

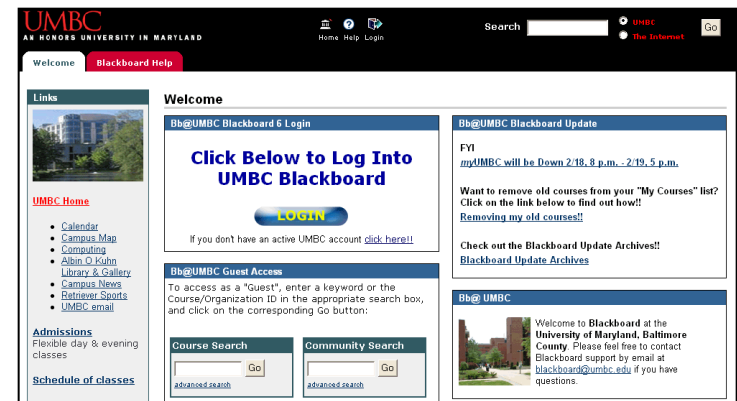
About UMBC

- Founded in 1966
- “Research extensive university” Carnegie classification
- Fall 2010 Stats
 - 12,870 Students
 - 9,947 undergrad, 2,923 grad
 - 730 Faculty
 - 480 FT, 250 PT
- Selected Brags
 - #1 “Up and Coming National University”
U.S. News America’s Best Colleges
2011, 2010 & 2009
 - 1st in undergrad chemistry degrees
awarded to African Americans
 - One of 50 Best Colleges for Women
 - 7-time National College Chess
Champions



About Blackboard @ UMBC

- Blackboard Learn 9.1
- As of Spring 2011 (began using in SP200)
 - 95% of all students
 - 75% of all instructors
 - 65% of all courses
 - 356 Communities
 - Includes all student, faculty and staff senates
- Support Staff:
 - 2 FTE (Admin & Support)
 - 1 Server Admin





“So, is Blackboard making a difference?”

Former UMBC Provost Art Johnson in 2003

PROBLEM

HOW DO YOU ANSWER?

Start Topics Community Admin

Switch Role: Faculty

Spotlights for Monday, Oct



Blackboard »

Your courses and activity inside of Blackboard.

Course Activity

[what's this?](#)

Blackboard Course	Hits		Sessions		Grade Report
	You	Average	You	Average	
Fall 2011					
ELC 688YL	30	282	2	12	Yes
FYS 101R	28	230	2	21	No
LLC 644	173	904	18	35	Yes
LLC 646	158	175	21	14	No
Fall 2010					
CMPE 321	9	225	3	40	Yes
LLC 644	456	283	63	42	No
SCI 100Y	29	127	2	22	Yes
Spring 2010					
LLC 600	11	26	3	4	No
Summer 2007					
CRAB 101	1	31	1	5	Yes

What's New for Fall

- [UMBC Community Standards](#)
- [Following Groups](#)
- [Enhanced Pawpularity](#)
- [Groups Directory](#)
- [Updated Start Page](#)
- [Streamlined Topics Menu](#)
- and more...

Blackboard Reports

 Honors Forum, Lecture Hall 1
by Stefanie Mavronis

Check My Activity

- Hits are in no way representative of the grade you will earn.
- Attempting to game the system will not result in a higher course grade.
- This tool is for personal use only.
- Tip: [Improving Your Engagement In a Class](#)

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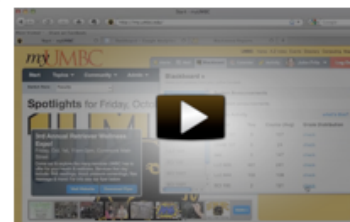
Help Us Improve

☐ I am willing to be contacted about how I use Check My Activity. (You can change this at any time)

Save Setting

Disclaimer

In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), your use of this site may be monitored to improve its educational effectiveness for you and future students. However, all UMBC officials are obliged to keep your identity confidential. For more information, please read the [Notification of Rights under FERPA](#).






