

Finding Focus: Blackboard workshops for faculty

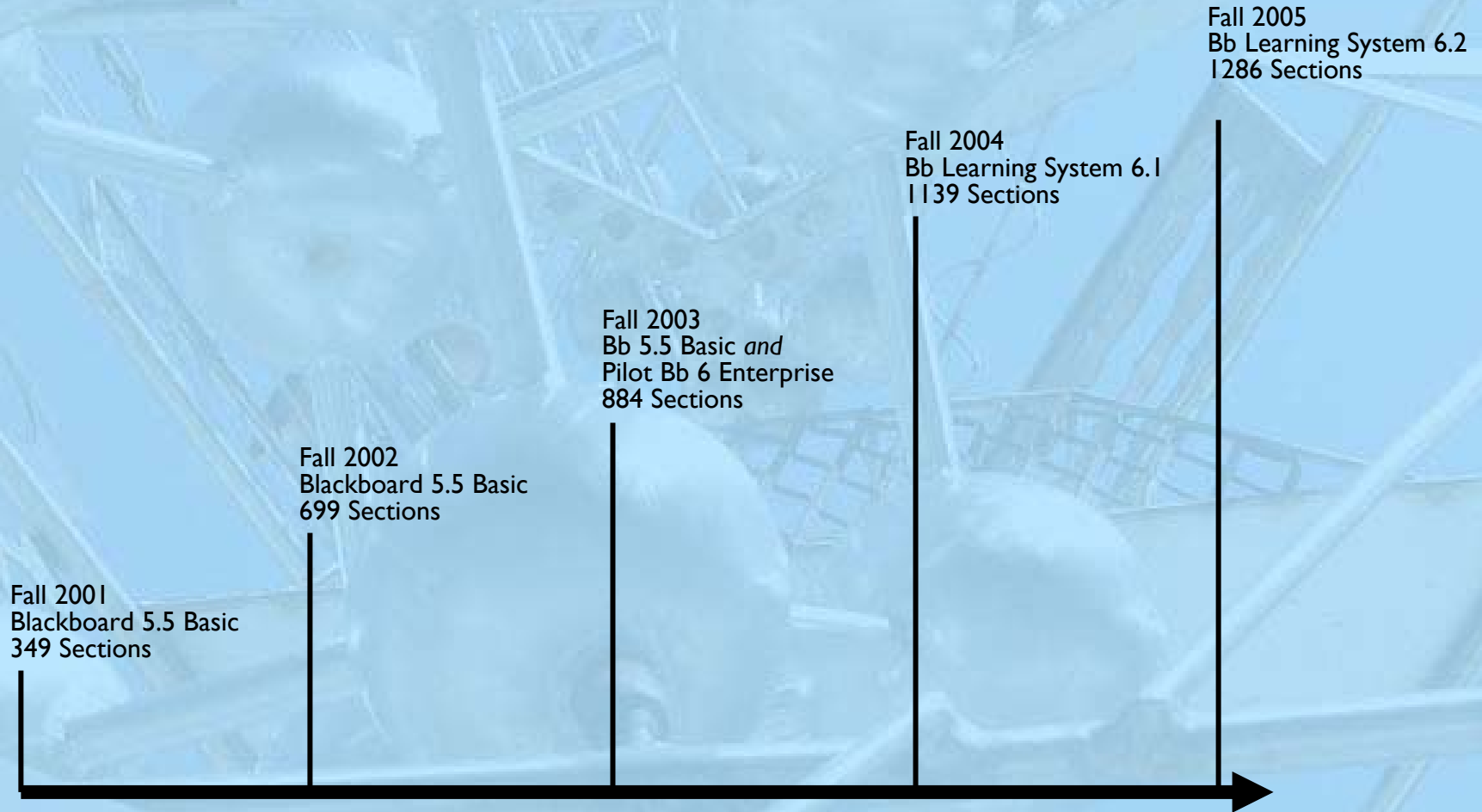
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University of North Florida

- **Comprehensive state university**
- **14,666 Students (Fall04)**
- **Degrees offered include:**
 - **50 Undergraduate degree programs, with 96 areas of concentration**
 - **24 Graduate degree programs, with 79 areas of concentration**
 - **1 Doctoral program**

Blackboard @ UNF



Previous Model

- **Blackboard I (3 hours)**
 - Email, Announcements, Adding Content, Discussion Board, Groups
- **Blackboard II (3 hours)**
 - Gradebook, Assessments, Virtual Classroom, Digital Dropbox
- **Multimedia for Instructors (3 hours)**
 - Using HTML, digital images, audio & video, animation

