



Volume 2, Number 5 | September 9, 2016



2016 Excellence in Online Teaching Awards

Once again the Distance Learning Advisory Council will be selecting two faculty members to be honored, during the spring semester, with the annual Excellence in Online Teaching Awards. There are two categories, **Innovative Teaching with Technology** and **Outstanding Online Course**.

The purpose of these awards is to recognize outstanding work by our faculty and to promote effective practices for online and distance learning in all disciplines.

If you, or a faculty member you know designed or taught a course that you think is worthy of consideration for this awards, please submit a nomination. All UNTD instructors of record are eligible to be nominated and, if nominated, to submit an award application.

Sep 12 - Call for nominations



UNTD Blackboard Gets a New Look!

We've revamped Blackboard to make it aesthetically compatible with the UNT Dallas website as well as more user-friendly for students and faculty and easier to navigate. This new look is the latest in a series of upgrades to enhance the Blackboard system and the way we use UNTD's learning management system to enhance the teaching and learning process.

Students are going to enjoy a cleaner look. It's less cluttered, has less visual noise and users are going to find it more intuitive simply because all the extra stuff is kind of pushed away.

Did you notice the new face of Blackboard Learn this week?

Blackboard Learn - Internet Explorer provided by University of North Texas | Dallas

https://learn.untDallas.edu/ Blackboard Learn

arturo.cole-escutia@untDallas... Web Slice Gallery

UNT DALLAS

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS AT DALLAS

Blackboard Learn Login

Username:

Password:


[Login](#)


[Forgot Your Password?](#)

[Change Text Size](#) [High Contrast Setting](#)

Scheduled Maintenance

Bb Learn is unavailable every Saturday night from 11:00pm until 2:00am CDT Sunday morning for system maintenance.



<h4>Student Helpdesk</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Founders Hall (B2) 127 (972) 338-5580 UNTDDistance@unt.edu Dallas Helpdesk <h4>Support Hours</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mon-Thur: 8am until 8pm Fri: 8am-5pm Sat: 8am-5pm Sun: Closed 	<h4>Faculty & Staff Helpdesk</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Founders Hall (B2) 123 (972) 338-5543 UNTDBlackboard@unt.edu Dallas Faculty Support <h4>Support Hours</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mon-Fri: 8am - 5pm Sat: Closed Sun: Closed 	<h4>Additional Links</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bb Learn Blog This blog provides technical updates on the Blackboard Learn System used on the campuses of the UNT System. On Demand Learning Center Short how-to videos for learning how to use Blackboard as a student. 	 <p>National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements</p> <p>Approved Institution</p> <p>Click here to get help ^</p>
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State of Video in Education 2016

Survey Highlights Growth of Video in Higher Ed, Optimism over OER

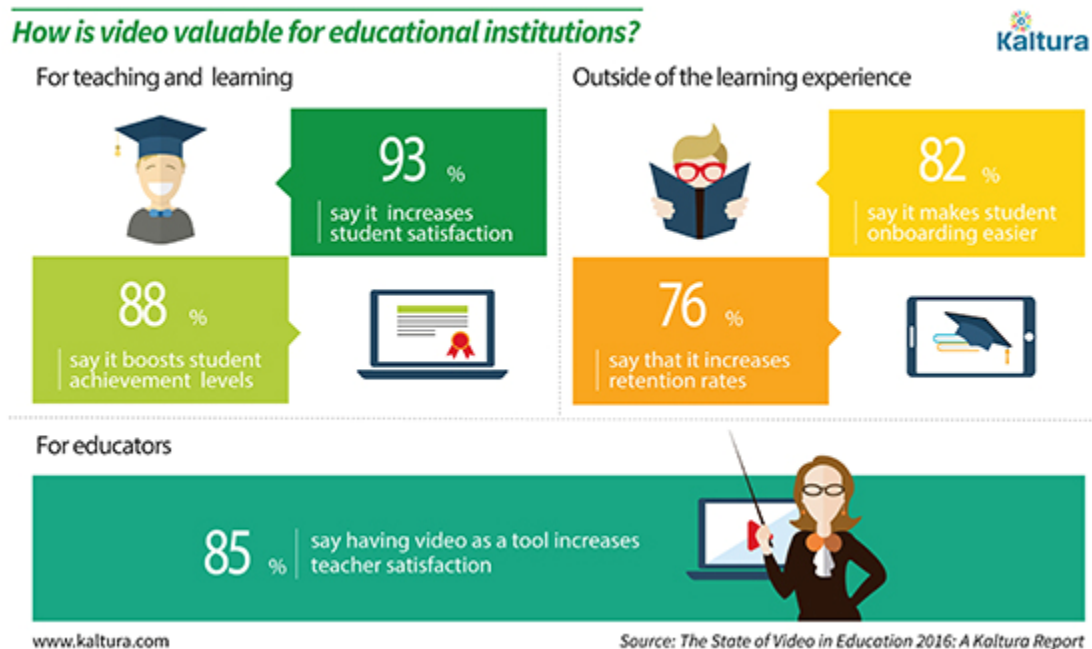
An annual survey on video in higher education found an increase in the number of faculty using video to provide feedback on assignments (32% compared to 26% in 2015) and lecture capture technologies, which grew 5% to a strong 77% this year.

