Blackboard Scholar: Effective Implementation

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Introducing . . .



New Users to Scholar

New users need 2 things:

- to understand the ideas behind the tool
- to learn how to use the tool

Question: What's a "resource"?

- Answer: Anything with a URL!
- Includes:
 - Web sites/pages
 - Articles in a library database
 - Files in the Blackboard Content System
 - Videos on YouTube
 - Anything else you can think of that has it's own unique URL . . .

Scholar is...

Academic Resource Sharing

Across Courses & Institutions

Throughout Your Academic Career

...and Beyond



Scholar Data - to date

- 700+ installations, roughly 40% are test instances
- Installs around the world, though heavily US focused
- 42000+ users
- 62000+ bookmarks

Popular Bookmarks

- 150+ bookmarks have been copied by 10 or more people
- Most copied resource areas/topics:
 - writing process support resources
 - multimedia resources in health related disciplines

Some of the Bookmark Collections – 100+

- resources building up across the system,
 - most discipline have some resources,
 - some strong areas e.g. health related disciplines
- Biology (discipline)
- Geography (discipline)
- politics (keyword)

Active Users (500+ bookmarks)

- macleodg Dewar Macleod, faculty at William Patterson University
 - modern US history and cultural studies
- waypoints Michael Page, Academic librarian at Emory University
 - Geography
- Lucy_Pinkney research/library role at University of Teeside, UK
 - learning focus on educational technology

Innovative approaches with Scholar

- sharing across school districts
- preparing streams for sharing with those outside institution via RSS
- system wide sharing of multimedia resources in health disciplines

Challenges with Scholar

- users need to get the idea of Scholar
- users need to use Scholar to get the idea of Scholar
- with communication/training, users get Scholar easily
- where little communication or training, a common new user behavior: create accounts but don't add bookmarks

Drilling down into Scholar

- So lets make this concrete at the:
 - individual level: why and how
 - class level: why and how

... with Scholar, a resource building and sharing application, 1st Beyond Application

Why use as a Personal Tool?

- keep track of your resources, organize for easy retrieval
- keep track of resources added by everyone or subsets, on topics or subjects you choose
- discover others who are adding high quality resources and keep track of their resources
- re-use resources with subsequent courses
- re-use, update and keep track of resource beyond the program, across your lifespan

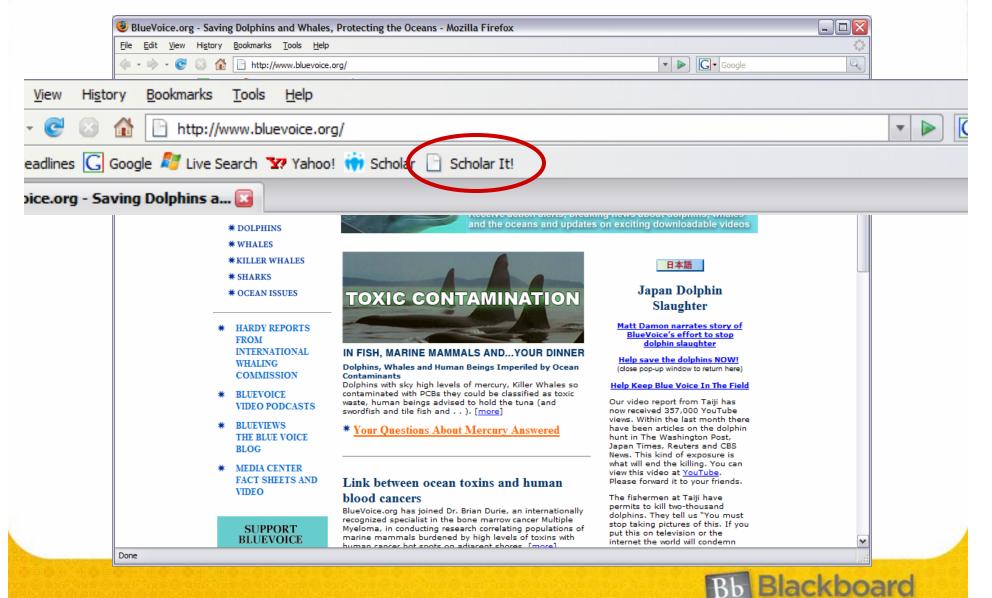
How to use as a Personal Tool?