Impetus for Change

- Enrollment in Blackboard workshops decreasing.
- Increasing complexity of Blackboard.
- Dissatisfaction from faculty.
- Workshops offered through CPDT – disconnect with other services we provide.
- **BBSEUG 2003.**

New Model

- **Courses Offered:**
 - **Assessments, Pools & Surveys** - Learn about options for test bank management, test creation, and the management of assessments, along with tips and best practices.
 - **Digital Dropbox & Assignment Manager** - If you collect digital files from your students, you will want to learn about Blackboard's two tools for managing student files and when it is effective to use each.
 - **Discussion Board** - Explore the asynchronous communication tool available in Blackboard and learn some tips & tricks for engaging students in your course.
 - **Gradebook & Course Statistics** - Participants will learn about options for successfully managing student grades, including gradebook visibility and grade weighting, tracking, and course statistics.

New Model

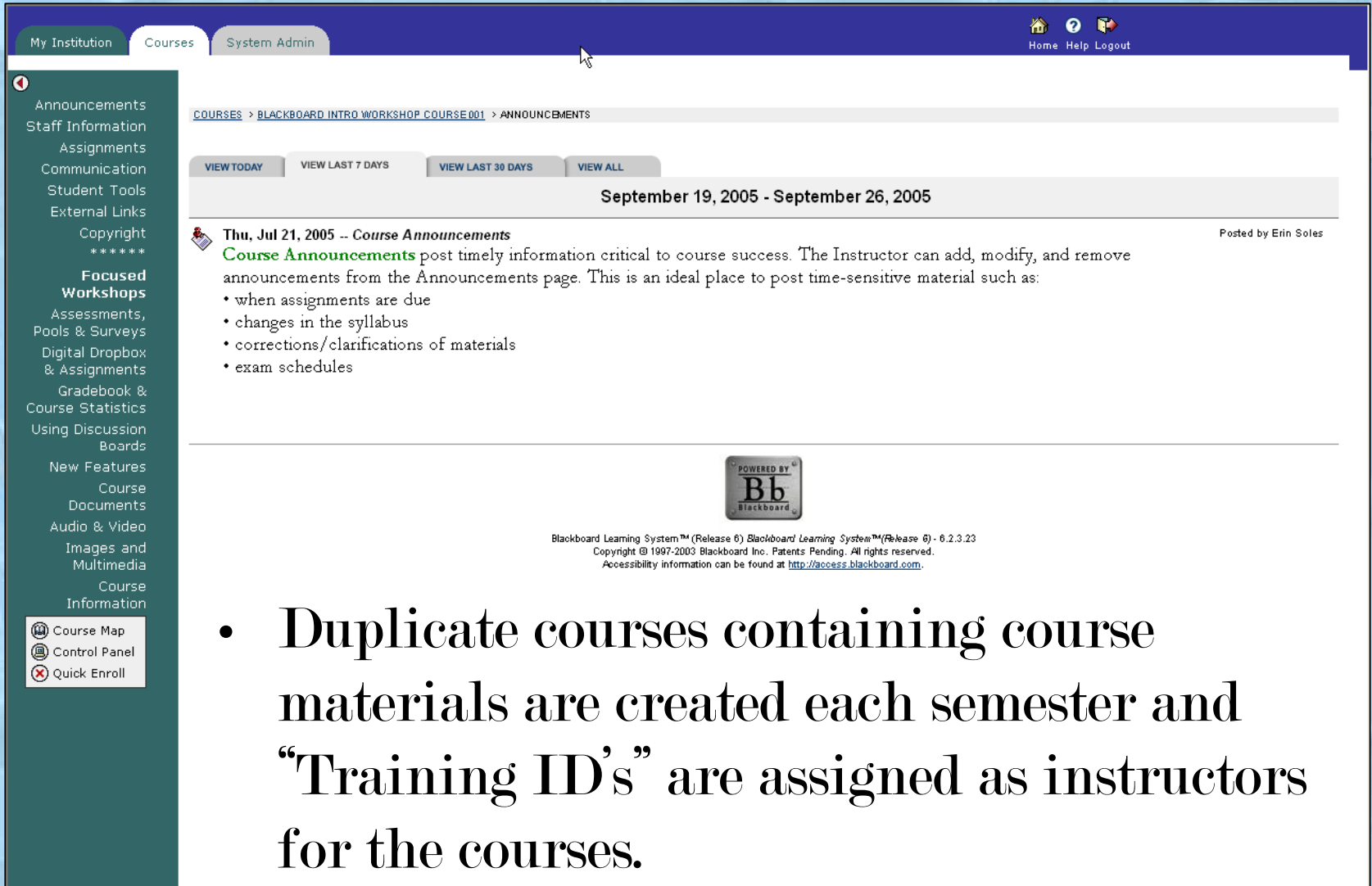
- **Courses Offered**

- **New Blackboard Features** - Come learn about Building Block features which have recently become available in Bb 6.
- **Using Images & Multimedia with a Course** - Learn how to take your course beyond folders of documents and create an engaging and interactive experience for your students using images, html, & narrated PowerPoint.
- **Incorporating Audio & Video in a Course** - Come find out about your options for incorporating audio and video into your course to make it more engaging and provide additional resources to students.
- <http://blackboard.unf.edu/support/workshops.asp>