In terms of looking toward the future, 46% of all respondents said Open Educational Resources (OER) will have the greatest potential impact on educational outcomes. Graded quizzes inside videos, such as Interactive Video Quizzes, were predicted by 41% of respondents to have the greatest impact on the classroom of tomorrow.

Other findings include:

- 93% of respondents believe that video has a positive impact on student satisfaction and 88% agree that it boosts student achievement levels.
- 87% of respondents agree that online learning will grow in importance and acceptance.
- 86% think that video helps with professional development and collaboration between educators.
- 85% believe that the use of video as part of their resources toolkit increases teacher satisfaction.
- 82% of respondents believe that video makes student onboarding easier and 76% feel that it increases student retention rates.

A total of 1,500 respondents completed the online survey in April 2016. Respondents included educators, instructional designers, IT professionals, digital media professionals, senior administrators, and students from around the globe. Around 75% were drawn from higher education and 20% from K-12 (primary/secondary) institutions. The rest came from education technology organizations, educational non-profits, and other education-related institutions.



A copy of the full report is available on the [Kaltura website](http://www.kaltura.com). Registration is required in order to download the report.

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NC-SARA

National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements

Update

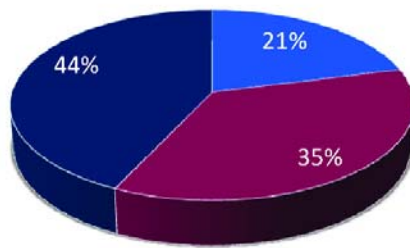
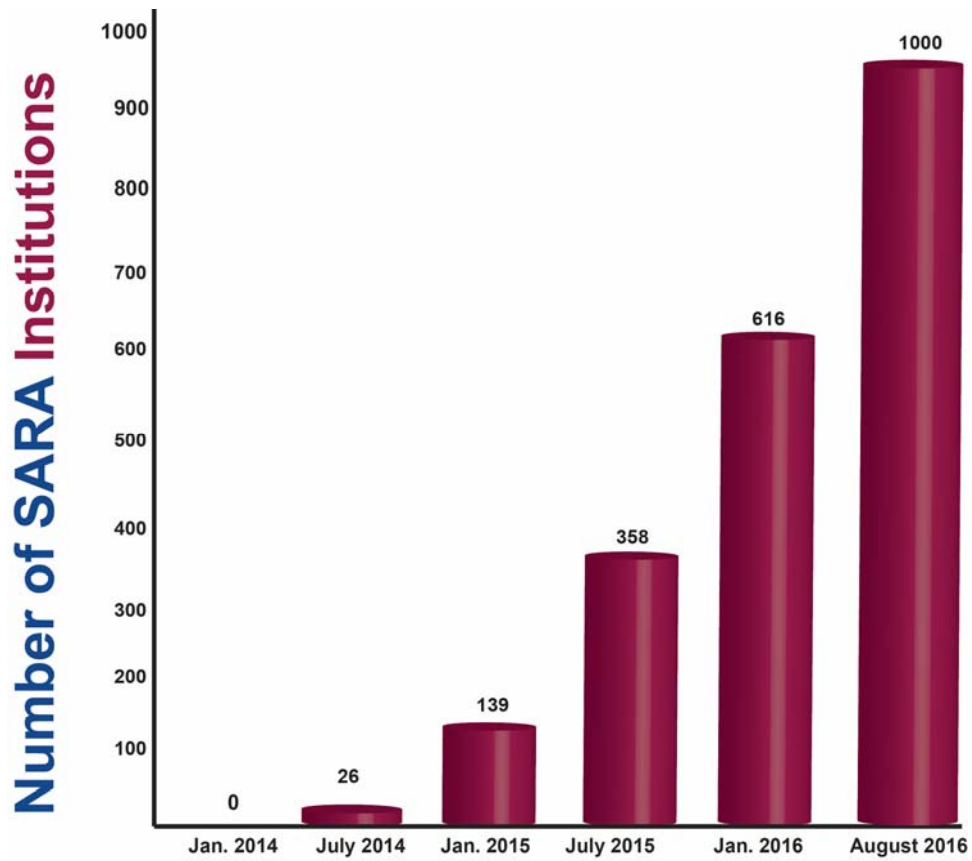
Celebrating SARA's 1,000th Institution!