Video Demo of UMBC's Check My Activity Tool for Students

Definitions

- **Hits** - Every time you view a file, post to a discussion, or read an announcement, that is considered a hit.
- **Sessions** - Every time you log in to a Blackboard course, that is considered a new session.
- **Grade Distribution Report** - If your instructor uses the Bb gradebook, this report will show how your own activity compares with those who earned the same, higher or lower grade on any assignment.
- [More info...](#)

fritz's Usage

Tool	Hits	
Announcements	11	
Check Grade	0	
Collaboration	0	
Communications Area	0	
Content	0	
Discussion Board	1	
Electric Blackboard	0	
Glossary	0	
Groups	0	
Messages	0	
Personal Information	0	
Send Email	0	
Staff Information	0	
Tasks	0	
Tools	0	
Other	11	
Total	23	

Course Usage (Avg. Hits Per User)

Tool	Hits	
Announcements	41.54	<div></div>
Check Grade	4.78	<div></div>
Collaboration	0.04	
Communications Area	0.36	
Content	0.39	
Discussion Board	67.81	<div></div>
Electric Blackboard	0.04	
Glossary	0.01	
Groups	19.93	<div></div>
Messages	0.03	
Personal Information	0.01	
Send Email	0.26	
Staff Information	5.20	<div></div>
Tasks	0.02	
Tools	0.76	<div></div>
Other	126.14	<div></div>
Total	267.30	

Bb Activity by Grade Distribution



AN HONORS UNIVERSITY IN MARYLAND

Distribution for SCI100_3278_FA2010

For Gradebook Item: Nutrient Pollution

For Student: fritz

No Date Limit on Activity

Report Run On: October 3, 2010

Data Last Updated: October 3, 2010

[Back to Blackboard Reports](#)

Note: Your grade is indicated in red.

Grade	Hits	Users	Avg. Hits Per User	Sessions	Avg. Sessions Per User
0	1079	11	98	88	8
4	170	1	170	15	15
6	105	1	105	11	11
7.5	78	1	78	7	7
8	186	1	186	18	18
8.5	1102	9	122	97	11
9	1976	12	165	163	14
9.5	2514	18	140	192	11
10	3467	23	151	304	13
10.	243	1	243	22	22
Total	10920	78	140	917	12

Bb Activity of D & F students

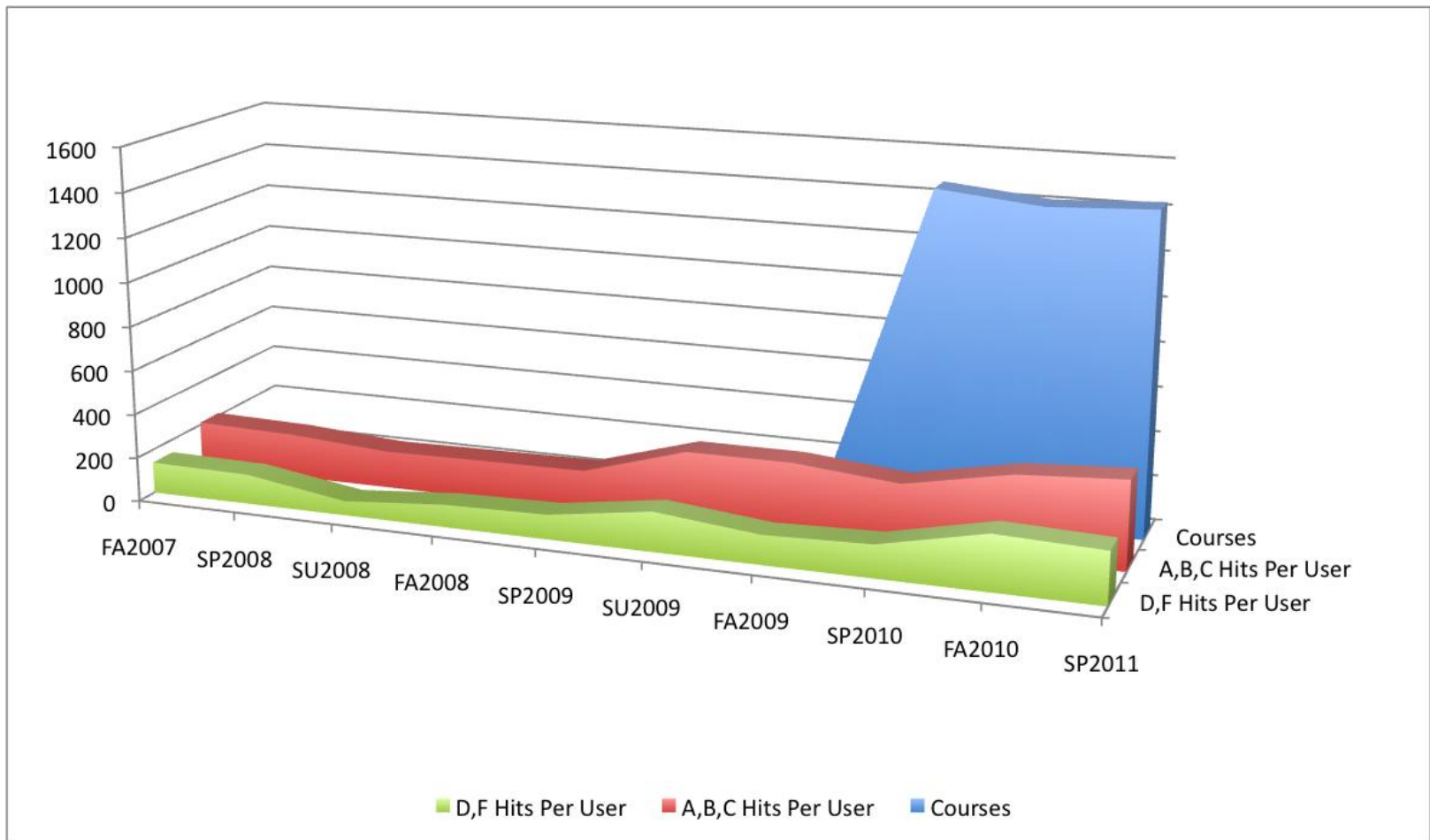
- **Students earning a D or F tend to use Bb 39 percent less than students earning higher grades.**

