

**Blackboard** 

# **Blackboard LMS Office Hours - APAC**

**May 2026**



# About Office Hours

- Office hours are facilitated by the Product team, Customer Success Managers, and the wider team.
- Join the Blackboard team to discuss in detail the latest feature releases, product developments, and emerging current issues.
- Opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions of the Blackboard Learn Product Management team and fellow clients.
- The slide deck and recording will be shared after the meeting.

# Blackboard APAC User Group

Sessions take place 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month  
at 1:00pm NZST | 11:00am AEST | 9:00am SST.

Please [follow the community site](#)

and

Contact Sharon Long ([sharon.long@jcu.edu.au](mailto:sharon.long@jcu.edu.au))

for the monthly meeting calendar invite

# Today's Webinar

This webinar will be recorded and will be available to all clients on the Blackboard Community.

Closed captioning is available on today's webinar.

*Based on Blackboard's AI Trustworthy Framework, the use of third-party AI generator software for notetaking or recording of this session requires consent from all webinar attendees and prior approval from Blackboard.*

# Agenda

- Welcome & Announcements
- Infrastructure Maintenance Update
- Release Updates
- Demo: Improved Rubric Usability when Adding or Adjusting Grades
- Demo: Add Folders and Learning Modules to the Learning Object Repository
- Demo: Choose what Happens to Course Content when Deleting an Object from the Learning Object Repository
- Demo: Answer-Level Feedback for Multiple Choice and Multiple Answer Questions
- Open Discussion

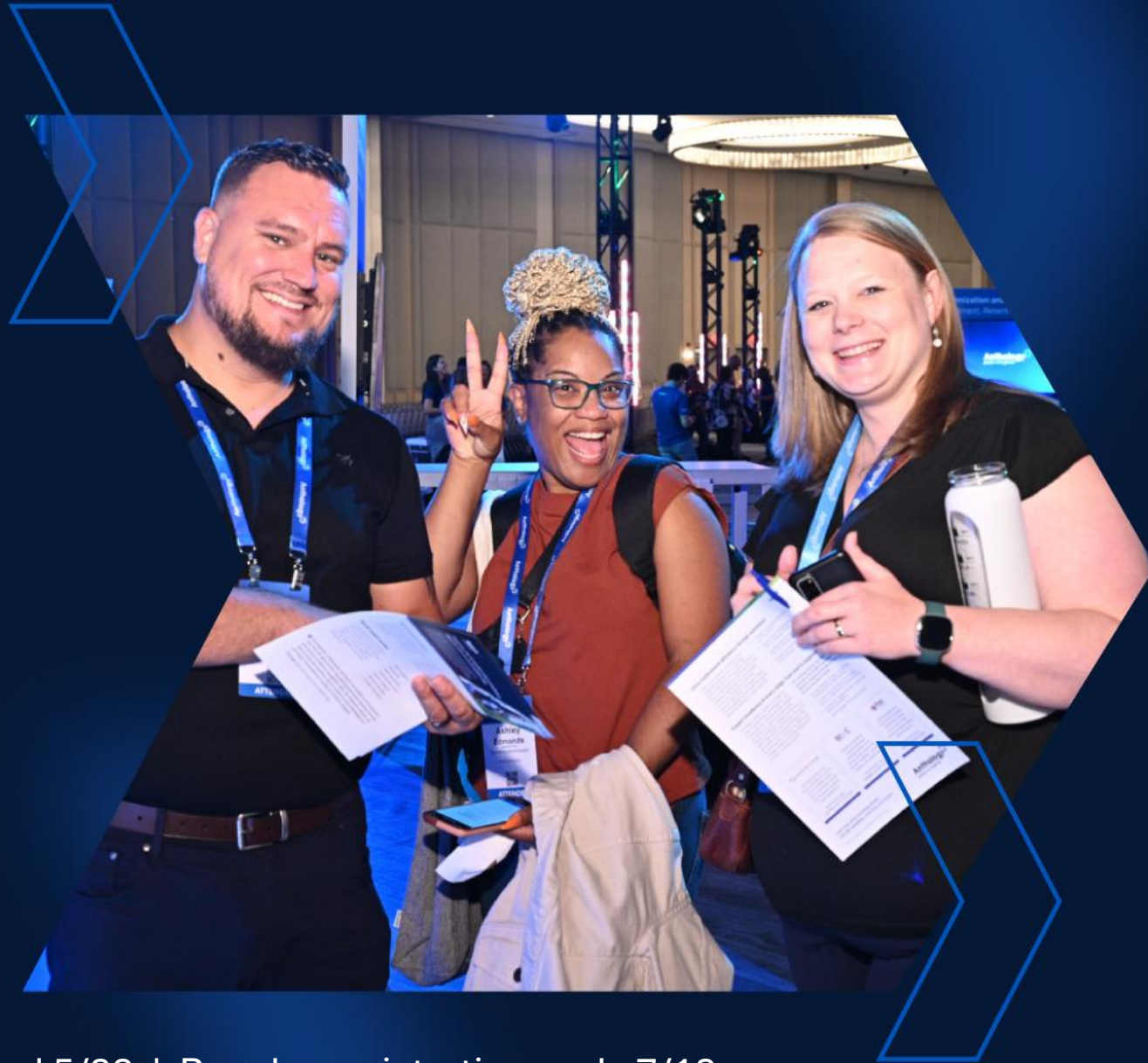
# Building Blackboard Together 2026

# ALL IN

July 13-15, 2026 | Hilton Anatole | Dallas, Texas

**REGISTER NOW!**

[conference.blackboard.com](https://conference.blackboard.com)



