

LTC Newsletter

Nov. 2012



**NOV/DEC
LTC Open Lab Hours
103 Still Hall**

Drop in during the times below for one-to-one assistance with D2L, course development and instructional technologies; no appointment necessary!

November 27 ~ 10 – 11:30 am
November 28 ~ 1 – 2:30 pm
December 5 ~ 2 – 3:30 pm
December 7 ~ 11 – 12:30 pm
December 10 ~ 1 – 2:30 pm
December 13 ~ 11 – 12:30 pm



**D2L UPGRADE REMINDER:
DECEMBER 15**

**D2L DOWNTIME:
12:01 a.m. to approx. 3
p.m.
Email will be sent when
upgrade is complete**

D2L TIPS and TRENDS

• **Final Grades! Did you**

D2L 10... Check it out!

Mark your calendars now, the new and improved version of Desire2Learn (D2L) is coming on December 15!! **The upgrade from version 9.4 to version 10 will begin at 12:01 a.m. December 15 for all PASSHE universities and end at approximately 3 p.m.** Clarion University D2L users will be greeted with the new Desire2Learn interface when Winter Intersession begins December 17.



D2L 10 - What's New Sessions

In anticipation of the upgrade, the Learning Technology Center will be hosting seven "What's New in D2L 10" demo sessions. Come and preview the new D2L interface and functionality before it goes live! [Register for Workshop W01 - What's New.](#) These will not be "hands-on" workshops. However, Winter Intersession instructors will be contacted for special hands-on sessions prior to the upgrade. Additional hands-on workshops will be held in January for all instructors prior to the Spring semester startup.

- Tuesday, Nov. 27 ~ 10-11 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 28 ~ 11-12 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 5 ~ 1-2 p.m.
- Friday, Dec. 7 ~ 10-11 a.m.
- Monday, Dec. 10 ~ 12-1 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 12 ~ 9-10 a.m. (*Venango College*)
- Thursday, Dec. 13 ~ 10-11 a.m.

What's New in D2L Version 10?

Much of the tool functionality is the same with a few enhancements.

know...D2L Grades tool does not automatically show students a cumulative semester grade? Although instructors have to check "Final calculated grade" or "Adjusted final grade" under the Final Grade Released options within the Grades settings > Calculation Options area, the cumulative score is not visible to students until instructors actually release the grade. [See documentation on releasing final grades.](#) Call the LTC for more info: x1848. **Note: Releasing final grades in the D2L Gradebook does not release the final grades to MyClarion. Instructors must still submit official final grades in MyClarion. Questions regarding this process should be directed to the Registrar's office.**

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• **Grades Assurance!** With the semester coming to an end, remember to export your D2L gradebook to preserve a record of final grades. The D2L "Export Grades" feature enables you to export your grades as a .csv file which can be opened in Excel. This is especially useful when you want to add comments and other notes as needed to document individual grade calculation details. Please call the LTC for assistance if necessary.

ABOUT

Many of the noticeable differences are visual:

- **Redesigned interface:** includes enhancements such as redesigned layout and home pages.
- **New navigation minibar:** allows users to move between courses without returning to the My Home page.
- **New course navigation bar:** groups tools into drop-down menus.
- **New Dropbox feedback release option:** Enables instructors to bulk release Dropbox feedback to students simultaneously, rather than releasing feedback on a student-by-student basis.
- **Discussion Enhancements:** "Must post first" option requires students to post a message before being able to view or reply to classmates' posts.

For more information, please view the [D2L 10 Upgrade Features](#) page.

Clickers in the Classroom

If you are thinking about using clickers in a Spring course, now is the time to contact the bookstore to add them to your required materials list. Contact the LTC as well to check for software and receiver installation for the classroom.

Clarion's standardized model is TurningPoint's ResponseCard NXT, ISBN# 9781934931455. Standardization offers benefits for faculty and students. For students, the clicker devices can be used throughout their college years. In addition, using the standardized model will eliminate student frustration at having to purchase multiple devices for different courses. For faculty, Computing Services can more easily provide standardized training, support and documentation for a campus-wide model.



The devices can be re-sold and registered by the next owner. Please refer to our web site for [more information on clickers.](#)

For installation, training and support contact [Suzanne Homan](#) in the Learning Technology Center.

Using Audio to Enhance Online Courses

If you missed the last D2L Users Group session then you missed a very informative session on how audio feedback impacts instructors and students in an online course. Hats off to Julie London for sharing her research findings and strategies with the group on this very topic! Julie is an instructor for the Department of Nursing and has successfully implemented the use of audio in her online courses.

Her strategies and examples demonstrated how audio feedback can be used to:

The LTC newsletter is devoted to the support of instructional technology in teaching and learning at Clarion University. The LTC provides instructional design ideas and teaching strategies to assist faculty in course development. LTC welcomes news from faculty regarding classroom success stories related to technology integration and teaching. Please send your articles or ideas to shoman@clarion.edu.

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- Increase student engagement and sense of inclusion and instructor presence in the course.
- Provide effective student feedback while saving instructors time.
- Enable students to communicate and be heard in a more traditional, personal way.

The easy-to-use Record Audio tool is already integrated into D2L Dropbox, Discussions and News areas for instructors to leave up to 3 minutes of feedback or news. Students can use 'Record Audio' for Discussions, and Dropbox submissions as well. Adding a picture in the D2L profile makes the recordings even more personal.

If you have successful techniques that you are currently using, please consider sharing your ideas also. Contact [Darla Ausel](#).

Wimba/Bb Collaborate Latest News



As announced previously, Clarion University will continue to use Wimba as the synchronous tool for the Winter Intersession. However, the replacement product, Blackboard Collaborate, will be available to use at some point during the Spring 2013 term. As more information is available, the LTC will share release dates and training opportunities for Bb Collaborate.

In preparation, don't forget to download any archived sessions that may be needed for future use. The LTC is available to help in this process, or you may review the [download instructions](#) on our Web site. The LTC will be announcing product demos and training sessions after the Christmas break.