# LTC Newsletter

Oct. 2012

**OCT/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!*

*October 24 ~ 9 – 10:30 am
October 30 ~ 9 – 10:30 am
November 1 ~ 2 – 3 pm
November 6 ~ 9 – 10:30 am
November 7 ~ 1 – 2 pm
November 14 ~ 9 – 10:30 am
November 15 ~ 12 – 1:30 pm
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*

## TIPS and TRENDS

• **D2L version 10!** A new look is coming soon. Live on Dec. 15!

## Introducing... D2L 10!

Clarion University D2L users will be greeted with a new Desire2Learn interface when Winter Intersession courses begin December 17. Desire2Learn (D2L) will be upgraded on Saturday, December 15th to version 10 for all PASSHE universities. Much of the tool functionality is the same with a few enhancements. Some of the noticeable differences include:

• Visual enhancements such as a redesigned layout and home pages.

• A new navigation minibar on all pages allowing users to move between courses without returning to the My Home page.

• New course navigation bar with drop down menus that allow for grouping of navigation items.

• Option for instructors to bulk release Dropbox feedback to students simultaneously once all submissions are graded, rather than releasing feedback on a student-by-student basis.

• "Must post first" option in Discussions to require students to post a message before being able to view classmates' posts.
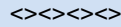
"What's New in D2L 10" overview sessions are listed below with more to follow. More details on the expected outage window, documentation, and training opportunities will be announced in future communications. Special training sessions will be offered to Winter Intersession instructors. Stay tuned!
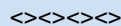
## Wimba/Bb Collaborate Update

As announced earlier this year, the PASSHE Wimba contract will be ending within the academic year. Due to an extended implementation window for Bb Collaborate, Clarion University will continue to use Wimba as the synchronous tool for the Winter Intersession. As more information is available, the LTC will share release dates and training opportunities for Bb Collaborate.
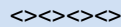
In preparation, Clarion University faculty and/or staff should begin downloading any archived sessions until we make this transition as a

<><><><>

**• Create a quiz template!** With the Copy feature in the Quizzes tool, instructors can easily create a quiz template to preserve settings such as Auto Export, Auto Grade, Submission views, time limits, grace period, and attempts instead replicating for every quiz. Call the LTC for more info: x1848.

<><><><>

**• File naming!** For files you want to upload to D2L, avoid using special characters such as @, $, %, \, *, ~. While D2L will accept some, it is generally not good practice to use these characters as they may cause internal errors.

<><><><>

**• Backup your grades!** It is important to export your D2L gradebooks regularly throughout the semester and at the end of the term to create a backup of your grades. The D2L "Export Grades" feature enables you to export your grades as a .csv file which can be opened in Excel. Please call the LTC for assistance.

---

### ABOUT

*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*

university community. Archived sessions may be saved as MP3 or MP4 files for upload into future courses. The LTC is available to help in this process, or you may review the download instructions on our Web site to preserve your archived sessions. The LTC will be announcing product demos and training sessions soon!

## Fall Workshops

● **What's My Grade?**

**Thu., Nov. 1 | 1-2pm and Wed., Nov. 7 | 12-1pm**

This workshop will focus on D2L gradebook settings and understanding the student view of the grades area. Want students to know where they stand? Drop lowest scores? Get all of your D2L gradebook questions answered! Register for Workshop W51.

● **D2L v.10 - What's New Sessions**

**Tue., Nov. 27, | 10-11pm and Wed., Nov. 28 | 11-12pm**

Come and preview the new D2L interface and functionality before it goes Live! Additional sessions will be announced. Register for Workshop W01.

● **MS Office 2010 Workshops - 103 Still Hall**

**- Word II | Mon., Nov. 5, | 9-12pm**

**- Excel II | Wed., Nov. 7, | 9-12pm**

**- Outlook II | Fri., Nov. 9, | 9-12pm**

**- PowerPoint II | Thu., Nov. 15, | 9-12pm**

Registration

## D2L Users Group

**Audio to Enhance Your Online Course**

**Tues., Oct. 30 | 3-4:30pm**

The LTC will hold a collaborative session with Partners in Teaching, Learning and Assessment on October 30. This session will focus on implementation and pedagogical strategies for using audio in your online courses. Audio can be used to increase student engagement, effectively give student feedback, provide short online lectures to support active learning, and more. Learn how to enhance your online course with easy-to-use audio tools that are already integrated into D2L. Julie London will share how she integrates audio throughout her online courses. If you have successful techniques that you are currently using, please consider presenting or sharing your ideas also. Contact Darla Ausel.