Earliest Bird savings end 2/20 | Early Bird savings end 5/22 | Regular registration ends 7/12

# Blackboard User Group

Led by your peers with each session featuring a client or guest speaker. Sessions take place every other Thursday, 11:00am EST (4:00pm BST).

- Thu May 28 **Pick Your Learning Adventure: Scaffolding Student Success Through Choice, Voice & Digital Innovation**  
Dr Bevin Rainwater, University of Hartford (USA)
- Thu June 11 **Build an Escape Room using only Blackboard Ultra: Simulations (S), Serious Play (SP), and Gamification (G)**  
Dr Rachel Scherer, Sam Houston State University, (USA)

[Register](#) - sign up for calendar appt and reminder emails.

# Security Program Overview – Recording

Join Richie Rodriguez, our Chief Information Security Officer, as he provides an overview of Blackboard's Security Program.

The security program overview starts at 5min 5s.

Follow-up Questions?  
[asksecurity-may2026@blackboard.com](mailto:asksecurity-may2026@blackboard.com)

[Watch Recording](#)



# **Infrastructure Maintenance Update**

A blue geometric graphic consisting of a large dark blue triangle on the left side and a lighter blue trapezoidal shape on the right side, meeting at a diagonal line.

# Infrastructure Maintenance Update

Blackboard is modernizing the infrastructure that supports Blackboard LMS to improve security, reliability, and long-term scalability. This infrastructure is built on IL4 security standards, and with this upgrade all client environments will operate at higher compliance security standards.

This upgrade requires **approximately two hours of downtime**.

All Administrators will receive a notification with their upgrade date **by the end of May**. If this date is acceptable, no further action is needed. If you wish to change the upgrade window, please use the Downtime Maintenance Scheduler in the admin panel.

**Stage** : Starting May 25th

**Production** : Between June 15th and Dec 15, 2026

(scheduled during off hours based on the hosting region.)

**Support bulletin** - [Upcoming infrastructure upgrade, Blackboard downtime required – All environments](#)

*Note: FedRAMP Moderate environments in GovCloud are NOT impacted by this announcement; all environments in GovCloud were upgraded to this infrastructure in 2025.*

# Release Updates

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# Recent Releases: 2026 Blackboard SaaS

## 4000.15.0 - Blackboard SaaS Production

May 7 – Release of version 4000.15.0  
(4000.15.0-rel.22+6d198c4)

May 14 – Release of version 4000.15.0  
(4000.15.0-rel.32+8b748f7)

May 10 – Release of version 4000.15.0  
(4000.15.0-rel.30+0484367)

May 21 – Release of version 4000.15.0  
(TBD)

### Fixes in the upcoming 4000.15.0 Release – May 21, 2026

- There are no fixes to report for now. Please check the article on Thursday.

**Note:** this is a preliminary list, the final list with all fixes will be available in Thursday's article.

# May Release - V 4000.15 – Production Update

Test/Stage on April 14  
Prod on May 7

## Instructional Design

- White space improvements in Documents
- Improved screen reader experience in document view mode

## Mastery and Learning Pathways

- Visualize release conditions inherited by items in learning modules and folders
- Sync Program data from SIS
- Sync Term Types from SIS

## Gradebook

- Carry group filter into Flexible Grading
- Resized Accommodations icon

## Assignments and Tests

- ~~Provide answer-level feedback for multiple choice and multiple answer questions:~~
- ~~Lock answer options in a fixed position for multiple choice and multiple answer questions~~

## Security

- Strengthen logout behavior for supported SAML SSO configurations

## AVA *(Included in your Blackboard license until 30 June 2026)*

- Explore with AI Playground

## Communication & Collaboration

- Rebuilding the Groups management experience for instructors
- Make second due date for Discussions visible in Gradebook

## Blackboard Core

- Improved search and navigation in Course Switcher
- Remove feature flag for Learning Module Table of Contents

## Blackboard Admin

- Use built-in guest access for course content in Ultra
- Cancel queued course copy and delete tasks
- Restrict attempt activity in completed Original courses

## Integrations

- Enhanced Institutional Hierarchy control for UEF integrations

## Course Catalog *(Requires Course Catalog license)*

- Only show students in Download Certificate search results

## Video Studio *(Requires Video Studio license)*

- Add audio descriptions for inclusive videos\*

\* This feature is available as part of the core product in Announcements and Feedback.

