand to answer questions and give guidance about using our solutions and services, and offer advice on teaching remotely, during the COVID-19 crisis and beyond.