

## Fall 2008 Blackboard Faculty Survey

Attempts 26

### Question 1 What is your role at the university?

Full professor	7.692%
Associate Professor	15.385%
Assistant Professor	19.231%
Lecturer	30.769%
Adjunct	23.077%
Unanswered	3.846%

### Question 2 Which answer best describes your primary use of Blackboard?

As a faculty member teaching a course.	96.154%
As a student in a Blackboard class site.	0%
As a teaching assistant of a Blackboard class site.	0%
As a member of a Blackboard organization or community site.	3.846%
As a manager of a Blackboard organization or community site.	0%
Unanswered	0%

### Question 3 How do you normally log into Blackboard?

Through myUMBC?	73.077%
Directly at <a href="http://www.umbc.edu/blackboard">http://www.umbc.edu/blackboard</a> or <a href="http://blackboard.umbc.edu">http://blackboard.umbc.edu</a> .	26.923%
Unanswered	0%

### Question 4 Which browser do you use most often?

Internet Explorer	53.846%
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Mozilla Firefox	42.308%
Safari	3.846%
Opera	0%
Other	0%

**Question 5 Which of the following best describes your use of Blackboard at UMBC?**

As a supplement to a face-to-face course	88.462%
For an online course	3.846%
For a hybrid class course	3.846%
Community/Organization for research or other	3.846%
Unanswered	0%

**Question 6 Please choose the following tools that you use on a regular basis. (Check all that apply)**

Course content (course documents including syllabus, PowerPoints, etc.)	88.462%
Announcements	73.077%
Email	73.077%
Discussion Boards	53.846%
Chat	3.846%
Groups	11.538%
Assignment Upload for papers/projects	38.462%
Turnitin Assignment Upload	15.385%
Wikis	3.846%
Blogs	0%
Wimba Voice Tools	7.692%
Pronto	0%

Blackboard Backpack	0%
Multimedia: Audio/Video files	0%

**Question 7 How important are the following advantages to using Blackboard. (1 = Not important, 7 = Most Important)**

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Communicating directly with other students in your class.	7.692%	0%	3.846%	7.692%	11.538%	15.385%	46.154%
24/7 access to course content.	7.692%	3.846%	3.846%	3.846%	3.846%	11.538%	53.846%
Increased student engagement in the course.	7.692%	11.538%	0%	7.692%	7.692%	26.923%	19.231%
Reinforcement of learning through practice quizzes.	46.154%	0%	0%	11.538%	7.692%	11.538%	3.846%
Secure place to post grades.	11.538%	3.846%	7.692%	3.846%	7.692%	7.692%	38.462%
Convenient place to collect research materials and communicate with colleagues	34.615%	0%	7.692%	15.385%	3.846%	3.846%	15.385%
Other (Please list in the last question)	19.231%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	11.538%

**Question 8 What do you consider to be disadvantages of using Blackboard?**

Reliance on technology	23.077%
Learning curve to becoming proficient in the use of Blackboard	30.769%
Learning environment is too impersonal	3.846%
It's too time consuming	30.769%
Other (Please describe in the last question)	23.077%

**Question 9 What do you think is the single most needed improvement about the administration of Blackboard?**

Login	3.846%
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Enrollment into Blackboard course and community sites	11.538%
Server reliability (Is it up and available?)	0%
Server Performance (e.g., "slowness, error messages, looping")	19.231%
Functionality of the Bb application (Does it do what I want?)	15.385%
Student training and support	7.692%
Faculty training and support	30.769%
Other (Please describe in the last question)	7.692%
Unanswered	3.846%

**Question 10            How do you get help when using Blackboard?**

Submit an email to <a href="mailto:blackboard@umbc.edu">blackboard@umbc.edu</a>	26.923%
Colleague or student	11.538%
Blackboard Help Tab	19.231%
Course/Community Manual	0%
OIT Staff Directly	23.077%
OIT Help Desk	7.692%
Unanswered	11.538%

**Question 11            Overall, how would you rate the effectiveness of Blackboard as a learning tool?**

Very good	69.231%
It's okay	26.923%
Not very effective	3.846%

**Question 12            Which incentive would influence your decision or ability to teach online?**

Potential or realized improvement of student learning	30.769%
Curiosity	0%

Use of a computer or software	0%
Peer pressure from colleagues or my discipline	7.692%
Financial reward (e.g., stipend, license revenue)	23.077%
Course release time	7.692%
Other (Please describe in the last question)	0%
Unanswered	30.769%

**Question 13 Which obstacles have influenced your decision or ability to use Blackboard?**

Lack of time	26.923%
Lack of reward or incentives	15.385%
Poor preparation of students	15.385%
Prefer face-to-face environment	26.923%
Not convinced student learning improves	23.077%
Lack of training or support	30.769%
Other (Please describe in the last question)	11.538%

**Question 14 Do you use audio services such as a data projector, VCR, or DVD player in your classroom meetings?**

I use them regularly in my class (at least 50% of the class meetings)	57.692%
I use them occasionally (less than 50% of the class meetings)	11.538%
I don't use them in my classroom sessions	30.769%
Unanswered	0%

