About TU’s Bb 8.5 installation

**Bb Suite**
- Learn
- Community
- Content
- Outcomes

**WebDrive**

**Building Blocks**
- Campus Pack
- Wimba
- SafeAssign
- Sign-Up List
- TUcapture
About TU’s Bb 8.5 installation

• Courses = 20,684
• Organizations = 908
• Instructors = 5,316
About TU’s Bb 8.5 installation

• 6 VM application servers
• F5 load balancer
• SQL 2005 server
• 2 TB SAN
Why upgrade?

• More “Web 2.0y”
• Positive feedback during beta
• Improved features
Blackboard 9.1 Release Timeline

January
betabb.temple.edu
Pilot courses
Advisory group

March
Bb9 awareness
Bb 9 demos
Virtualized app servers
Bb9.1 released

April
Load test
“Coming Soon” tab
Hands-on training

May 15
Grades due
Began upgrade

May 16
Bb9.1 live

May 17
Summer I Begins
more pretty. less clicky.

SUMMER 2010
Types of training

• 2-hour hands-on
• 30-minute demonstrations
• One-on-one
• On-your-own
  – 2-minute video clip
  – Tutorials and documentation
**Training**

**Bb9: The New Blackboard – A Get-Ready Hands-On Class**

- **May 24** 2:00-3:30 PM  
  TECH Center room 109
- **June 8** 1:30-3:00 PM  
  TECH Center room 109
- **June 24** 1:30-3:00 PM  
  TECH Center room 109
- **July 14** 1:30-3:00 PM  
  TECH Center room 109

Register online at  
[http://seminars.temple.edu](http://seminars.temple.edu)

**Online Tutorials & Webinars**

**Basic Topics**
- The Course Environment
- Add an Item to a Content Area
- Creating Announcements
- Create Assignments
- Edit Course Menu
- Getting Started with Assignments

**Grade Center**
- Getting Started
- Adding Columns & Grades

**Advanced Topics**
- Getting Started with Building a Test
- Getting Started with Groups
- Creating Groups & Adding Students

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**Blackboard 9: What’s New**

**System Wide Improvements**

**New Interface Design**

In addition to a new look, advanced user functionality, such as drag and drop, inline editing, and consolidated page layouts result in fewer clicks to navigate through the system and complete tasks.

**Edit Mode**

Edit Mode gives instructors access to menus and buttons used to make changes to Blackboard courses. It toggles on and off. When it is off, instructors see a course as students see the course, and the course cannot be edited. Edit Mode is available in some areas of Blackboard version 8, but it is much more prominent in version 9.

**Inline Confirmations**
Demos and training

- 3 Thing You Need to Know
  - Edit Mode
  - Drag & Drop
  - Contextual Menus
Change of plans

• Big plans early on
• Decided to be more systematic
  – Upgrade application servers to VM on 8.5 (Spring Break)
  – Upgrade to 9.1 (Between Spring and Summer 1)
  – Move to new hardware (Later)
Upgrade path

1. Take Bb offline

2. Backup
   a) SQL
   b) Stop content synch

3. Upgrade to Campus Pack 4

4. Upgrade to 9.1
   a) Upgrade Bb03
      a) Install 8.6
      b) Install 9.1
      c) Configure
      d) Test
   b) Upgrade Bb04, 05 ...

5. Test & configure

6. Go live
What happened on Monday?

- Quieter than expected
- Some surprises
... and on Friday?

Bowling / Happy Hour
  – Our team
  – Pilot testers
  – Hardware team
What’s next?

• Upgrade to SP3 (planned)
• Upgrade Wimba (planned)
• Move to new hardware (planned)
  – App servers
  – SAN
  – DB server (SQL 2008)