

RACAA – RACSA  
Annual Summer Meeting  
Brasstown Valley Resort  
6321 Highway 76  
Young Harris, Georgia 30582  
July 10 – 12, 2011

Topic: New Learning Management System

Background:

The current learning management system (LMS) supported by ITS for 32 of our USG campuses is Blackboard/Vista. The end of life for this application is January 2013. In 2010, a selection process for a new application was initiated. A task force with campus, USO, and ITS participation was charged with identifying a new LMS.

Task force members evaluated 77 learning management systems against a set of basic requirements. Five solutions met those requirements and were named as finalists: Moodle, Sakai, Pearson, Desire2Learn, and Blackboard Learn9. That process included face-to-face and virtual meetings of the task force and multiple opportunities for input from various campus constituencies (such as, a public website, a blog, regional town hall meetings to identify requirements, various USG conferences and system-wide meetings, and online surveys of faculty, students, and administrators, and feedback from sandbox testing environments). "Sandbox" environments were established for those five finalists, and campus participants (faculty, students and staff) were invited to evaluate the finalists' capabilities and to complete a satisfaction survey, which had more than 3,000 respondents.

The recommendation of the task force is to purchase Desire2Learn.

Status:

Following presentations to the USG presidents and the Board of Regents, a final decision to purchase Desire2Learn as the primary LMS for the USG is expected in September 2011. Implementation will begin after that decision is made, with completion anticipated in summer 2013.

Actions Needed:

Questions:

Contacts: Curt Carver [curt.carver@usg.edu](mailto:curt.carver@usg.edu)  
Linda Noble [linda.noble@usg.edu](mailto:linda.noble@usg.edu)