**Question 15 How are AV services provided for your class meetings?**

I am assigned a classroom with permanently mounted data projector or TV/VCR/DVD	76.923%
I have an AV cart delivered to my classroom	3.846%

I don't use AV services in my class	19.231%
Unanswered	0%

**Question 16 "How would you rank OIT's effectiveness in providing computing labs for the following purposes (1 = most effective, 7 = least effective). If you do not use a computing lab, you may skip this question?"**

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Access to personal drives or network space	7.692%	0%	7.692%	3.846%	0%	0%	3.846%
Access to specialized software (e.g., SPSS, Matlab, etc.)	7.692%	3.846%	3.846%	0%	7.692%	0%	.846%
Audio/Visual file editing	3.846%	0%	3.846%	3.846%	0%	0%	3.846%
Availability of a high speed Internet connection	3.846%	11.538%	0%	0%	11.538%	0%	7.692%
Instructional use during a class (e.g., demonstrations, shared use of software or files)	3.846%	3.846%	3.846%	7.692%	0%	0%	0%
Pay for Print	0%	0%	0%	3.846%	3.846%	3.846%	0%
Other? (please specify at the end of this survey)	3.846%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

**Question 17 Overall, how would you rate the service you receive from Classroom Technologies (AV Services).**

Very good or excellent. Equipment works as I expect and need it to work	38.462%
Generally satisfactory. Occasional issues arise that impact my class but these are not frequent	26.923%
Unsatisfactory. Frequently there are issues that impact my classroom activities	7.692%
I don't use AV services in my classroom sessions	23.077%
Unanswered	3.846%

**Question 18**      **Which workshops would be beneficial to you? (Check all that apply)**

User and Document Management (Beginner)

- \* Password-protected class & group space
- \* Attach or copy/paste documents (Expiration)      15.385%

Communications (Intermediate)

- \* Announcements
- \* Email, messages
- \* Discussion & chat      11.538%

Assessments (Advanced)

- \* Electronic assignment delivery & collection
- \* Quizzing, surveys, course usage      50%

**Question 19**      **Which of the following training delivery methods do you prefer?**

- Observe a colleague in my department      3.846%
- Attend a workshop by OIT staff      61.538%
- Request a one-on-one consult      15.385%
- Attend a workshop by/for instructors in my own department      7.692%
- Unanswered      11.538%

**Question 20**      **Thank you for participating and please include any other additional comments/suggestions you may have about the use of Blackboard at UMBC. (Remember to click "Submit" when you have finished.)**

Main disadvantage is the "clunkiness" of the software when it comes to enrolling or deleting users. It all has to be done one user at a time. Also, it would be VERY nice/helpful to have the gradebook display all students at once. Finally, it would be most helpful to have subgrouping within individual Groups.

Q8 Other: to provide course content directly to students.

Q14 you mention audio, but I think you mean AV. This is confusing.

Q7 and Q16 have opposite scales. You need to have a survey writer review your surveys before you field them, and you might consider pilot testing them.

I wish that I could remove students from the course more effectively (i.e., not one at a time). I also wish that when you enroll a new user, you could select their role as you add them rather than adding them where it defaults to student and then having to go in and edit their role.

1) I use BB quizzes all the time. It was not an option under Question 6.

2) For Question 7, I use BB effectively for quizzing when the student feels ready (I give them a 3-day window)

3) For Question 16, we really need more availability of computer classroom labs during the middle of the day. For a "tech" campus, we need to be able to teaching using computers, in a workshop style. Please pressure whoever might have the funds to create another computer classroom (to accommodate up to 60 students?)

Blackboard has too many "confirmation" screens. A big improvement would be if messages such as "your question has been saved" were provided in a way other than having a separate page that you then have to click through to get back to where you were originally.

also, there are very few tools to edit properties of multiple items at once (e.g., the ability to edit the point value for all test items at once would be very useful). This would save instructors a lot of clicks.

I fully appreciate the interactive opportunities (especially student to student) possible with Blackboard. It has been important in creating a closer bond between students over the duration of a semester.

All the classes I teach are completely online, so I skipped several questions in the survey that seemed to be asking about in-person classes.

I have also completed the staff survey.

#16 - I do not use labs.

I really like the grading function in Discussion Boards - easy to collect student work in threads. Big improvement.

The looping issue is a particular problem when using Firefox.

Question 7 gave "secure place to post grades" as a feature of Blackboard. Grades are sent in the clear, so Blackboard clearly does NOT provide a secure place to post grades.

Question 9, login: It's very annoying when Blackboard login goes into an infinite loop, I think because credentials were not effectively destroyed from a previous session. Delete UMBC-related cookies, and things are ok. Very tardy on a fix for this long-lived problem.

Blackboard's really clunky interface and frequent problems, e.g., trying to run Java applications as opposed to applets, make me wonder why we stuck with a mediocre commercial product rather than going with a better open source system.