

Moving from papers to on-line exams at AUB Tuesday January 26, 2010

With the many emerging teaching technologies and benefits of on-line exams, the round table discussion, "Moving from Paper to an On-line Case Question Exam," organized by the Academic Computing Center (ACC), in collaboration with the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL), offered an opportunity for faculty members to share their experiences with on-line Moodle quizzes.

The West Hall seats filled up well before Professor Nelson King of the Olayan School of Business (OSB) began to share his experiences in instructional technology with a PowerPoint presentation on implementing on-line exams including the use of tables in a Moodle quiz.

Professor King described the steps he followed in moving from paper to on-line exams, expanding on the lessons learned throughout this experience and sharing the student feedback on the INFO 200 on-line midterm.

Outlining the motivation for moving to on-line exams, Professor King assured the participants that "whatever is done on paper can be turned into an on-line exam," which offers faster consistent grading and reporting of results in multi-section courses.

He said the elements of multi-section exams need to be considered while moving to the on-line environment. He commented on student responses to pre- and post-exam questionnaires and highlighted the costs and benefits of on-line exams. Professor King recommended that instructors prepare the exams in advance and coordinate with the ACC team to determine the quiz settings and suitable computer labs to use.

During the question and answer period reliability and the use of images, image targets, and tables in on-line quizzes were discussed. Professor Karim Rebeiz (OSB) said he has been using on-line quizzes for some time and has never faced any problems or loss of student data.

Following the success of the round table discussion, the ACC developed an online "Moodle Project" so AUB faculty members will be able to continue their discussions regarding secure quizzes and other Moodle tools. ACC will be hosting more of these round table discussions in the future to tackle other subjects involving the use of technology in education.