GSE Blackboard Collaborate Virtual Classroom Service

GSE pays for our Collaborate service through SUNY’s ITEC department. SUNY ITEC supports the infrastructure and GSE pays them for two “V-Class” rooms. Each room is capable of handling up to 200 concurrent computer connections at a time. However, each room is only capable of handling one “event” (class, workshop, etc.). The 200 connections cannot be sub-divided. So, each room is similar to a physical classroom in that it can only hold one class at a time whether the room is full or not.

This Collaborate service allows us a two-tiered model of security. In any given room at any time, there are “moderators” and “participants”. Moderators can control all aspects of a Collaborate session while participants can only interact to the extent allowed by the moderators. By default, participants can hear audio, speak, see video and share their camera, access the chat section and view all content. The moderator can “promote” any participant to “moderator” status within a session.

When accessing a Collaborate session the moderator will connect using the “Owner” link listed on the calendar page while all other participants will use the “Guest” link. There is also a link to access recordings from each room.

For any GSE faculty or staff member who wishes to request Collaborate session or sessions please first check GSE’s online Collaborate room calendars on the GSE lab/classroom calendar website (UBIT login required): https://sharepoint.buffalo.edu/Sites/GSE/

If there is not already a session scheduled for the dates and times you need then please send email to GSE-ELLUMINATE-ADMINS-LIST@LISTSERV.BUFFALO.EDU. Include your name, the course number and title (if applicable), and the dates and times of all the sessions you need. This is the same email address to use for support.

Once your reservation has been made you will be sent the Owner, Guest, and Recording Table links. Please share these links with your participants using “private” communications channels ie. email, UB Learns, etc. Do not post them on a public website.

*** Please Note: For any given session only one person can access it via the “Owner” link. All other participants must use the “Guest” link. For sessions requiring multiple moderators, one person will need to access the session via the “Owner” link and all others will use the “Guest” link. Once everyone has entered the session the moderator (the person who used the “Owner” link) can click then “promote” other users to moderator status. ***