– SP2011	1435 courses 43 percent less
– FA2010	1414 courses 33 percent less
– SP2010	1461 courses 47 percent less
– FA2009	29 courses 37 percent less
– SP2009	11 courses 47 percent less
– FA2008	13 courses 40 percent less
– SU2008	7 courses 33 percent less
– SP2008	26 courses 32 percent less
– FA2007	15 courses 36 percent less

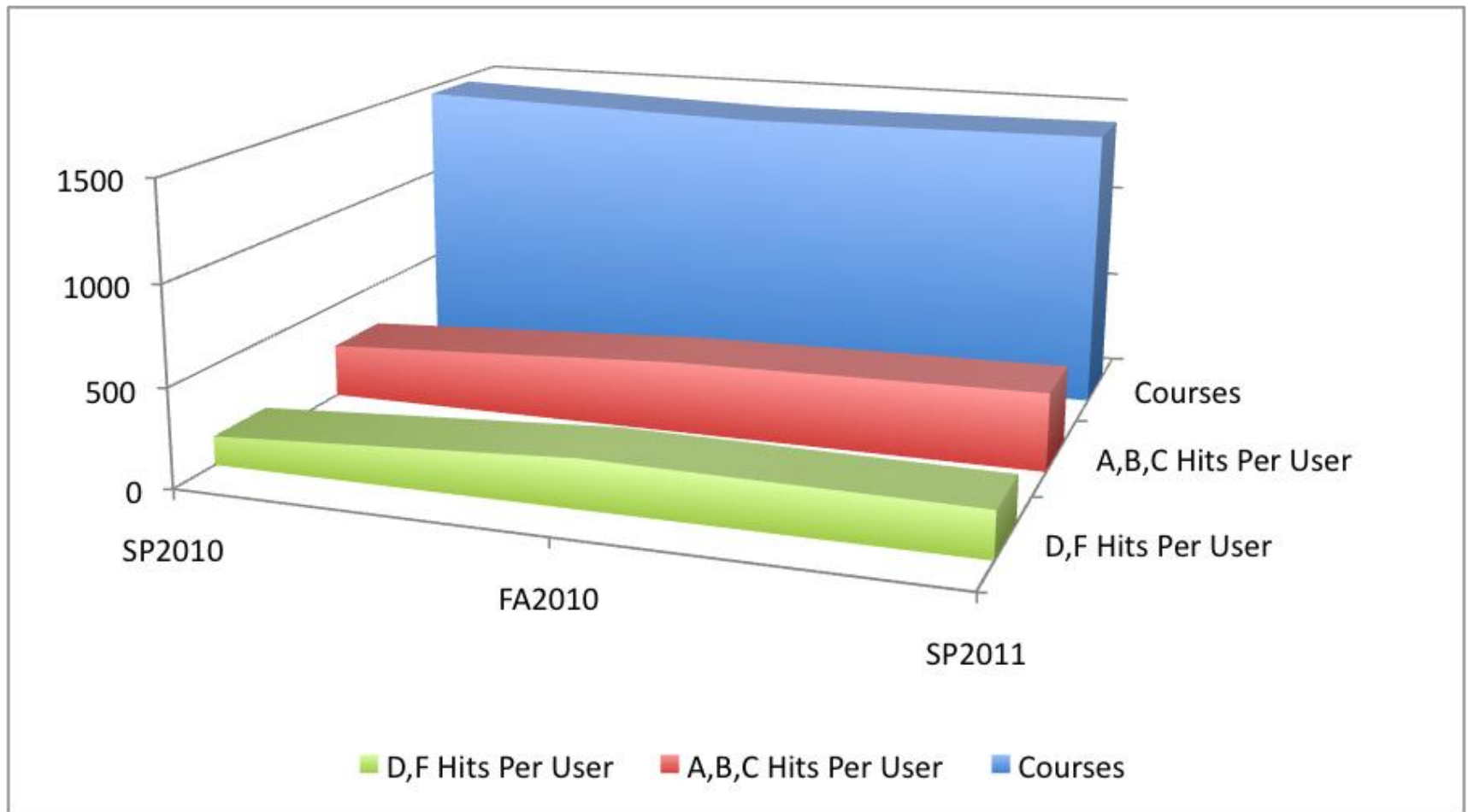
**NOTE: Analysis
using iStrategy
since Spring 2010.**

