

Bowling Green State University
BG@100 Action Item
ESC Submission: May 19, 2008

Identification Information:

<i>Reference Number</i>	CSS-A012
<i>Functional Area</i>	Student Records
<i>Title</i>	Interface Blackboard Final Grades to PeopleSoft
<i>ESC Submission</i>	May 19, 2008
<i>ESC Decision Requested By</i>	May 19, 2008

Issue Description:

Currently many faculty members across campus utilize the grade book functionality found in Blackboard to manage the grade roster for the classes they are teaching. As BGSU moves forward with the electronic submission of grades, the ability for faculty members to be able to interface final grades from Blackboard to PS is desired.

Background Information:

For some time faculty members have asked for a mechanism for submission of grades electronically. Many faculty members are utilizing Blackboard as a way to electronically manage the grades for the classes they teach. As delivered, Blackboard and PeopleSoft do not provide a method for interfacing student grades. Thus, faculty members that currently utilize Blackboard for managing grades will be required to manually enter the final grades for the semester into the self-service grade roster in PeopleSoft. A grade submission interface between Blackboard and PS is desired so that faculty utilizing Blackboard to manage grades will not need to re-enter the final grades in PeopleSoft.

Alternatives:

Alternative #1: Use PS as delivered.

Alternative #2: Develop interface between Blackboard and PS for final grade submission.

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The following table shows the pros and cons for the alternatives identified above.

#	Alternative	Pros	Cons	Notes
1	Use PS as delivered.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty members can enter grades via the faculty center in self service. Edits to input grades and grading basis are built into PS grade roster to prohibit incorrect grade entry. • Faculty member can clearly indicate on grade roster whether grades are approved to post or still in review. • Only students properly enrolled appear of PS grade roster. • No continued support of customization needed with each subsequent upgrade. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty members will have to record grade data in two areas increasing chance for data entry error when information transferred from Blackboard to PS grade roster. • No incentive for faculty member to use Blackboard as system of record as there is no link between two systems; increases chance of faculty member using unsecured methods of data storage to aid in grade data recording. 	

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The following table shows the pros and cons for the alternatives identified above.

#	Alternative	Pros	Cons	Notes
2	Develop interface between Blackboard and PS for final grade submission.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can provide means for faculty member to indicate that grades are approved for posting; can program in other necessary data edits and return error report to faculty member at time of data transfer. • Encourages faculty members to use University supported and secured methods for collecting and recording grade related data. • Would still allow for direct faculty entry to grade roster via PeopleSoft self service if desired. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued support of customization required with each subsequent upgrade. 	

Costs - Alternative #1:

Costs - Alternative #2:

Estimated Hours for Original Implementation	160 Hours	
Estimated Cost for Original Implementation	\$24,000	Use \$150 times hours
Estimated Hours per Each Upgrade	30 Hours	
Estimated Cost per Each Upgrade	\$1,500	Use \$50 times hours

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Schedule Considerations:

This customization would need to be completed and tested by March 2009 before course shells are created for Summer 2009.

Recommendation:

Alternative # 2 This customization provides a win-win situation for faculty members; full use of PS electronic grade submission and the University's Learning Management System without the burden of redundant data keeping.

Recommendation Supported By:

Name	Project Role
Sue Lau, Director of Records and Degree Audit	CSS Functional Lead

ESC Decision:

Bruce Petryshak for Alternative #2
Linda Dobb for Alternative #2
Shirley Baugher for Alternative #2
Ed Whipple for Alternative #2
Sheri Stoll for Alternative #2

ESC Decision Date: May 19, 2008