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| This list contains proactive solutions for keeping distance courses running when Blackboard, Elluminate live, or email are not functioning properly. We welcome additional comments and questions about this project. |
|  | **Level 1****successful practices currently in use** |
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|  | Collect external contact information at beginning of semester. This can be achieved through quizzes, Start Here content areas, or by creating an activity for students keeping their UAOnline information up-to-date. |
|  | Identify method to record lectures if eLive unavailable. If interactive session is needed, identify alternative synchronous tech solution (audio conference, Skype, Google Talk, etc.) to use in place of eLive. |
|  | Establish contact expectations and response times with what to do if faculty not responding.  |
|  | Provide alternate eLive link to students at the beginning of the semester in an email and encourage students to bookmark it or save the email.  |
|  | Create local copies of assignments/weekly tasks (all Bb content) using external documents (PDFs) with weblinks that can be distributed via alternative methods. |

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|  | **Level 2** **Other great ideas**  |
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|  | Use Google+ or Facebook to create another connected classroom environment. |
|  | Use of Messages, Discussion Boards, and other communication tools inside Bb. |
|  | Investigate way to incorporate group texting to students. Class Parrot is an example which provides students privacy. |
|  | Find a favorite tech blog (or other resource) that keeps you up-to-date with your current technology habits. |

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|  | Level 3 Ideas to be investigated by e-Learning workgroup |
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|  | Microsoft Lync and Sharepoint may be backup solutions in the future.  |
|  | Way to export or duplicate all Bb content to HTML. |
|  | Have eLive automatically switch from local hosting to external hosting in event of major outage. |
|  | Subscribe to outage RSS feeds. Find way for simple notifications to be distributed with non-tech language. |

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| The key to most of these practices is that faculty implement these ideas early in the semester as part of the design of the course. Detailed explanations of these points can be found in the UAA Technology Knowledge Base. For more information, please contact Cindy Trussell (ctrussell@kodiak.alaska.edu) Green356--logo.gif |

# Digital Detours: solutions