- Does the pattern hold true during the semester?
- What if students knew this information sooner?

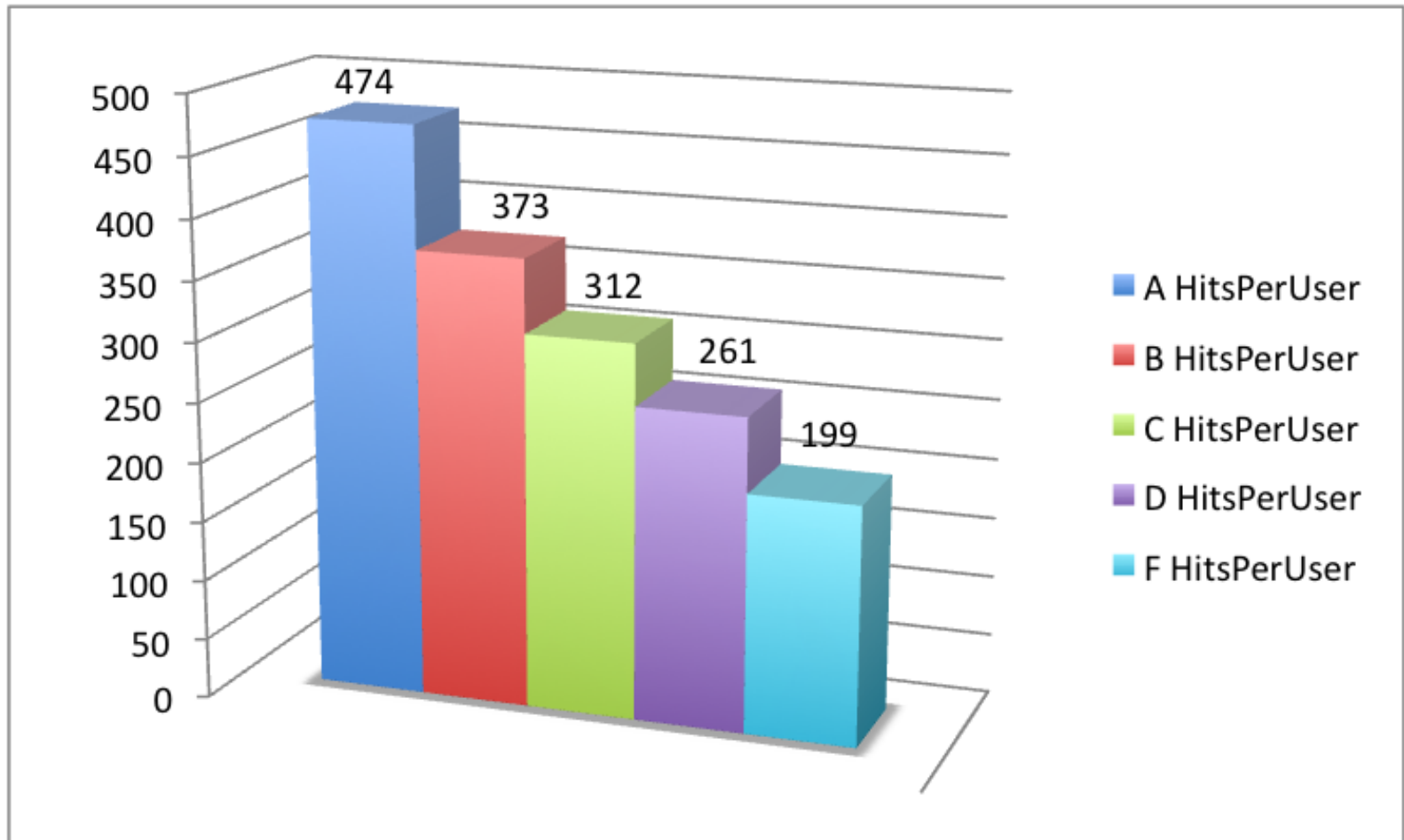
Bb Activity by Grade Distribution



GDR (Bb Courses Since SP2010)



Avg. Bb Hits Per User (SP2011)