- Create a lifelong Scholar account
- Grab the Scholar It browser button
- Add a Bookmark
- Add a Stream

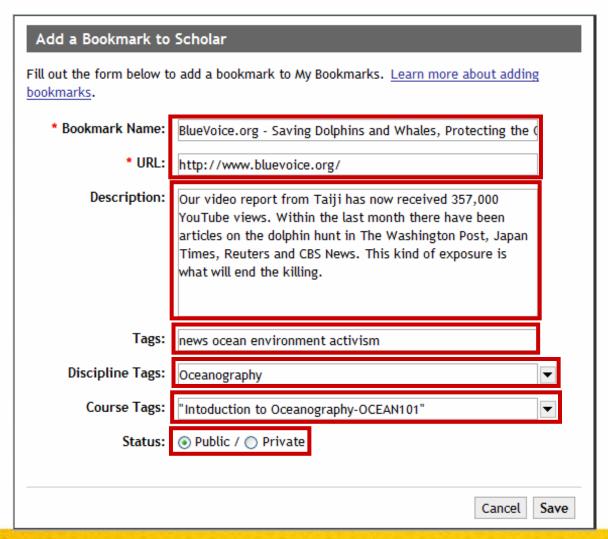
Here's how it works



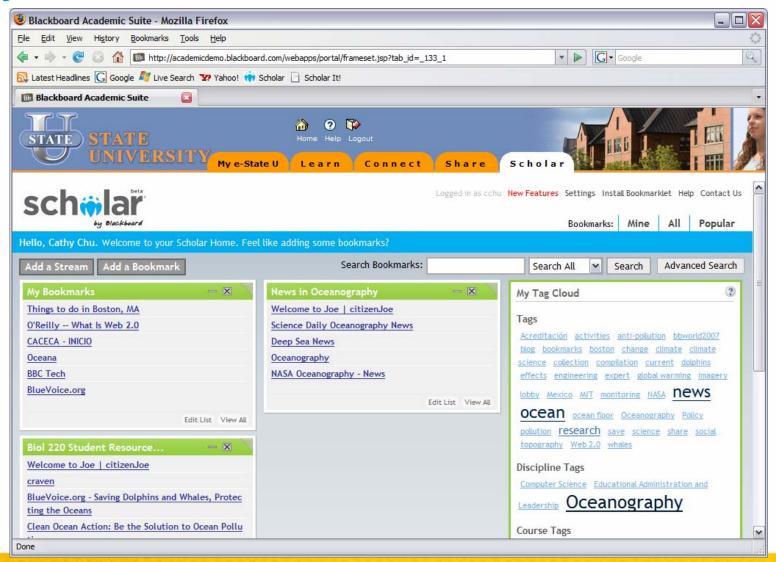
The Scholar "Bookmarklet"



