

# Is Learning enhanced by guided BLOG threads?

A plan for exploring a theory that collaborative  
blogging encourages critical thinking on  
solutions following a SMART approach

*Prepared by Barbara Lauridsen*

*Spring 2017 TCC conference THU 15:30B (20 min)*

# Is Learning enhanced by guided BLOG threads?

Description: This presentation lays out a plan for to leveraging discussion questions in a BlackBoard environment into a rich interactive experience for peer-to-peer open dialog.

During a learning experience in July 2016, online students actively participated in open communication to define a strategy for accomplishing a case study team project.

# CIS421 Enterprise Architecture in Blackboard Collaborate July 5 to August, 2016 – online

Course Description: “Explores the design, selection, implementation and management of enterprise IT solutions. The focus is on applications and infrastructure and their fit with the business. Students learn frameworks and strategies for infrastructure management, system administration, data/information architecture, content management, distributed computing, middleware, legacy system integration, system consolidation, software selection, total cost of ownership calculation, IT investment analysis, and emerging technologies.”

# CIS421 Enterprise Architecture

January 10 to February 4, 2017

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# CIS421 Enterprise Architecture starting July 5, 2016

## **Course Learning Outcomes (CLO):**

- **Utilize *techniques* for assessing and managing risk across the portfolio of the enterprise.**
- Evaluate and plan for the integration of emerging technologies
- Describe the benefits and risks of Service Oriented Architecture.
- Analyze the integration of enterprise systems with inter-organizational partners such as suppliers, government, etc.

In defense of blogging in a BlackBoard (Bb) course

***An inspiration for this research, to increase effective communications***

“The brief nature of blog posts may encourage students to develop key communication and summarizing skills, while longer papers give students more room to compare and synthesize ideas” [Hanson, 2016, p. 98]. My research focused on serving as “further testing” of Hanson’s suggestion that blogging and short essays be complementary assignments.

# In defense of blogging in a BlackBoard (Bb) course

Research planning was:

- 1) To rewrite the ordinary Bb Discussion Questions (DQs) to become more worthwhile, to encourage original and critical thinking as well as enhancing researching to retrieve answers that offered other perspectives than those of the text book.
- 2) To set the stage for team-talk during guided face-to-face dialog;
- 3) To participate to enhance the peer-to-peer learning experience and also to retain and share good ideas

# Bb discussion threads redefined as “blogs”?

The environment of a Bb course does constrain the meaning of “blogging”. Bb is a container limited to an audience of learners who share an agenda, to pass a prescribed course. My incentive was to enhance the learning objectives.

- For *online students*, a norm is to answer Discussion Questions (DQs) to gain points toward a total that converts to a letter grade. Typical DQs are answered from assigned readings. Typical answers were to describe and explain <some prescribed topic>.



## Limitation of “blogging” in a Blackboard course

Blackboard courses are a private place for students to upload assignments and to download articles and instructions.

Blackboard does not offer to align with the “public nature of blog posts meaning that students are engaging in blog-style writing but not blogging” (Hansen, 2016, p.91).

# Limitation of “blogging” in a Bb course

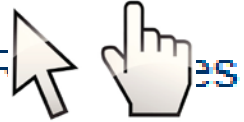
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[Blackboard Support Portal](#)

[National University Support](#)

[Discussion Board](#)

[Library Files](#)



[Math and Writing Centers](#)

For this research, in advance of day 1, the DQs were re-imagined & restated to encourage original thinking, retrieving & sharing interesting ideas and images, and also to cite sources so that others can navigate to the source webpage. The Bb features of posting a message that was more-than-just-text was encouraged and demonstrated.

...collaboration, encouraging critical thinking...

Use of the “smart approach” enables students to explore complex problems which are better understood when defined as **S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**ction-oriented, **R**elevant and **T**imely.

The “smart approach” is based on ideas expressed in 2003 by P. J. Meyer, "What would you do if you knew you couldn't fail? Creating S.M.A.R.T. Goals", *Attitude Is Everything: If You Want to Succeed Above and Beyond*.