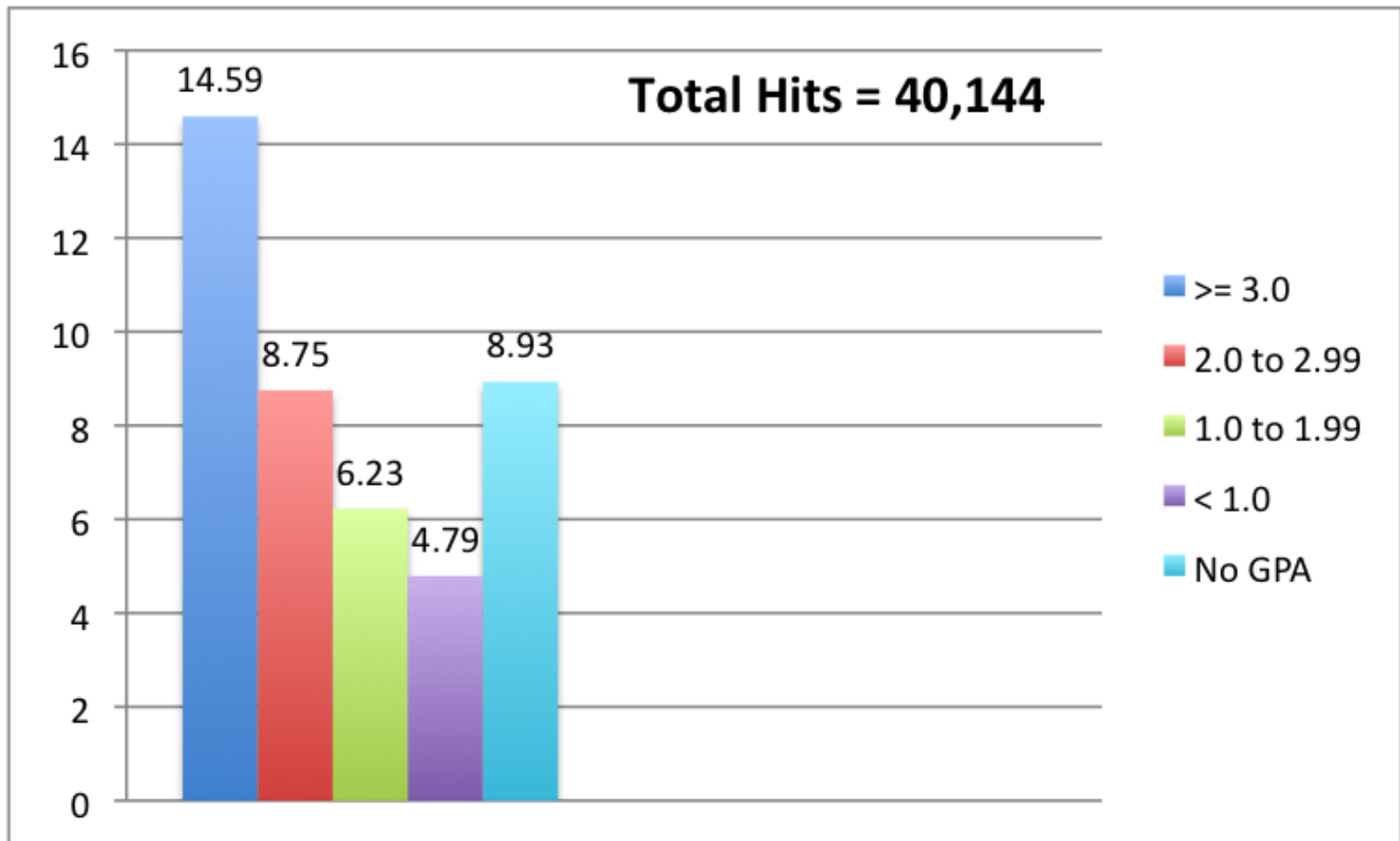
FA2008 SCI100 Findings

- How would you describe the CMA's view of your Bb activity compared to your peers?
 - 28% “I was surprised by what it showed me”
 - 12% “It confirmed what I already knew”
 - 42% “I'd have to use it more to see”
 - 16% “I haven't used it.”
 - 2% did not respond to this question

