Teaching with Technology Tip
Retention Center Alerts for Student Support
October 16, 2013

The new Retention Center in Blackboard enables instructors to give focused attention to students who need it. The Retention Center replaces the Early Warning System feature, and is much more visible and accessible.

- Easily monitor at-risk students using a simple visual display, and drill in to see details of their interaction and participation.
- Quickly communicate with identified students and help them take immediate action for improvement, or reward them for top-performance.
- Track your correspondence with the students and make notes right in the Retention Center.
- Customize alerts to fit your course expectations or use preconfigured rules.

The Retention Center is automatically on and immediately visible in your My Blackboard menu, and also accessible in the Evaluation section of your course Control Panel. The information in the Retention Center is for instructors only and is not seen by students.

Alerts

There are four main categories of alerts:
- Missed Deadlines
- Grade
- Course Activity
- Course Access

You can create as many rules as you need in each category. The page displays many levels of information at your fingertips, and a few clicks allow you to communicate with your students.
Instructor Course Activity

The retention center provides a one-stop collection of instructor activity, engagement, and participation in the course. This data helps instructors to become more aware of how their behaviors are contributing to student success. Each course instructor is only able to see activity associated with their individual performance, even if there is more than one instructor in the course. The information provided includes:

- Your last login
- Time lag for grading student submissions
- Your participation in the interactive components of your course. For example, the numbers appearing for blogs shows how many times you have posted, not your students or co-instructors.
- Recent announcements
- New course content

Resources

Blackboard’s Help Site
Retention Center (Video: 1.7 min.)