# S = Specific, in *Attitude is Everything* (Meyer, 2003)

The first criterion stresses the need for a specific goal rather than a more general one. This means the goal is **clear and unambiguous;** without vagaries and platitudes. To make goals specific, they must tell a team exactly what is expected, why is it important, who's involved, where is it going to happen and which attributes are important.

A specific goal will usually answer the five "W" questions:

- What:** What do I want to accomplish?
- Why:** *Specific reasons, purpose or benefits of accomplishing the goal.*
- Who:** Who is involved?
- Where:** Identify a location.
- Which:** Identify requirements and constraints.

Meyer, P. J. (2003). What would you do if you knew you couldn't fail? Creating S.M.A.R.T. Goals. *Attitude Is Everything: If You Want to Succeed Above and Beyond*. Meyer Resource Group, Incorporated. [ISBN 978-0-89811-304-4](https://www.amazon.com/dp/0898113044).

# M = Measurable, in *Attitude is Everything* (Meyer, 2003)

Measuring progress is supposed to help a team ***stay on track, reach its target dates, and experience the exhilaration of achievement*** that spurs it on to continued effort required to reach the ultimate goal.

A measurable goal will usually answer questions such as:

- How much?
- How many?
- ***How will I know when it is accomplished?***
- Indicators should be quantifiable

**A = Attainable**, in *Attitude is Everything* (Meyer, 2003)

The theory states that an attainable goal may cause goal-setters to ***identify previously overlooked opportunities*** to bring themselves closer to the achievement of their goals.

An attainable goal will usually answer the question:

- ***How: How can the goal be accomplished?***

# R = Relevant, in *Attitude is Everything* (Meyer, 2003)

Many times you will need support to accomplish a goal: resources, a champion voice, someone to knock down obstacles. Goals that are relevant to your boss, your team, your organization will receive that needed support. ***Relevant goals (when met) drive the team,*** department, and organization forward. A relevant goal can answer yes to these questions:

- Does this seem worthwhile? ... Is this the right time?
- ***Does this match our other efforts/needs?***
- Are you the right person?
- Is it applicable in current socio- economic- technical environment?

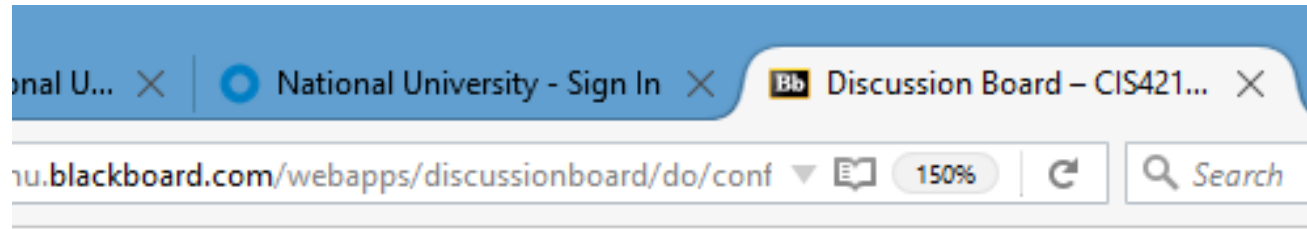
# T = Time-bound, in *Attitude is Everything* (Meyer, 2003)

A ***commitment to a deadline*** helps a team focus their efforts on completion of the goal on or before the due date. This part of the SMART goal criteria is intended to prevent goals from being overtaken by the day-to-day crises that invariably arise in an organization. ***A time-bound goal is intended to establish a sense of urgency.***

A time-bound goal will usually answer the questions:

- When?
- What can I do six months from now?
- What can I do six weeks from now?
- ***What can I do today?***