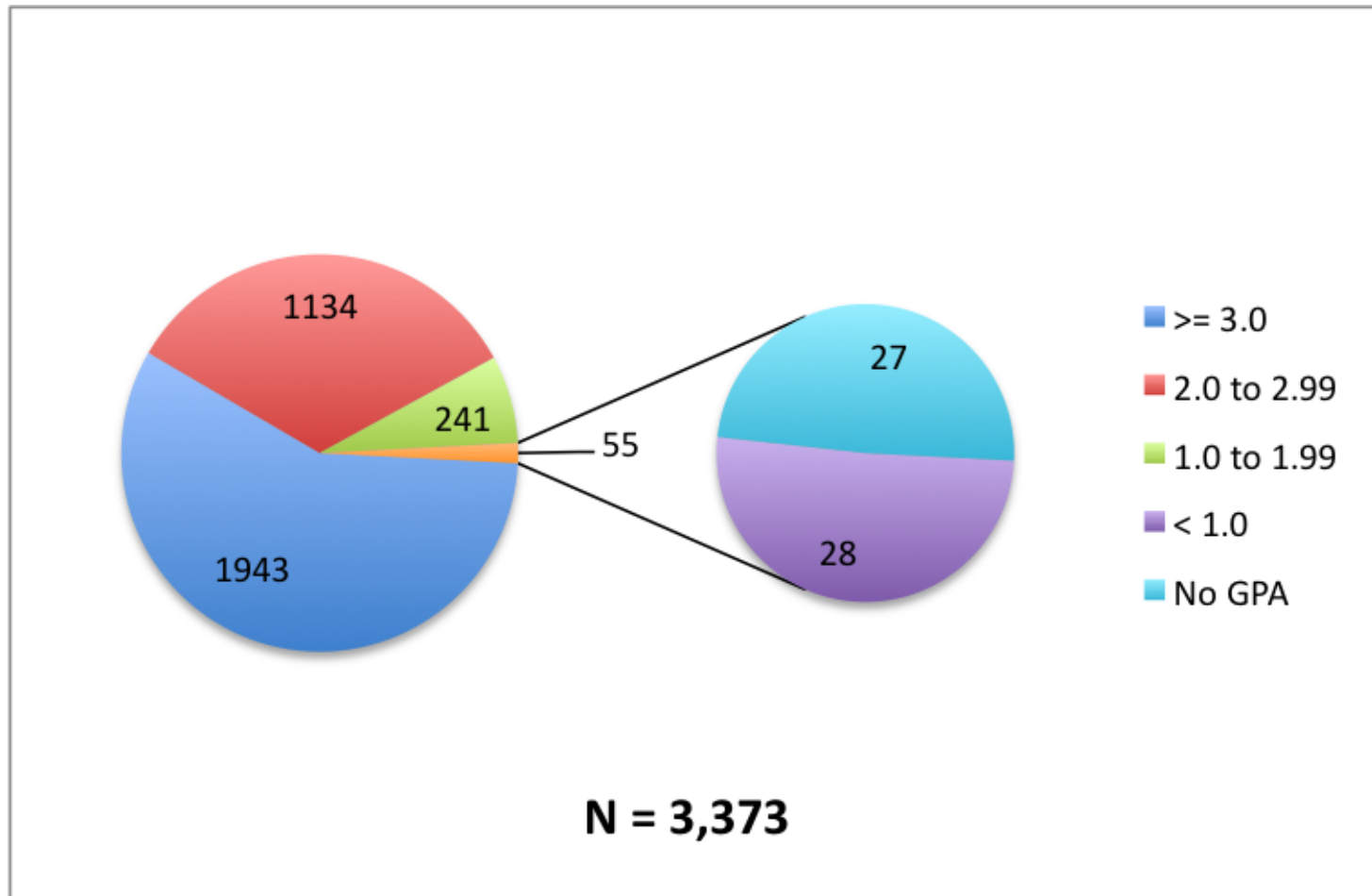
FA2008 SCI100 Findings

- If your instructor published a GDR for past assignments, would you be more or less inclined to use the CMA before future assignments are due?