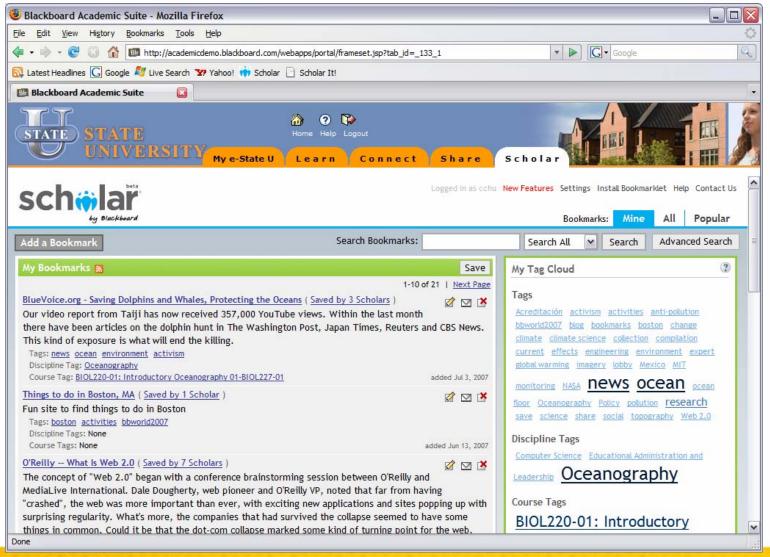
Tagging a resource



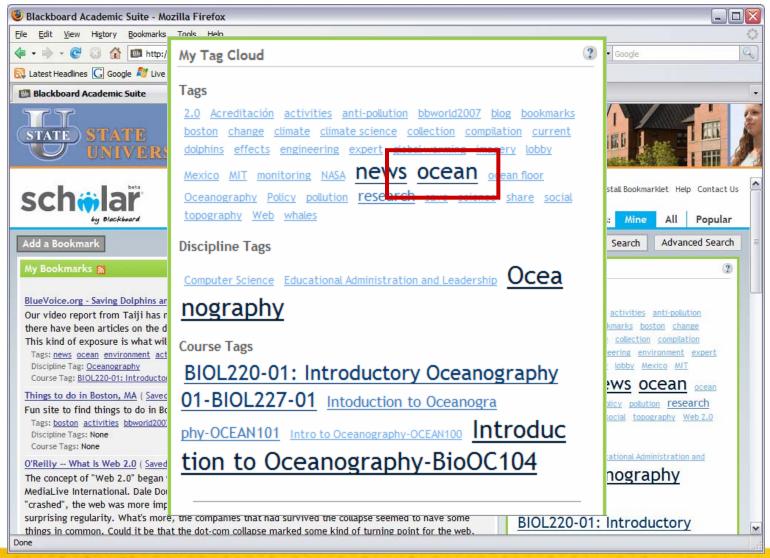
My Scholar Home



My Bookmarks

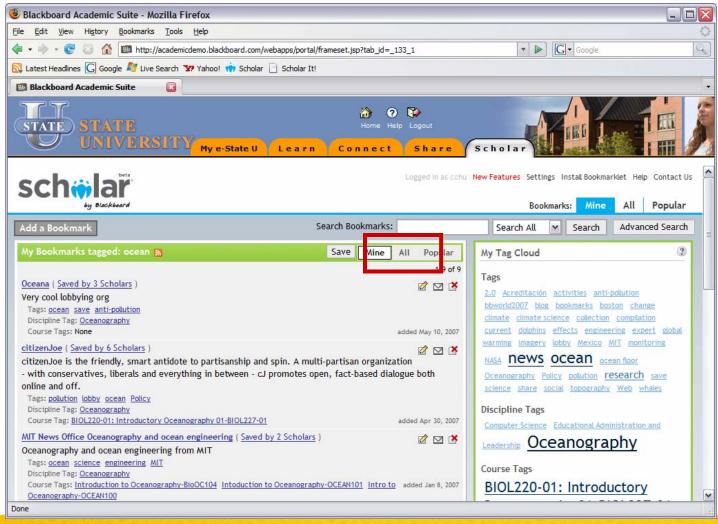


My Tag Cloud

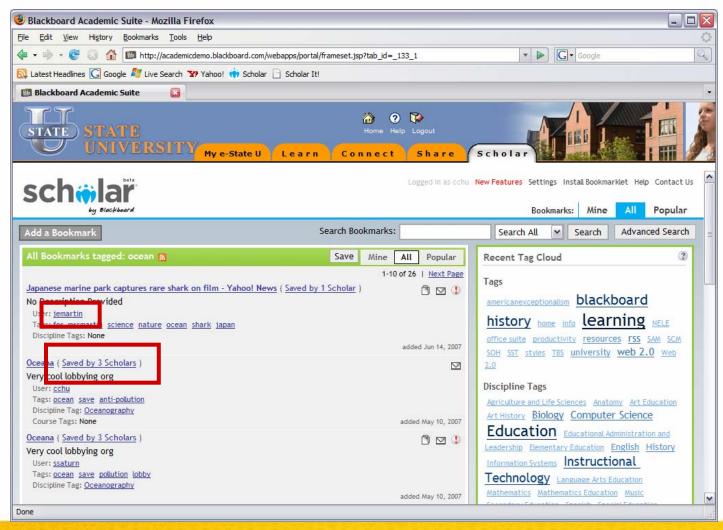




My Bookmarks tagged "ocean"



All Bookmarks tagged "ocean"



Why use in a Course?

- push out structure of a course to students, getting students to think about resources with your terms
- providing the structure of a course for students to locate resources added by the instructor, other students in class or others beyond the class
- easy for students to find resources added by others in the discipline
- getting students to become active learners, by adding resources and commenting on them
- setting activities for students to interact with resources
- push your resources out to students
- re-use all of the above for subsequent offerings of a course

How to use in a Course?

