Software for Supporting Virtual Classrooms

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This SIG will focus on the evaluation, use and performance of integrated software applications for supporting virtual classrooms. Participants will share their experiences with these packages so that they and others can make informed decisions. This forum will provide an opportunity for faculty, administrators, and technical support staff to compare features, discuss support issues, and propose future enhancements. An important related issue is that of standards for on-line courseware, e.g., the Instructional Management Systems (IMS) project. Integrated software applications for supporting virtual classrooms are maturing and gaining in popularity and are facilitating the shift toward Web-centered classes. The investment in faculty time and effort to develop on-line course materials requires that institutions carefully consider the available options and choose wisely. This SIG will serve to guide participants as they make important decisions for their institutions.