 - 54% “More inclined”
 - 10% “Less inclined
 - 36% “Not sure”

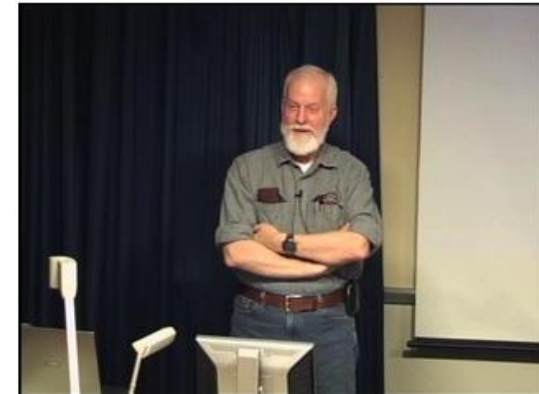
CMA Avg. Hits by GPA (SP2011)



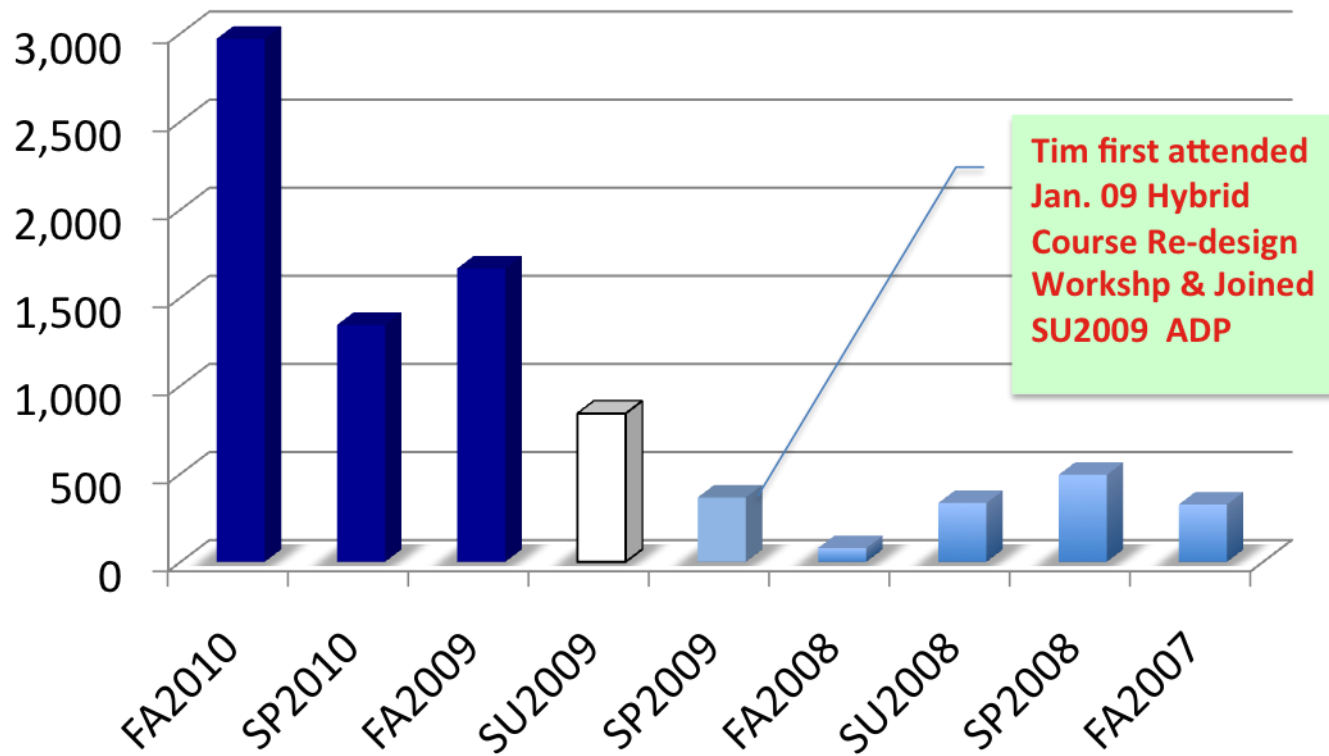
CMA Users by GPA (SP2011)