The National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA) is celebrating the 1,000th institution to participate in SARA, a nationwide initiative of states and institutions that makes distance education courses more accessible to students across state lines and makes it easier for states to regulate and institutions to participate in interstate distance education while improving consumer protection.

The announcement of the 1,000th institution is not only a successful milestone for SARA, but also a badge of honor for the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), the regional compact which includes Texas as a member state. SREB has worked tirelessly with its states and among the other regional compacts to ensure the success of SARA and expand access to online education across the country.

As of August 1, 40 states and the District of Columbia are members of SARA, with several other states in the process of applying for membership.

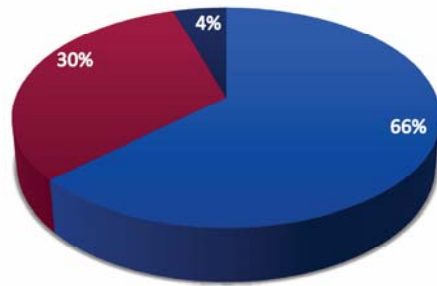
UNT Dallas joined SARA at the beginning of 2016. Here is the current breakdown of SARA institutions:



Institutions by **SIZE**

- Fewer than 2,500 FTE
- 2,500 - 9,999 FTE
- Greater than 10,000 FTE

As of August 2016



Institutions by **SECTOR**

- Public
- Private/Non-Profit
- Independent/ For-Profit
- Tribal

As of August 2016

What is SARA?

The State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement is an agreement among member states, districts and territories that establishes comparable national standards for interstate offering of postsecondary distance education courses and programs. It is intended to make it easier for students to take online courses offered by postsecondary institutions based in another state. SARA is overseen by a National Council and administered by four regional education compacts.

Please visit www.nc-sara.org for more information.



Monday Morning Mentor: Brian

It's a great way for you to start the week!

Join Brian (for no more than 20-30 minutes max) to discuss and answer questions regarding current issues important to online teaching and learning. This is a great approach to get faculty training in a compact format!

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/276441504>

Or iPhone one-tap (US Toll): +14086380968,276441504# or +16465588656,276441504#

Or Telephone:

Dial: +1 408 638 0968 (US Toll) or +1 646 558 8656 (US Toll)

Meeting ID: 276 441 504

Monday, September 12, 8:30 AM - 9 AM, virtual (online)

SEP 12 2016 Excellence in Online Teaching Awards—Call for nominations

How to Create Personalized E-Learning

[Track 2: E-Learning Design]

Presenter: Tim Slade, e-Learning Authoring Tools trainer

Today, each one of us lives in a highly personalized world of our own. Marketing 2.0 makes complete use of our digital footprint and it is no surprise that what you, and only you, want is what you get in the digital space today. It is “personalization” that is filtering out the noise and homing in on your personal signal. Force feeding information is a thing of the past. No surprise, then, that eLearning has also succumbed to this trend of personalization. So, what one should look for in a personalized eLearning course?

Who Should Attend?

Anyone interested in learning how to incorporate personalization into their e-learning content.

What Will You Learn?

- How e-learning personalization can increase learner engagement
- Five ways to incorporate personalization into your e-learning content
- How personalization and gamification relate

Tuesday, September 13, 2016 @ 11 AM - 12 PM, Founders Hall, Rm 127

Send [email](#) to register for this event.



BITS #1: How to Engage Students from the Start

[Blackboard Innovative Teaching Series]

Presenter: Miles McGeehan, Bozeman School District

Discussion boards, blogs, and wikis are promising tools for instructors to facilitate dynamic communication and collaboration activities to enhance any curriculum. However we've all witnessed the use of these tools fall flat within instructional settings. This webinar will share strategies and examples modeling how to create robust and engaging activities right

from the start.

Wednesday, September 14, 10 AM — 12 PM, Founders Hall, Rm 127

Send [email](#) to register for this event.

Bibbity Bobbity Boo - No More Boring Lectures for YOU!