New Model

- **Course Materials**
 - Handouts
 - “Working materials” in Blackboard Training Courses
- <http://www.unf.edu/dept/cirt/workshops/blackboard/handouts.html>

Training Courses



The screenshot displays a Blackboard Learning System interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'My Institution', 'Courses', and 'System Admin'. The 'Courses' tab is active. In the top right corner, there are icons for Home, Help, and Logout. A left-hand navigation menu lists various course-related options such as Announcements, Staff Information, Assignments, Communication, Student Tools, External Links, Copyright, Focused Workshops, Assessments, Pools & Surveys, Digital Dropbox & Assignments, Gradebook & Course Statistics, Using Discussion Boards, New Features, Course Documents, Audio & Video, Images and Multimedia, and Course Information. Below the navigation menu, the main content area shows a breadcrumb trail: COURSES > BLACKBOARD INTRO WORKSHOP COURSE 001 > ANNOUNCEMENTS. There are four buttons for viewing announcements: VIEW TODAY, VIEW LAST 7 DAYS, VIEW LAST 30 DAYS, and VIEW ALL. The date range for the announcements is September 19, 2005 - September 26, 2005. A specific announcement is shown for Thursday, July 21, 2005, titled 'Course Announcements', posted by Erin Soles. The announcement text states that 'Course Announcements' provide timely information critical to course success and lists examples of when to use them: when assignments are due, changes in the syllabus, corrections/clarifications of materials, and exam schedules. At the bottom of the page, there is a 'POWERED BY Bb Blackboard' logo and copyright information for Blackboard Learning System (Release 6), dated 1997-2003.

My Institution Courses System Admin Home Help Logout

COURSES > BLACKBOARD INTRO WORKSHOP COURSE 001 > ANNOUNCEMENTS

VIEW TODAY VIEW LAST 7 DAYS VIEW LAST 30 DAYS VIEW ALL

September 19, 2005 - September 26, 2005

Thu, Jul 21, 2005 -- *Course Announcements* Posted by Erin Soles

Course Announcements post timely information critical to course success. The Instructor can add, modify, and remove announcements from the Announcements page. This is an ideal place to post time-sensitive material such as:

- when assignments are due
- changes in the syllabus
- corrections/clarifications of materials
- exam schedules

POWERED BY Bb Blackboard

Blackboard Learning System™ (Release 6) Blackboard Learning System™ (Release 6) - 6.2.3.23
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Accessibility information can be found at <http://access.blackboard.com>.

- Duplicate courses containing course materials are created each semester and “Training ID’s” are assigned as instructors for the courses.

New Model

- **Course Calendar** – offered twice a semester in the Fall and Spring.
<http://blackboard.unf.edu/support/workshops.asp>
- **Blackboard Week.**
- **New Faculty Orientation.**
- **Atmosphere**
 - Collaborative, Relaxed
 - Small Group Sessions with Laptops

Environment



Faculty Reaction

- **Online Evaluation**
 - <http://www.unf.edu/dept/cirt/workshops/evaluations/bbdisc.html>
 - Quantitative Excellent....all 4's and 5's
- **What was most useful?**
 - “the informality”
 - “I enjoyed the fact that this workshop was tightly focused on one issue. I could attend, learn about that specific aspect of Bb and begin to use it almost immediately.”
 - “I particularly liked the focused one topic session....I think this aids transfer of learning.”
 - “The small group setting was excellent. It allowed time for individual instruction when necessary and was a more comfortable atmosphere to ask questions.”
- **Other comments**
 - “wonderful focused is best”
 - “I love the small group and intimate format. Excellent learning experience, thank you!”

Future Challenges:

- Blackboard I Course— too short, too long?
- Assessments course never finishes in time- need to break down into two smaller courses?
- Adjunct workshops
- Support for Building Blocks, Course Cartridges and other “Add-ons”

Other Workshops & Future Plans

- **Online Introduction to Teaching with Blackboard – 15 faculty currently enrolled.**
- **Camtasia Movies for App Packs I, II, and III**
- **Online Enhancing Your Blackboard Courses – in development.**
- **Self-directed, Just-in-Time Training – to be developed.**