Tim Hardy & ECON 122



AVG. Bb Hits per Student



Adaptive release

Cancel Submit

- Syllabus
- Course Documents
- Discussion Boards
- Pearson Support Site
- Learning Objective Quizzes
- BlackBoard Quizzes
- My Accounting Lab
- My Grades
- Contacts
- Tools
- External Links
- Ask a Librarian
- Help

COURSE MANAGEMENT

Control Panel

- Files
- Course Tools
- Evaluation
- Grade Center
- Users and Groups
- Customization
- Packages and Utilities
- Help

□

1. Date

Setting a Date criteria for this item will restrict the dates and times of the visibility of this item.

Choose Date

☐ Display After  

Enter dates as mm/dd/yyyy. Time may be entered in any increment.

☒ Display Until  

Enter dates as mm/dd/yyyy. Time may be entered in any increment.

2. Membership

This content item is visible to all users until a Membership criteria is created. Users must be specified in the Username list or must be in a selected Group.

Username

Enter one or more Username values or click **Browse** to Search. Separate multiple Username values with commas.

3. Grade

This content item is visible to all users until a Grade criteria is created. Possible points on a Grade Center column are listed in brackets beside the name. The score entered must be numeric.

Select a Grade Center column

Select Condition

☐ User has at least one attempt for this item

An attempt is recorded in the Grade Center when the user submits a Test, Survey, or Assignment, or when a grade is entered or edited.

☒ Score

☐ Score Between and

4. Review Status

This content item is visible to all users until a Review Status criteria is created. Selecting an item will permit users to mark that item as reviewed.

Select an item

Proposed CMA Changes

1. Display activity ranking of student's Bb course
2. Opt-in alert when student's Bb activity falls below peers earning desired GPA or grade.
3. Sharing monitoring rights with someone else.
4. Better graphical display of overall Bb activity compared to peers.

www.umbc.edu/blackboard/reports



UMBC Links: [A-Z Index](#) | [myUMBC](#) | [Calendar](#) | [Computing](#) | [Directory](#) | [Maps](#)

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Blackboard Reports

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Most Active Instructors

Most Active Students
(Faculty and Staff Use Only)

Self Service Reports

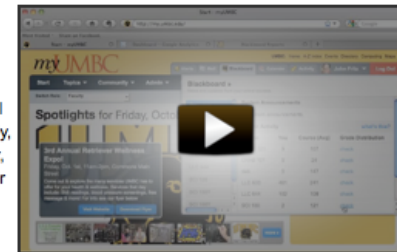
User Survey Results

What's New

[Educause Publishes Video Demo of UMBC "Check My Activity" Tool for Students](#)

February 4, 2011

The final 2010 issue of *EDUCAUSE Quarterly* includes a brief (5 minute) [video demo](#) of UMBC's "Check My Activity" (CMA) tool for students. The CMA demo was part of *EQ*'s special focus on student retention, and includes new information comparing how students use Blackboard by final grade distribution in all 1,461 Spring 2010 Blackboard courses. Specifically, D & F students used it 47 percent less than students earning a C or better, which is similar to [results from previous semesters](#) based on much smaller samples. A similar analysis is being conducted on all Blackboard courses for Fall 2010.



[A Case for Using The Blackboard Grade Book](#)

May 19, 2010

In 2008, [a national study](#) of more than 30,000 seniors and freshmen at more than 100 colleges and universities (including UMBC) reported that students value the ability to check their grades far more than any other function in a course management system (CMS) like Blackboard. Yet, less than half of UMBC's Bb courses used the [grade book](#) this past [fall](#) and [spring](#). We understand why: it takes a little time to master the Bb grade center, faculty may prefer to use Excel functions in an "offline" mode, and there may be a reluctance to put a grade on everything students do. But apart from keeping students from constantly pestering faculty, an active Bb grade book can be "leveraged" in some interesting ways.