# June Release - V 4000.17 – Production Update

Test/Stage on May 12  
Prod on June 4

## Instructional Design

- Add Folders and Learning Modules to the Learning Object Repository
- Choose what happens to course content when deleting an object from the Learning Object Repository
- Sort objects by type in the Learning Object Repository

## Assignments and Tests

- Improved rubric usability when adding or adjusting grades
- Provide answer-level feedback for multiple choice and multiple answer questions
- Lock answer options in a fixed position for multiple choice and multiple answer questions

## Upgrade to Ultra

- Preserve activity data for Group Assignment submission through Bulk Copy and Convert

## Learner Progression and Personalized Experience

- ~~Centrally manage Automations availability across your institution~~
- Track Announcement engagement by student

## Blackboard Admin

- Restrict grading activity in completed Original courses

## Integrations

- Use Institutional Hierarchy for Microsoft Education integration
- Use API for managing course user accommodations
- Grade Export: Configure OAuth 2.0 scope settings

## Course Catalog *(Requires Course Catalog license)*

- Unenroll learners through managed enrollment workflow

## Video Studio *(Requires Video Studio license)*

- Record videos on Blackboard App

# **Demo: Improved Rubric Usability when Adding or Adjusting Grades**

# **Demo: Add Folders and Learning Modules to the Learning Object Repository**

**Demo: Choose what happens to course content when deleting an object from the Learning Object Repository**

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# **Demo: Answer-level feedback for multiple choice and multiple answer questions**

# **Feedback: Future of Certificates and Badges**

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# Feedback Opportunity!

**SHARE YOUR  
FEEDBACK.  
SHAPE THE FUTURE.**

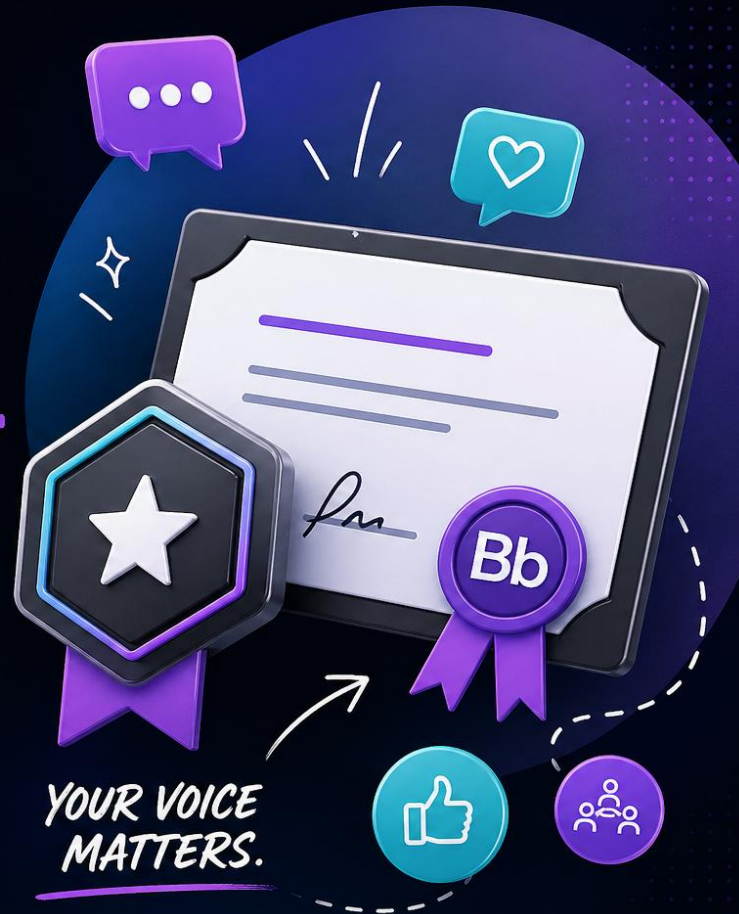


**JOIN US FOR A 1:1  
FEEDBACK SESSION**



Let's talk about **certificates**  
and **badges** in Blackboard.

*Your input. Real impact.*



**Book your time  
with us!**

[https://outlook.office.com/book/UpgradetoUltraCourseConversionsInterviews@anthology.com/s/aB1lK0plMku-50Zb0o\\_ayw2?ismsaljsauthenabed](https://outlook.office.com/book/UpgradetoUltraCourseConversionsInterviews@anthology.com/s/aB1lK0plMku-50Zb0o_ayw2?ismsaljsauthenabed)

# **Feedback: Copying Items**

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# Copying Courses

How should Blackboard handle duplicate items when copying a course or assessment?

## Applies to:

- Gradebook Categories
- Rubrics
- Grade Schemas
- Groups

[Quick Poll on Copy Behavior – Fill out form](#)

- **Keep Both** Keep existing items and copy new ones. Rename duplicates (e.g., "Rubric (1)").
- **Favor Existing Items** Reuse items already in the destination course. Do not copy duplicates from the source.
- **Favor New Items** Replace existing items in the destination with those from the source.



## Open Discussion

- Any additional thoughts on content shared today?
- What are you looking forward to?
- Any clarifications needed?
- Any questions about the release updates
- What are your current challenges?

**Any other ideas? Post them on the Idea Exchange!**



<https://anthology-teachingandlearning.ideas.aha.io>

**Blackboard** 