

To: Deans

(Sent separately to Department Heads, Faculty, Academic Associate Deans, Lecturers, Academic Staff)

From: Jenna Rickus, Interim Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning

Re: July 24 T&L Forum, Summer/Early Start, Updates on Tools

Date: July 20, 2020

Congratulations to the more than 1,000 Summer and Early Start students, and their 65 instructors who kicked off the 2020-21 academic year last week. The courses are a sneak peek of fall and are proving to be diverse in delivery with a mix of in person, hybrid, hyflex and online courses. About half of the students moved into the residence halls. They are modeling the Protect Purdue Pledge, are happy to be on campus, and inventing ways to be physically distanced and socially connected. The smiles of new students are energizing; it turns out you can see smiles through masks. We hope to learn from these trailblazers about how to continue to improve for fall. A big thanks to the Summer and Early Start instructors for leading the way!

Following are key updates, practical information and resources.

1. **Teaching & Learning (T&L) Forum July 24, 11 am-12 noon**

- Associate Dean of Students Jeff Stefancic from the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities will head a panel on **academic integrity and exams** during this Friday's [T&L WebEx forum](#). Dave Nelson from the Center for Instructional Excellence and members of our Teaching and Learning Technologies team will discuss academic integrity and exams, and **two new tools: Turnitin and Examyty**.
- More details and past recordings are available at the [T&L Forums webpage](#).

2. **Protect Purdue in the Classroom**

- Radiological and Environmental Management (REM) has posted [Guidance on Face Shields](#).
- Every student will now receive a face shield, distributed with their Protect Purdue kit, to support the safety of these activities in their campus activities and classes. Staff and faculty should work directly with their department to acquire a face shield. A big thanks to Nate Hartman, whose team in PPI is producing face shields for campus!
- Physical Facilities continues to publish classroom drawings with detailed social distancing measurements and furniture layouts. They are available for viewing in [IMPACT X Access](#) in Brightspace.

3. **Teaching Technology**

- The **Turnitin originality checker** will be integrated with the Brightspace learning management system this fall. Turnitin replaces the SafeAssign tool previously used in the Blackboard Learn LMS. More information about how instructors can use Turnitin in a course, along with details about training materials and workshops, will be discussed at Friday's T&L Forum.
- **Variate** is a new online platform that allows instructors to **create meaningful math-based assessments using randomized variables**. The latest release adds formatting options that changed the way randomized values and correct answers are displayed to students. In addition to basic numbers, values can now be formatted as numbers with comma separators, U.S. dollars, scientific notation, E notation, fractions, or percentages. Problems are free-response, can have multiple parts, and can have numerical or expression answers. Variate is an alternative to publisher assessments and is free for Purdue instructors and students. It was developed by the Purdue Innovative Learning team for STEM disciplines. Knowledge of programming languages is not required and the robust math engine includes safeguards so that students will not be shown broken problems. Variate will be integrated with Brightspace before fall classes begin.
- The Purdue University system has entered into an agreement to use **Zoom, the remote conferencing tool**, that will allow departments to utilize the service at a heavily discounted rate and allow instructors to use the tool for virtual classrooms. Zoom will be integrated into Brightspace this fall in order to enable interaction with students who are not able to participate in face-to-face instruction or are enrolled in online courses. Further details will be available soon, but you can go to [request a Zoom license or update a current license](#).

4. Equity & Inclusion in Teaching & Learning

- **Friday, July 24, at 11 am**, the **CILMAR Intercultural Learning and Inclusive Teaching for the New Virtual Paradigm** (Virtual ICL) webinar series features, "[Let's Talk about Color,](#)" featuring Natasha Harris, Assistant Director of Science Diversity in Purdue's College of Science, who is organizing a panel on colorism and the range of racialized experiences our students have. Recordings of this session and the entire series are available on the [Virtual ICL website](#).

5. Fall Course Planning Resources for Instructors

- If you get stuck and need help, email innovativelearningteam@purdue.edu for expert assistance.
- More than 750 Purdue instructors are tapping into the [IMPACT X portfolio](#) of support designed to guide instructors through the major principles of course design and the implementation and delivery of course elements within the Brightspace LMS. Participants tell us that the programs are set up well in Brightspace, and have changed the way instructors are approaching their teaching for fall. They also say it gives them an appreciation for how students will experience the new LMS. [IMPACT X Access](#) is available to all instructors.

- Every course offered this fall needs to have a **Brightspace** shell and access to view content within Blackboard Learn ends Aug. 24. Follow these steps: 1) Get started by submitting a Course Shell Request to create a development (DEV) shell for each course you are building. 2) For courses previously in Blackboard, submit a request to migrate course content into Brightspace no later than Aug. 1 for fall courses, and no later than Aug. 17 for other semesters. 3) Brightspace training and drop-in sessions are offered every week, and departments can also request custom training sessions by visiting the Training and Workshop website or by emailing tlt@purdue.edu.
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