

IT PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS)

Beginning in 2009 our current version of WebCT will no longer be supported (updates, patches, etc.) by the vendor. This presents the College with an exciting opportunity to identify a new teaching-learning management system that meets the needs of the campus community and reflects the emergence of newer vendor solutions, descriptively termed as Learning Management Systems (LMS). While LMS solutions continue to provide course management tools, they also include learning-based tools that provide enhanced interactions between faculty, students and content material!

How Do I Access Information

- The attached brochure provides a broad overview of the project. A printed copy of the brochure will be mailed to you on Friday, January 25.
- An LMS Project website will be posted on January 23 at <http://www.cofc.edu/it/tlt/lms>. The site will include a project summary; results of the 2006 College Faculty Course Management System survey; LMS articles/research; timeline; procurement panel; FAQ; and information @ vendor demonstrations; etc.
- Over the next 4 weeks, two town meetings will be held and the Instructional Technologists will be having many 1:1 conversations with you. Susan Beattie and the Teaching Learning & Technology (TLT) team are available to present information about the LMS project at your school/department meetings as you may wish.

Your Participation and Input is Important

During the last 2 weeks in February, IT will be hosting public demonstrations of several Learning Management Systems on campus. This is your chance to review and compare the teaching-learning tools available in the different systems. For example, check out the Web 2.0 social networking tools (e.g., blogs, wikis, voice/text chats) and other web-based options that will support your teaching efforts! The vendors contend that the newer systems are easier to use. What do you think?

We strongly encourage you to attend these demonstrations, so you can help ensure the selection of a new system reflects your needs. Stay tuned for the announcements of presentation dates/times!

Please contact Susan Beattie, Director of Teaching Learning and Technology and LMS Project Director at beatties@cofc.edu or 3-7998 for additional information or assistance.

*Susan Beattie
January 18, 2008*