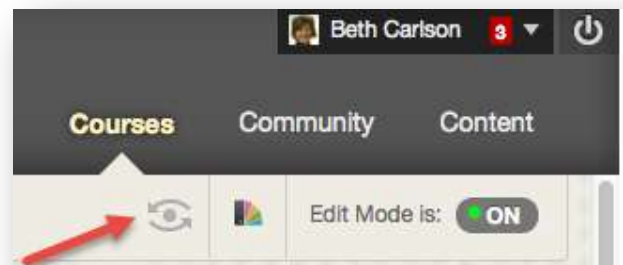


Cool Tools

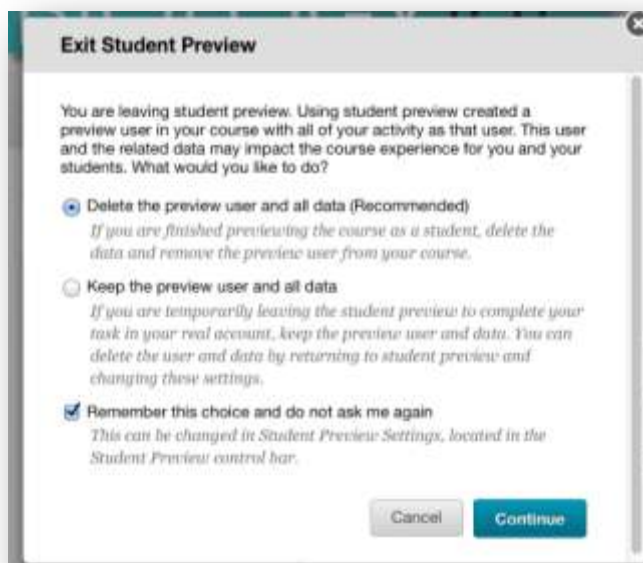
Student Preview (Finally)

Previously, in Blackboard Learn, the Edit Mode On/Off control approximated what a student who had access to everything in a course *might* see. The new Student Preview feature provides the capability for an Instructor to see the course *exactly* the way a student would see it. The new student preview provides all of the advantages of a “dummy” account while absolving the Instructor and System Administrator of the management overhead and security risk. The Student Preview creates efficiency for Instructors by providing them the ability to confirm the design of their course content and course behaviors (e.g. grade calculations, adaptive release) from the perspective of a student. This is useful for confirming behaviors such as time/date availability, adaptive release criteria, grade weighting, and other course behaviors that control what a student sees in the course or require some particular interaction from the student to be triggered.

The Student Preview feature provides a new button that appears in the breadcrumb bar next to the Course Themes and Edit Mode buttons and is shaped like an eye (See image on right). Clicking on the Student Preview button moves the Instructor into Student Preview mode. While in Student Preview mode the Instructors can interact with the course as if



they were a student.



While in Student Preview mode, the instructor has the ability to save or delete the data created while in student preview mode. By default, the instructor is prompted upon exit as to whether the preview student and all of the data created as the preview student is deleted (the default) or kept (See image on left). The preview student will be listed in

the course roll and is clearly identified by the appended "_previewuser" text on the username and last name. To delete any retained data, simply re-enter Student Preview and exit again, but this time choosing "Delete the data" at the prompt. Choosing to delete the data unenrolls the preview student from the course (and, if not in use in any other of the instructor's courses, deletes it from the system). All activity conducted or created as the preview student is removed from the course permanently.

If you have any questions on these or any other of Blackboard's cool tools, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Tom McKinney at extension 4522.