



# BLACKBOARD TIP OF THE WEEK

## **Time for the midterm evaluation? – Try the Delphi Evaluation tool**

The Delphi Evaluation is a great tool for midterm evaluations. It offers both a qualitative insight into the students' experience of the course and an idea of how many students share these experiences. It is like an expanded version of an open-ended answer in a questionnaire.

Many of the educators at Aarhus University already use this technique, but in the paper version. This requires a lot of coordination when the number of students is above a certain level. That is why we have developed the Delphi Evaluation tool for Blackboard.

The Delphi method is a well-known and recognized technique for collecting and qualifying knowledge from a number of respondents – in this case the students. It was developed by the Americans at the beginning of the Cold War. Experts were asked to give their opinion on the probability, frequency, and intensity of possible enemy attacks and other experts would then give feedback anonymously. The process was repeated several times until consensus was reached.

In this tool, there are only two stages:

- The qualitative gathering of data from each student based on your categories of choice, and
- a round of quantitative feedback in which the students rate each other's

statements.

The Delphi Evaluation tool can be used for many things – use it as a tool for student preparation so to let you know what they are struggling to comprehend, to get input on what the students learned in class, or other things that bring value to your teaching practice.

Happy Blackboarding and have a nice weekend.

Kind regards,  
ST Learning Lab