Colgate Academic Technologies

(Transition to Moodle 3.0)

Overview
The upgrade to Moodle 3.0 will bring some welcome changes to those who have become familiar with Colgate’s current version. While these changes may present an initial learning curve in some cases, we believe the overall benefit to faculty and students will positive. In addition to standard bug fixes to the software, version 3.0 represents a modern and stable Moodle environment that provides enhanced functionality and some new features. This document briefly outlines logistic issues and new features that have most relevance for Colgate faculty members.

Moodle @ Colgate

- **FALL 2016 COURSE CREATION** - You will have access to our current version of Moodle 2.5 through June 17th. Any course content created for Fall 2016 there will be migrated automatically to the new environment. Access to Moodle 3.0 is planned for the end of June.

- **OLD COURSES** - All existing Moodle v2.5 courses will be migrated automatically as we transition to the new Moodle 3.0 server (and we can still restore older courses from backup archives).

- **UPDATED THEME** - You will see a more modern looking theme, but basic layouts of the Moodle interface will be familiar to those using v2.5.

- **EXTERNAL HOSTING** - By partnering with eThink to host Moodle, we will benefit from increased reliability, capacity, performance and thorough testing of future version upgrades. Retaining control over data, software versions, and customization of our Moodle instance remains the same.

- **NEW UPLOAD LIMIT** - eThink has a file size limit of 64MB for new files. We will help resize or relocate your larger files.

- **SUPPORT** - We will be providing the same level of support for Moodle locally here at Colgate, and are making plans to enhance opportunities for faculty members to learn more about using Moodle in their courses.

New Moodle 3.0 Features

- **Look and Feel** - Navigation is essentially the same, but we will be switching to a more modern Moodle theme for better visual appeal. Dashboard (formerly known
as 'My home') is customizable with links to your courses and activities, such as unread forum posts and upcoming assignments.


- **Forum and Assignments** - Ability to respond to forum posts via e-mail. Annotate Assignment PDF documents directly in Moodle. Inline comments for text submissions. Control student messaging and access while grading Assignments. Additional rubric options. Improved peer review options.

- **Course Editing** - New content editor (*Atto Editor*). Easier section editing: Options for editing, highlighting, hiding and deleting sections are now combined into one action menu streamlining the course page and simplifying the editing process. Read more. Direct image drag and drop. Format tables and add extra equations with Atto.

- **Mobile App** - Allows students to participate in a *Choice* activity or poll. Engage in a real-time synchronous discussion or *Chat* activity. Complete Moodle *Surveys*. Receive Moodle “push” communications.

- **Themes** - Some older, optional course themes are no longer available for Moodle 3.0. We have included and will continue to add new theme options which suit your esthetics and needs.

**Additional Info About Moodle 3.0**

- Moodle Documents - A comprehensive [collection of documents](#) providing detailed information about features and functionality in Moodle v3.0.

- Overview of Moodle 3.0 (video link)