

BLE-Bulletin

Rounding up e-learning news for the Bloomsbury Colleges

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1. Bloomsbury News

i) Blackboard Catalyst winner

Sarah Sherman (BLE Service Manager) was recently made a Catalyst Award Winner, by Blackboard, for the category of Community Collaboration. Her contributions to the Blackboard Connections site and her leadership in the Blackboard User Group community were recognised by Blackboard as being invaluable to the participants at large. Sarah joins a select group of e-learning professionals, system administrators and institution staff from the around the world whose participation have also been recognised as a significant contribution and notable improvement to the Blackboard Community.



ii) APT STAIRS Update (by Caroline Bell, Project Officer)

Following on from the success of APT STAIRS, JISC has provided additional funding to extend the project. The team is now working with the University of London's External Programme to explore the introduction of new technologies, using the APT model. With the project's simple, step-by-step approach, the APT model helps to change online working behaviours, to enhance learning experiences through collaboration.

The success of the APT Project can be read in recent articles published in the [Guardian](#) and [ALT-Newsletter](#). Please consult the [APT website](#) for new updates. As the final evaluation report and videos featuring the demonstrator leaders' will be published on the site in the coming months.

iii) The BLE Blog

Leo Havemann, Learning Technology Support at Birkbeck, has set up a blog to support e-learning at Birkbeck and in the Bloomsbury community. The blog will cover a mix of Blackboard-specific and general e-learning topics. Leo is also planning to provide articles which will help teaching staff to develop their own e-learning (as well as e-teaching) skills.

<http://ble-learning.blogspot.com>

iv) BLE Staff News

The RVC is pleased to welcome Bryony Bramer, who started last month as VLE Developer. Bryony is working alongside Caroline Bell, who is covering Fiona Fenton's maternity leave. Congratulations to Fiona and her husband, Matt on the safe arrival of Felix Peter Fenton – the youngest Blackboard user in Bloomsbury.

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2. Blackboard News

i) Blackboard World 2009

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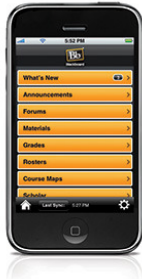


Blackboard

16 July, 2009, at the Gaylord National Resort -- just outside Blackboard's hometown of Washington, D.C.

The annual Blackboard Developers Conference will be held in conjunction with BbWorld '09. Taking place on the afternoon of Thursday, July 16, and then Friday, July 17, for two days of in-depth technical sessions on all aspects of Blackboard PowerLinks™ and Blackboard Building Blocks™ technology.

ii) Blackboard Learn for the Apple iPhone



Updates from Blackboard courses and organisations are now all instantly accessible via the Apple iPhone or iPod touch mobile digital devices when and where learners need them. Through their open architecture initiative, Blackboard provides clients with the flexibility and freedom to shape and extend the Blackboard Learn platform to meet the unique needs of their institutions, organizations, or schools. Openness also means delivering access to learners via the locations and devices they prefer.

<http://www.blackboard.com/Teaching-Learning/Learn-Resources/Whats-New/Learn-for-iPhone.aspx>

iii) Blackboard acquire ANGEL

ANGEL Learning and Blackboard have joined forces to bring together two strengths in particular:

- 1) Customer Support Culture - ANGEL's customer focus has translated into consistently excellent experiences for ANGEL clients. Blackboard aims to learn from their skill in this area to keep improving the client support capability.
- 2) Record of Innovation - Especially in the areas of user experience, teaching and learning tools and course-based assessment, ANGEL's solutions have helped shape eLearning.

Michael Chasen, Blackboard's CEO, hopes that Blackboard will use the opportunity to join ANGEL's strengths together with their own Project NG vision for a more flexible and engaging learning platform.

www.blackboard.com/company/angel.aspx.

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3. Other News

i) **JISC Education in a Web2.0 World**

Supported by the principal bodies and agencies in UK post-compulsory education, a committee was set up in February 2008 to conduct an independent inquiry into the strategic and policy implications for higher education of the experience and expectations of learners in the light of their increasing use of the newest technologies. Essentially, these are Web 2.0 or Social Web technologies, technologies that enable communication, collaboration, participation and sharing. Findings from the report show that students typically spend four hours a day online, a figure that looks set to rise as teenagers make increasing use of Web 2.0 technology in their daily lives. One of the challenges for the higher education sector is therefore to ensure that staff can keep pace with the advancing technology which many of their students rely on every day, using the technology to enhance the student learning experience.

<http://www.jisc.ac.uk/publications/documents/heweb2.aspx>

ii) **Off-air recording and media archive service**

Television and radio broadcast content is now available as an online streaming service to thousands of students and researchers for the first time following the launch of Box of Broadcasts (BoB National) by the JISC part-funded British Universities Film and Video Council (BUFVC). The off-air recording and video archive service is available to staff and students of the Education Recording Agency (ERA) licensed member institutions. Like the BBC 'iPlayer', it allows users to watch or listen to programmes missed in the last week. However, unlike iPlayer, programmes to air over the coming seven days can be scheduled, recorded and do not expire. This means they can be archived and available indefinitely, making it invaluable for lecturers and students requiring constant access.