Write Activities to Make Boring Lectures Disappear

[Track 1: Student Engagement and Retention]

Presenters: Maria Chilcote and Melissa Smith, Managing Partners, The Training Clinic

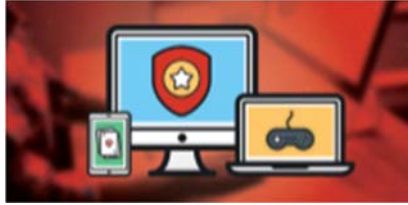
Whether online or in the classroom, you've felt the pain. Training so lecture laden that you wish you had a magic wand to make it all go away! Well, NOW you can! We'll show you how to use your powers for GOOD and change up how you write activities so that your learners will be engaged instead of disengaged. Experience five activities (alternatives to lecture) that will help you produce high engagement and retention in any learning environment! In this highly interactive session, you learn how to:

- Write directions and rules for a learning simulation
- Prepare participants BEFOREHAND for the learning session
- Develop information search activities with processing questions
- Create the components of an observation activity
- Craft demonstrations with skill performance checklists to be used in the classroom environment

Wednesday, September 14, 2016 @ 12 PM - 1 PM, Founders Hall, Rm 127

Send [email](#) to register for this event.





How To Gamify Your E-learning

[Track 5: Gamification]

Presenter: Tim Slade, Creative Director & E-Learning Authoring Tools Trainer for Artisan E-Learning and E-Learning Uncovered

E-Learning gamification is a popular buzzword within the e-learning industry. Although the appeal of e-learning gamification is high, many e-learning developers shy away from it. There's a perception that

gamification is overly complicated and technically challenging. This comes from the idea that e-learning gamification is all about creating complex games. And this simply is not true. Gamification is really about applying game-like elements or strategies to enhance the learning experience.

This webinar will share tips for how to gamify your e-learning content.

Thursday, September 15, 2016 @ 12 PM - 1 PM, Founders Hall, Rm 127

Send [email](#) to register for this event.

Articles



(Click the images to read the articles)



[Five Ways to Help Students Succeed in the Online Classroom](#)

By: Amy Hankins

Source: Faculty Focus

 Time to read: 2 min

More and more students are flocking to the online classroom for the convenience of earning college credits from the comfort of their home. However, many of these students are ill-prepared for the dedication and discipline needed to be successful in the

online environment. Oftentimes students have misconceptions concerning the rigor of online courses, and they often underestimate the amount of time and discipline necessary to complete assignments, discussions, quizzes, and projects. Therefore, it is important for the instructor to set the tone of the course to help students succeed. So how do you help your students succeed in the online classroom?

[Read more...](#)



[Learning Objectives Vs Learning Activities: What's The Difference?](#)

By Anand Timothy

Source: elearningindustry.com

 Time to read: 3 min

Learning objectives and learning activities are two crucial pieces of ammunition in the eLearning provider's arsenal. They have a role

in making lessons engaging and fruitful. Here, we explore the binary relationship of learning objectives vs learning activities by discussing the difference and understanding the importance of both.

[Read more...](#)



[Raise the Bar: Eight Reasons I Hate Your Screencast](#)

by Mark Lasso

Source: Learning Solutions Mag

Time to read: 8 min

Screencasts—digital video recordings of computer screens, often with audio narration or added video of an instructor—have been a staple for teaching developers and software users. But many screencasts are ineffective or even counterproductive because of poor planning and execution. Here are eight common faults of screencasts, with ways to improve the quality of your productions.

[Read more...](#)



[Research Spotlight: Overcome Myths and Misconceptions of Gamification and Promote Gamified Learning](#)

by Sharon Vipond

Source: Learning Solutions Mag

Time to read: 10 min

Guild Research has released a new white paper that addresses common myths and misconceptions of gamification and will help you present your gamified learning proposals. This article gives you an overview of the white paper and the key points in it.

[Read more...](#)



Mark Your
Calendars!

SEP 19 **Monday Morning Mentor: Arturo**
(8:30 AM - 9 AM), virtual (online)

SEP 20 **Are You a Boring Explainer or Engaging Storyteller?**
(12 PM - 1 PM) FH, Rm 127

SEP 21 **Blackboard & Bagels**
(8:30 AM - 10 AM), FH, Rm 122

SEP 26 **Free Learning Resources: How OER Can Help You and Your Students**
(1 PM - 2 PM) FH, Rm 127

SEP 27 **The Impact of Recent Lawsuits on Video Accessibility Requirements**
(12 PM - 1 PM) FH, Rm 127



Contact Us!

The **Office of Distance Learning and Instructional Technologies** invites faculty and staff to join and participate in our development programs. These events provide an opportunity to network with faculty from other departments, learn new instructional strategies and tools, and become aware of best practices in online teaching and learning. Hope to see you there, and don't forget to register for our workshops and sessions!

Please contact us with ideas and suggestions for future events:

Web: <http://www.untDallas.edu/dlit>

Phone: 972-338-5580

Email: UNTDDistance@unt.edu



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Arturo Cole, M.S.

*Director - Office of Distance Learning
and Instructional Technology*

University of North Texas at Dallas
Office of Distance Learning
7400 University Hills Blvd, Ste. 123
Dallas, Texas 75241
972.338.1606 | untDallas.edu/dlit

