

Blackboard Catalyst Awards

Cath Booth/Will Moindrot, Humanities eLearning Team
Dr Adam Ozanne, Lecturer in Economics



Overview of session

- Background to award
- An instructor's insight Adam Ozanne
 - Overview of a winning course: what he feels made it successful [NB not a 'how to win'...!]
 - Benefits
 - Workload
- Plan for supporting you, 2014-15 and beyond

Blackboard Catalyst Awards

 "...honour those who push the boundaries of their educational programs and technology in order to deliver innovative and effective learning experiences"

Categories:

Exemplary Course Award; Staff Development Award; Student Impact Award; Innovation Award

Based around the Blackboard Exemplary Course Rubric

Why should I take part?

- International recognition for instructor/ programme/School/institution
- Reflection and development
 - Collaboration with an eLT on a development plan based upon Blackboard's Catalyst rubric
 - Opportunity for peer review and collaboration
 - External feedback and evaluation for all entries by a worldwide panel of educators



Dr Andrew Whitworth (lecturer in SEED) receiving award at BbWorld2012 from Blackboard president Ray Henderson

Submission process

1. The Exemplary Course rubric

Instructors self-evaluate their unit against a rubric in four areas: Course Design, Interaction and Collaboration, Assessment, Learner Support

Weighting for each area:

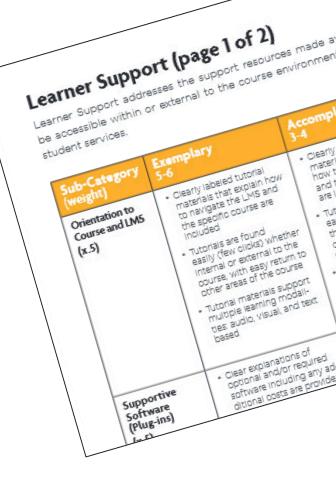
Exemplary, Accomplished, Promising, Incomplete, Not evident

2. Nomination form

Online form that provides rationale and evidence to support self-evaluation

3. Copy of the unit (without student content) available for external review

Anonymised screenshots that support case for student interaction - the eLearning team help with this



www.blackboard.com/About-Bb/Catalyst-Awards/Exemplary-Course-Program.aspx

Catalyst reviewer quotes

Blackboard as hub

- Exemplary use of Blackboard allows to reduce the labor-intensity of learning. Lectures are recorded and posted for future reference.
- The reviewer was impressed by the diversity of learner-supporting materials collected for this course. Impressive work!
- The number of engaging opportunities provided to students is exemplary.

Feedback mechanisms

- Having the students exposed to past submissions, including professor annotations, can really ease anxiety in learners who fear the unknown.
- Exposes students to instructor grading methodology before submitting exercises, as well as showcasing common stumbling blocks students may experience.
- Being able to observe past interactions can help guide current student success.

Presentation - Adam Ozanne

ECON10061 Introductory Mathematics Blackboard course

Applicant's perspective

- Why ECON10061 Blackboard space works
 - Blackboard acts as "hub" of multiple activities
 - Anonymised sample feedback
- Workload involved in preparing submission
- Benefits

How can the eLearning team help?

- One-to-one eLT consultation about your course
- Provide a peer review platform
- Support for development areas if needed
- Help with paper application
- Technical copying of the course for review
- Dissemination of successful courses

Timeline for 2015 production

- A web page of resources (in production)
- Feb 2015 Anticipated submission deadline
 - Entrants for 2015 to get in touch ASAP (duplicating course/<u>Bb MOOC resources</u>);
 email <u>elearning@manchester.ac.uk</u>
 - Take a look at <u>www.blackboard.com/About-Bb/Catalyst-Awards.aspx</u>
 - Follow Teaching & Learning News for information on web page launch
- No rush may want to see this as a longer-term objective; as part of a wider course review process
- But reviewer feedback makes it worth a punt
 - Developmental benefits
 - Inform future success

Catalyst reviewer quotes

Blackboard as hub

- Exemplary use of Blackboard allows to reduce the labor-intensity of learning. Lectures are recorded and posted for future reference.
- The reviewer was impressed by the diversity of learner-supporting materials collected for this course. Impressive work!
- The number of engaging opportunities provided to students is exemplary.

Feedback mechanisms

- Having the students exposed to past submissions, including professor annotations, can really ease anxiety in learners who fear the unknown.
- Exposes students to instructor grading methodology before submitting exercises, as well as showcasing common stumbling blocks students may experience.
- Being able to observe past interactions can help guide current student success.