

## Implementation Update

### WE HAVE A NAME

The learning environment name for the Learning Management System (LMS) has been finalized. The system will be called E-Learn@Mac or ELM.

### HIGHLIGHTS

A hearty congratulations to the LTRC staff as they have been exemplary in juggling the support of current LTRC services as well as the many tasks involved in the implementation of ELM. Many activities are happening in parallel. While our infrastructure people work to bring the hardware online, other staff are busy developing curriculum, and at the same time, helping to develop necessary support material and structures. As always, details of the LMS implementation can be found at:

<http://www.ltrc.mcmaster.ca/implementation>

Many thanks to UTS for their extensive cooperation and collaboration on the new data streams as well as with working out the logistics of the hardware and database infrastructure



The hardware is racked, assembled, cabled, and has been turned on! Remember that WebCT 4 ran on one server. ELM runs on multiple servers in what's called a "clustered environment". While this allows for redundancy and maximum up time (critical for a university-wide system), it is far more complex with respect to configuration.



As you read this, the LMS team is working with vendors to install the learning component of ELM. Preliminary installation should be complete by the end of next week. Then begins the task of configuring the production server.



The LTRC has been working with UTS to define new streams of data to manage the integration of people and course information into ELM. Next to the hardware installation, this is another major component of the implementation.



Software testing on a virtual (test) environment continues. The testing will continue on the main production server in the new year.



Curriculum development has begun (details on the other side of this page).



A new ticketed support system has been successfully launched and piloted for WebCT and LearnLink support. The ticketed support system is currently being configured for ELM.

## LEARNING MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT

Curriculum development has begun and staff have already developed many learning materials. Offerings for summer 2009 include **Practical Hands-on Sessions** on how to use ELM, **Teaching Strategy Sessions** that are directly relevant to and accompany the practical sessions, and a whole range of **Online Resources** for anytime, anywhere access.

### Resources Online

- Getting Started Guides
- Printable Manuals
- Video Tutorials
- Quick Help
- Case Studies
- Best Practice Tips

### The Techie Tools: Practical Hands-on Sessions

- Fundamentals
- Communication Tools: Mail, Chat, Discussion
- Goals and Learning Modules
- Media Library
- Managing your Gradebook
- Assessments: Quizzes, Self-tests and Surveys
- Managing Groups and Assignments

### Not Just Techie Tools: Teaching Strategies

- Managing Expectations
- Writing Good Assessment Questions
- Engaging Minds Online
- Taming the Academic Dishonesty Dragon
- Rubrics: Clarifying Assignment Expectations

## LOOKING AHEAD

