PRESS RELEASE

LTR Initiative Shows Tremendous Success, with Little Marketing, in Its First Year!

Numbers show web-based modules used in Blackboard finding great success internationally!

NOVA ANNANDALE CAMPUS, February 2015 - Jami Yazdani, Associate Dean for the Learning Technology Resources (LTR), recently announced that the Student Success at Your Fingertips (SSYF) Blackboard instructional modules have an international appeal. Annandale’s LTR division created the modules in response to the VCCS Developmental English Redesign. Yazdani said that with little marketing efforts, the SSYF webpages, www.nvcc.edu/annandale/learning, have had more than 660 unique visits and 210 downloads of modules and content from 7 countries since its launch in October 2013.

Because the Developmental English Redesign combines both reading and writing and has compressed the number of credit hours, instructors may have less time in class to devote to the basic skill sets necessary for student success. The SSYF modules were designed to introduce or reinforce these basic skill sets and are a value added tool for instruction and assessment.

Modules are arranged by broad category i.e., writing strategies, reading strategies, study skills, testing, and research skills, and are available on the SSYF website. Instructors will find these modules ready to use as-is or customizable to the needs of their particular curricula. The modules present content aimed at developing both a student’s knowledge and understanding of a skill, as well as suggestions to use and apply those skills.

SSYF modules can be used for any course offered at NOVA and are designed to address NOVA’s General Education goals, with many modules also supporting NOVA’s Developmental English Student Learning Outcomes. The modules include a variety of content and media, including videos. Faculty can access assignments and assessments for the topics covered in each module. The website includes instructions for faculty to download the modules and import them into their Blackboard courses.