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IT's New Blackboard for Course Websites

Debbie Ginsberg
IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law Library, dginsberg@kentlaw.iit.edu

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Introducing the New Blackboard
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What is Blackboard?

Blackboard is a course website system similar to TWEN. Like TWEN, faculty can use Blackboard to share documents with students, host discussion boards, and contact students outside of class.

Blackboard it is hosted by IIT on the main campus. In spring 2013, IIT will launch a new version of Blackboard.

Lexis hosts a version of Blackboard that is very similar to IIT's.

New Blackboard Sites

You will find the new Blackboard at http://newblackboard.iit.edu. In the spring, you will find it at http://blackboard.iit.edu.

Older Blackboard Sites

After the spring launch, older Blackboard sites will be available at http://oldblackboard.iit.edu.

Blackboard Features

Automatically load students – IIT's Blackboard is tied into IIT's student and faculty information systems. This means that when students register for a class, they are automatically added to the appropriate Blackboard site. They are removed if they drop the class. The Lexis version of Blackboard does not have this feature.

Easy to use -- Many faculty found the previous version of Blackboard very clunky. Editing course websites and uploading documents accounts is now much simpler.

SafeAssign – Blackboard includes an anti-plagiarism feature called SafeAssign. Faculty can upload assignments and compare them to other documents in the SafeAssign database.

Alternative: Lexis SafeAssign – The Lexis version of Blackboard also includes SafeAssign, but Lexis's version includes more legal scholarship documents in its comparison database.

Class blogs -- Blackboard includes several tools for student communication, including blogs that allow students to share ideas with their peers. Blackboard also features student journals that are accessible only to the writer and the faculty teaching the course.