<http://www.bufvc.ac.uk/services/bob.html>

iii) **Library of the Future debate continued**

JISC's [Libraries of the Future](#) debate at Oxford's Bodleian Library has sparked conversations across the country. Offering up the notion of the librarian of the future as the 'data warrior', this debate raised important questions, including:

- Will libraries retain any physical form in the future?
- With improved data-enabled phones, will libraries be wherever that phone is, streaming data on request?
- To what extent will partnerships and the shared care of books, information and digital preservation develop?

The answers to these and many other points are captured in the comprehensive [blog coverage](#), with the key messages of several presenters provided at this link:

<http://www.jisc.ac.uk/news/stories/2009/04/lotf2.aspx>

iv) **HEFCE launches strategy for technology-enhanced learning**



HEFCE has published 'Enhancing learning and teaching through the use of technology - a revised approach to HEFCE's strategy for e-learning' (HEFCE 2009/12). This revised approach follows an independent review of the strategy and is designed to provide further support to higher education institutions as they develop their own e-learning strategies. The new approach is intended to support institutions in considering where they may wish to prioritise their technology-related investment over the next few years, and to develop appropriate institutional learning and teaching strategies.

<http://www.jisc.ac.uk/whatwedo/themes/elearning/programmelearning/hefceframework>

v) **RAE2008 submissions published**

The content of submissions made to 2008 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE2008) has today been published on the RAE2008 web-site. These are the submission data that the 67 panels of experts examined to determine the results of the RAE2008. All of the information submitted to the 67 units of assessment is included, other than personal and contractual data (note 2), and items marked as 'confidential' where relevant.

<http://submissions.rae.ac.uk/submissions/>

vi) **Higher Education Academy publishes overview of E-learning Benchmarking and Pathfinder programme 2005-8**



A report published by the Academy highlights the success of the e-Learning Benchmarking and Pathfinder programme, and looks to the future development of the work undertaken by 77 higher education institutions as part of the programme. An overview report outlines the key themes to emerge from the programme, which was funded by HEFCE and run by the Academy in partnership

with JISC.

http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/news/detail/elearning_publication_press_release_2009

vii) **Tackling content piracy in the digital age**



The digital age has made it easier to copy content. The harsh reality is that not everyone recognises that they have a moral and legal obligation to return some of the money they generate to those who created the work.

This was the topic of David Lammy's speech delivered at the BBC in May:

"The harsh reality is that not everyone recognises that they have a moral and legal obligation to return some of the money they generate to those who created the work"

http://www.dius.gov.uk/news_and_speeches/speeches/david_lammy/digital_piracy.aspx

vii) **Copyright laws are easily broken... hang on, that book looks familiar**

An academic expert in copyright law discovered that his own work had been illegally distributed on the internet while researching a paper on the problem.

John Biggam, a lecturer in the department of strategy, innovation and enterprise at Glasgow Caledonian University, was undertaking research to show how easy it was to break copyright laws on the internet, when he discovered that one of his own books had been circulated for free without his knowledge or consent.

<http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/story.asp?storycode=405836>

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4. Training & Events

4.1 Bloomsbury

09/07/09 Work-based learning: what is it really all about?

Institute of Education

contact@wlecentre.ac.uk.

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4.2 Regional & National

04/06/09 Managing IT Security

Woburn House, London

<http://www.ja.net/services/training/courses/managingitsec.html>

10/06/09 SEDA Workshop - Turning a Conference Presentation into a Publication

Woburn House, London

<http://www.seda.ac.uk/docs/turnconfpresintopubjun09.pdf>

10/06/09 Introduction to JANET

The Studio, Birmingham

<http://www.ja.net/services/training/courses/introtojanet.html>

15/06/09 Measuring Up – the Evolution of Impact Metrics

British Institute of Radiology, 36 Portland Place, London

http://www.alpsp.org/ngen_public/article.asp?aid=44958

01/06/09 Technology Supported Learning in the 21st Century: Issues and Paradigms in Transformative Tertiary Education 2009

Staffordshire University

http://www.staffs.ac.uk/about_us/news_and_events/event_calendar/tsl_conference/index.jsp

01/06/09 JIBS Workshop on Data Management

SOAS

<http://www.jibs.ac.uk/events/workshops/mgmtdata/programme.htm>

03/06/09 Enhancing the student learning experience

Roehampton University

b.middlemas@roehampton.ac.uk

04/06/09 SOLSTICE 2009 conference: It's All in the Blend? Innovation, Research and Development: enhancing learning with technologies

Edge Hill University

www.edgehill.ac.uk/solstice/conference2009

04/06/09 Institutional Policies and Procedures for Dealing with Plagiarism

Oxford Brookes University

<http://www.brookes.ac.uk/aske/events.html>

07-10/06/09 23rd ICDE World Conference on Open Learning and Distance Education

Maastricht, The Netherlands

<http://www.icde.org>

10-11/06/09 Telling e-Portfolio Stories Conference

University of Wolverhampton

<http://www.wlv.ac.uk/default.aspx?page=16960>

11/06/09 Are you ready for ...Emerging Technologies

Webinar

<http://www.rsc-london.ac.uk/1316/>

16/06/09 Federated Access Management: Hosting your own IdP

Webinar

<http://www.rsc-london.ac.uk/1335/>

16-17/06/09 UKeig Conference: Innovation in e-Information - encouraging creative thinking and discussion amongst information professionals