- Register, the Scholar Course page
- Add 1 or more bookmarks to load key tags
- Build the Saved Searches (Streams) to display key resources

How to use in a Course? example

- Introductory Biology course:
 - starter bookmark

 marine microbiology molecular human anatomy biochemistry botany ecology evolution genetics heredity physiology zoology

Scholar Course Home



Scholar in Education

- Personal Tool
 - Keep track of individual resources
 - Topic and Subject resources
 - Research tool

- Teacher Centered /Class Tool
- Learner Centered Tool

Training Your Users on Scholar

New users need 2 things:

- •to understand the ideas behind the tool
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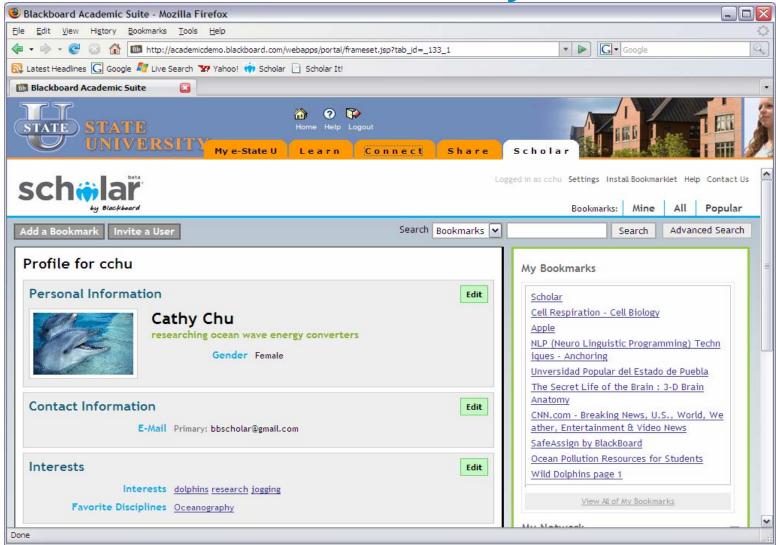
Suggestions for Training / Implementation

- Introductory Scholar webinar for lead staff and faculty
- Screencasts on the Scholar wiki at <u>http://wiki.scholar.com/display/SCLR/Scholar+Quick+Tutorials</u>
- Resource articles on the Scholar wiki at <u>http://wiki.scholar.com</u>
- Training session provided on campus by your staff
- Communication or training materials circulated by your staff. Sample welcome letters available from Beyond
- Review rollout at end of first semester / Ask for report

Technical / IT Suggestions

- Building block / Powerlink registration can be tricky: leave time to resolve
- Get Scholar It! bookmarklet button installed in labs and on faculty and staff images

Enhanced Profile – Private by Default



Where To Get More Information

Scholar

- Visit www.scholar.com or wiki.scholar.com
- Download B2/PL from Download Centre, Behind the Blackboard and check it out for yourself!
- Email us at <u>beyond@blackboard.com</u>

Blackboard Sync Facebook w/Scholar

Released April 25: Blackboard Sync - Facebook (with Scholar) integration

•COURSE UPDATES

•CLASSMATES NETWORK

SAFE SYNC

http://www.blackboardsync.com/

http://wiki.blackboardsync.com/

http://kb.blackboard.com/display/KB/Blackboard+S

YNC (Admin information: Behind the Blackboard login req'd)

Thank you

Scholar: www.scholar.com,

wiki.scholar.com

SafeAssign: www.safeassign.com, wiki.safeassign.com

Sync: www.blackboardsync.com,

wiki.blackboardsync.com,

http://kb.blackboard.com/display/KB/Blackboard+Sync

EduGarage, www.edugarage.com

beyond@blackboard.com



Introducing



Comprehensive Originality Reports



Compared Against Billions of Sources

Q: What does SafeAssign check?

- A: SafeAssign compares submitted works against:
 - Internet sources (powered by Windows Live search) www.live.com
 - ProQuest ABI/Inform database of over
 2.5 million articles.
 - SafeAssign institutional database
 - SafeAssign Global Reference Database

Initial Rollout of SafeAssign – Suggestions/Issues

- Registration non std SSL port,
 security model with B2 1.1 onwards
- Test out on test or dev servers
- Faculty new to plagiarism software
- Get faculty to test out papers and scenarios

General Rollout Tips to communicate

- Encourage preloading with Direct Submit
- Drafts not checked in to Inst Database
- Allow 5-10 mins for SA report return
- No Word 2007 docx yet, Save As doc
- File sizes < 2mb recommend, 10mb fails

IT / Faculty/Student Issues Escalated to You

- Server registration
- Course syncing copied courses
- Individual browsers cookies
- Papers not finding matches

B2/PL Registration requirements

- 1. INSTALLING ON SUPPORTED VERSION
- 2. PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE SERVER
- 3. PORTS/FIREWALLS
- 4. SSL
- 5. APPLICATION SERVER TIME
- 6. TRAFFIC REDIRECTION: Load Balancers, Custom Authentication, etc
- 7. INSTALLING SCHOLAR ON CLUSTERS