Blackboard Help
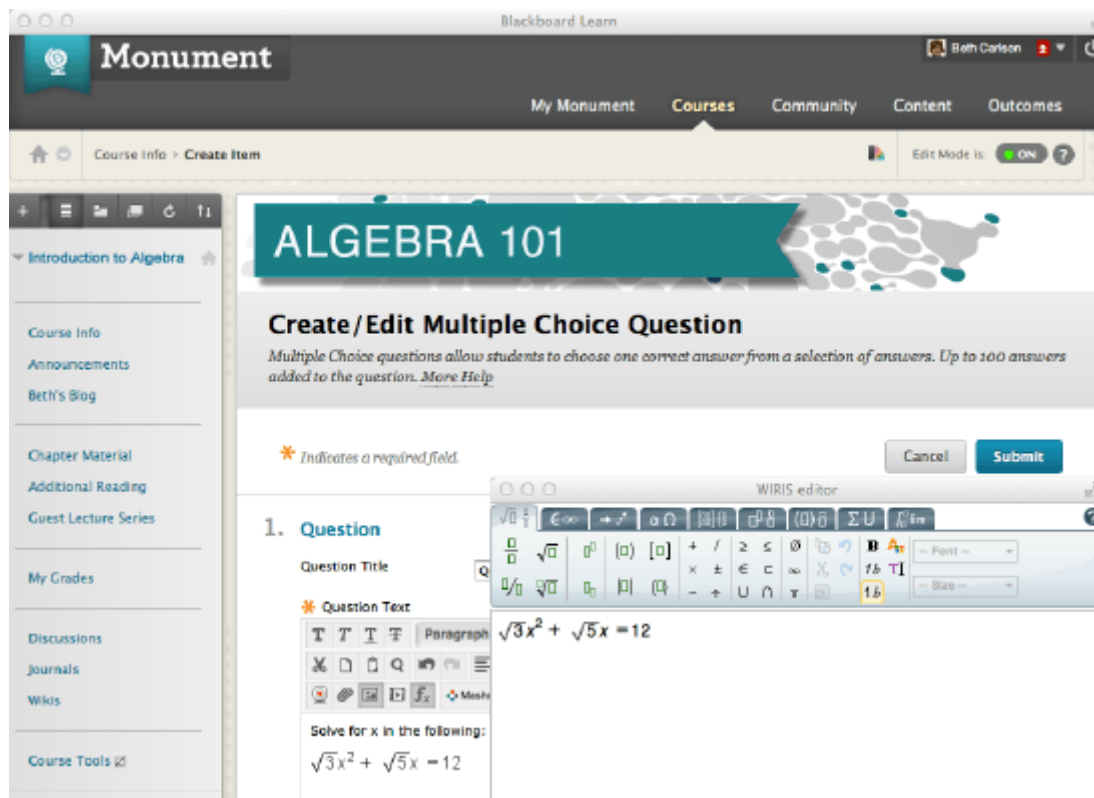
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New Features

Content Editor Math Formulas

WIRIS Update

WIRIS provides the Math formula editing capabilities of the Content Editor introduced in SP10. In SP10 the WIRIS plugin came in the form of a Java Applet. This meant that math editing was not available to all platforms as java virtual machine capabilities were required on the target platform. SP12 brings a new WIRIS editor that is based on JavaScript. This removes dependence on Java, enabling full math-editing capabilities on platforms that cannot run java in browsers including iOS. The functionality of the WIRIS math editor is now extended to all platforms capable of running a JavaScript enabled browser.

The move from the non-accessible applet-based editor to a JavaScript-based editor improves accessibility.

The new math editor also supports the editing and display of LaTeX formulas. The formula are displayed normally when in display mode, and when in editing mode the editor displays the LaTeX for the formula. LaTeX formula may be edited directly using LaTeX or by clicking in the formula and opening the WIRIS editor for true WYSIWYG editing. On saving the LaTeX formula is not converted and retains its LaTeX origin. This serves as a useful tool for those who have libraries of LaTeX formula as those may now be copy-pasted into the editor for reuse or as basis for new formula.

There is backward compatibility with existing WebEq, WIRIS 2.0 formulas and ensuring proper formula compatibility in the cases of CE4, Vista, and ANGEL course conversion.