Manchester Conference Centre

www.ukeig.org.uk

17-18/06/09 The Fourth International Blended Learning Conference: Engaging Students in the Curriculum

University of Hertfordshire

www.herts.ac.uk/blu

18/06/09 Introduction to DNS

Queens University, Belfast

<http://www.ja.net/services/training/courses/introtodns.html>

29/06/09 Introduction to the UK federation (JANET Training)

Manchester

<http://www.ja.net/services/training/courses/introfed.html>

30/06/09 Implementing Shibboleth at your Organisation

Manchester

<http://www.ja.net/services/training/courses/shibboleth.html>

01/07/09 Implementing a Shibboleth 2 Service Provider

Manchester

<http://www.ja.net/services/training/courses/shibsp2.html>

06-07/07/09 e-Learning 2.0 Two-Day Mini-Conference

Brunel University

chris.evans@brunel.ac.uk

07/07/09 e-Portfolios: Effective Uses in Teaching and Learning

Woburn House, London

<http://www.rsc-london.ac.uk/1334/>

07/07/09 ALPSP Seminar: Online Communities

British Institute of Radiology

http://www.alpsp.org/ngen_public/event.asp?id=9138

08/07/09 E-Assessment Live 2009

Loughborough University

<http://www.e-assessmentlive2009.org.uk/>

13-15/07/09 6th Annual Problem Based Learning (PBL) summer workshop

University of Leicester

www.dkit.ie/leap

15/07/09 Mahara UK 09: ePortfolio event

Institute of Education

david@catalyst-eu.net

16-17/07/09 eLearning in health: Working together to enhance learning

Warwick University Conference Centre

<http://www.elearningpractice.org/conference/>

28-30/07/09 Institutional Web Management Workshop

University of Essex

<http://iwmw.ukoln.ac.uk/iwmw2009/programme/>

08-10/09/09 ALT-C 2009: "In dreams begins responsibility" - choice, evidence and change

Manchester

<http://www.alt.ac.uk/altc2009>

22-25/09/09 Supporting Learning in the Digital Age

Murray Edwards College (formerly New Hall), Cambridge

<http://www2.open.ac.uk/r06/conference>

- The BUFVC (British Universities Film & Video Council) programme of courses: <http://www.bufvc.ac.uk/courses/booking.html>
- JISC Digital Media training programme: <http://www.jiscdigitalmedia.ac.uk/training/>
- One day JANET Training Courses: <http://www.ja.net/services/training/schedule/by-course.html>
- Library Related Conferences: <http://library2.usask.ca/~dworacze/CONF.HTM>

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5. Resources

i) Learning 2.0: A Study on the Impact of Web 2.0 Innovations on Education and Training in Europe

The above publication is a fascinating read. The result of 12 months research by the European Commission - Institute for Prospective Technological Studies

<http://is.jrc.ec.europa.eu/pages/Learning-2.0.html>

Interesting to read in conjunction with Tom Franklins report on the use of social networking (Web 2.0) in HE

<http://franklin-consulting.co.uk/>

ii) Classical research in a digital age

The British Library's Archival Sound Recordings project, supported by JISC, launches a vital new resource for the exploration of western classical music heritage. Bringing together nearly 1000 historic recordings, this freely available online collection allows researchers to easily compare various interpretations of great composers, tracing the impact of globalisation on performance style and its evolution throughout the early 20th Century.

Available works include:

- Bach – Brandenburg concertos, orchestral suites and solo concertos
- Haydn – Symphonies
- Mozart – Symphonies and concertos
- Beethoven – String quartets, symphonies and concertos
- Brahms – Symphonies, overtures and concertos

iii) BBC Monitoring Library

BBC Monitoring tracks the global media for the latest news reports emerging around the world as a searchable source of news, information and comment gathered from media worldwide. The BBC Monitoring Library provides access to content from 3000 sources from 150 countries from 100 languages.

<http://bbcmonitoringlibrary.com/> (on-site access only)

iv) World Digital Library

The World Digital Library (WDL) was launched in 2009 by UNESCO in association with over 30 other national, university and research libraries and archives. It

aims to provide free public access to an online collection of cultural materials. These are intended to include books, manuscripts, prints, photographs, sound recordings and film clips covering all areas of the world from earliest times to the present day. They include many examples of rare historic materials. The site can be searched by keyword or browsed by time, place, topic or contributing institution. Copyright and technical information is displayed on the website.
<http://www.wdl.org/en/>

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6. Funding Opportunities

- i) **JISC**
<http://www.jisc.ac.uk/fundingopportunities/futurecalls>
- ii) **The Higher Education Academy**
<http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/ourwork/learning/elearning/elro>
- iii) **Higher Education Academy Subject Centres**
<http://www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/funding/tdf/>

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