**STAFF**

**Darla Ausel**
*LTC Manager,*
*Instructional Designer*
**Suzanne Homan**
*Tech Support Analyst,*
*Instructional Designer*

**CONTACT**

Learning Technology Center
101 Still Hall
ltcsupport@clarion.edu
814-393-1848
www.clarion.edu/ltc

# Engage Millennials with D2L Third-Party Tools

It's not news that today's generation of young adults - coined "millenials" by demographers for this last generation born in the 20th century - have shorter attention spans, an instant gratification mentality, not to mention obsession with their Smartphones. Having grown up with the internet and associated devices, they are said to be the most technically savvy generation yet. Do you have the tech-savviness to engage these learners?

These always connected, need-to-know-now youth, can benefit from your use of third-party tools such as Respondus, Studymate, and Campus Pack tools. And, so can you! These tools can help make your course prep and management quicker and easier, as well as help you create engaging and meaningful learning experiences for your students.

### Respondus

In the quicker and easier category, there is **Respondus**. Whether you have a publishers exam or your own exam in document form, Respondus can help you easily publish quizzes and surveys in D2L. To help get you started, check out the instructions at http://www.clarion.edu/205069. There are many publisher's formats that can be used as well as your own document or text file.

### Studymate

Studymate can also be used for publisher test bank questions as well as the creation of learning activities, self-assessments and games to engage students with your course content in an individualized way. For detailed instructions and how to add the activities to your course, please see the documentation at http://www.clarion.edu/280625.pdf.

To obtain Respondus and Studymate software installation information for home or office use, please view the Help Desk's Respondus software page or StudyMate software page.
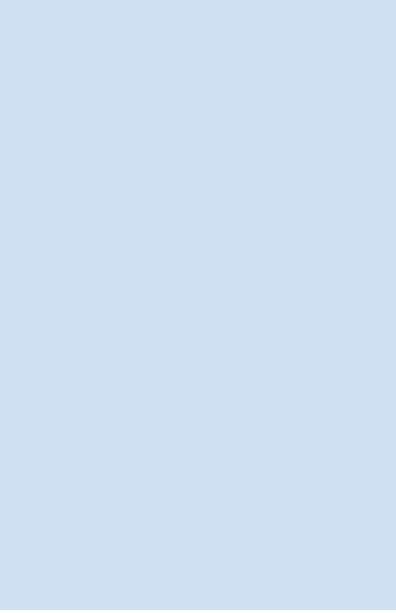
### Campus Pack

Learning Object's **Campus Pack** provides our D2L- integrated-21st-century tools - wikis, blogs, journals and podcasts. These communication tools can engage and enhance learning when used for self-assessment/reflection, collaborative group projects, and short Q & A narrations. Please view the Campus Pack instructions at www.clarion.edu/346076.

With any of these third-party tools, please contact the LTC for assistance.

# Curb Cheating on Quizzes



If you missed the enlightening and engaging D2L Users Group session on the pitfalls of quizzing - no worries! You would be amazed at the tricks students use today to cheat on tests both in the classroom and online, but there are strategies you can take to make it more difficult. Specific strategies that you can use for D2L include the following:

• Impose time restrictions so students must complete the exam within a specific amount of time.

• Implement randomization for questions *and* answers.

• Disable "right-click" so students cannot copy and paste questions.

• Test frequently with shorter exams, lower stakes.

• Design courses to promote academic integrity by linking to the university Academic Honesty Policy, providing examples of behaviors that are considered cheating and informing students of the consequences of cheating.

• Consider including an academic honesty statement in the exam (agree/disagree) as reminder.