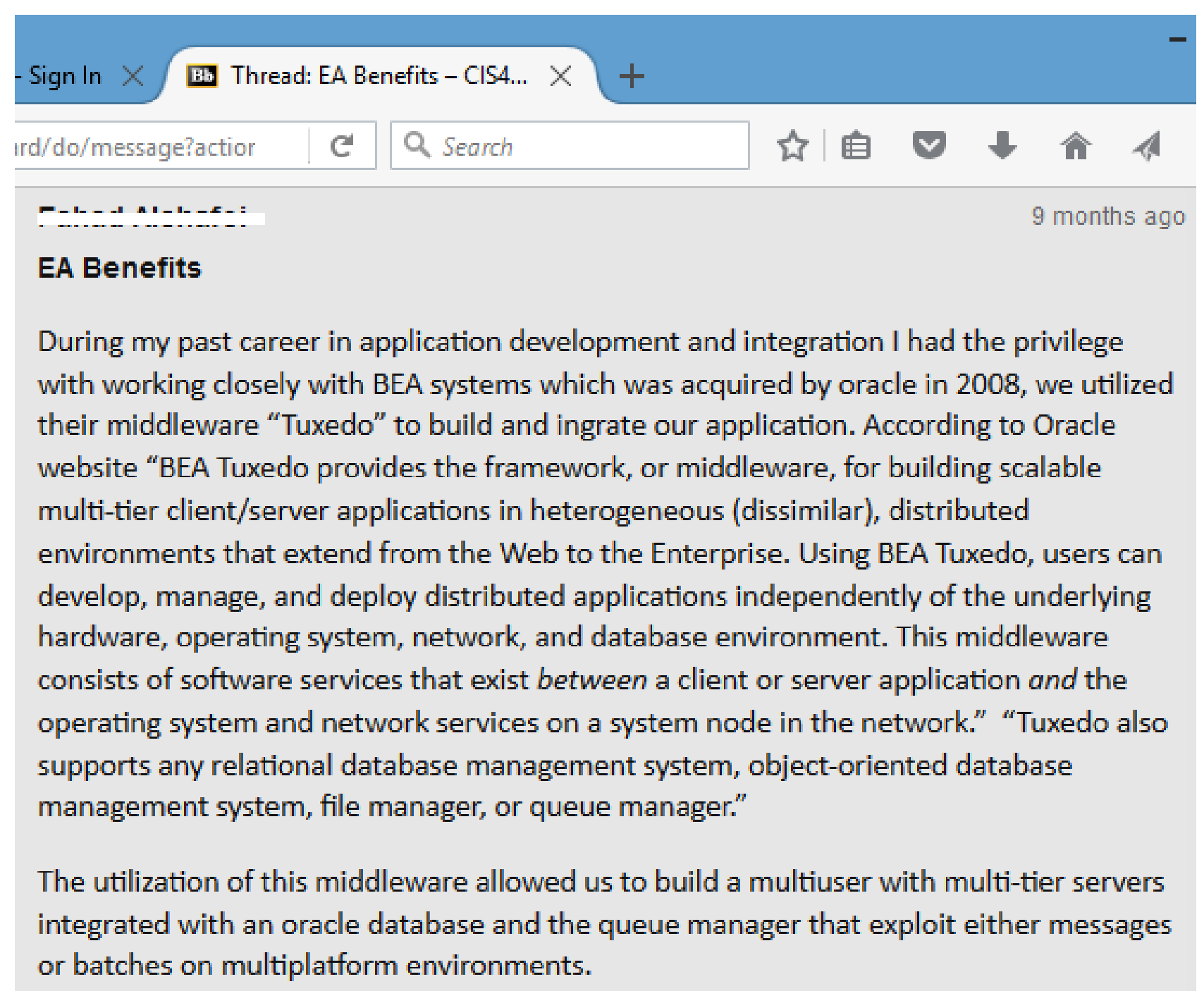


1DQ3 Ideas

**EA Benefits**

Each person will focus on interpreting a scenario from reading Chps 1, 2 or 3 (EAI, middle-ware, or Enterprise IT solution applications). Search for a relevant website about a "real-time" business/IT scenario. A post here will share your ideas about *a feasible benefit* for an enterprise-wide architecture. Due by end of Week1.

# 1DQ3 Ideas post



The image is a screenshot of a web browser window. The address bar shows a URL ending in 'ird/do/message?action'. The browser has several tabs, with the active one titled 'Thread: EA Benefits - CIS4...'. The page content is a forum post from a user named 'Fahad Alshafiq', posted '9 months ago'. The post title is 'EA Benefits'. The main text of the post discusses the author's experience with BEA Tuxedo middleware during their career in application development and integration, specifically mentioning its use with Oracle databases and multi-tier servers.

Sign In × **Bb** Thread: EA Benefits - CIS4... × +

ird/do/message?action | Search

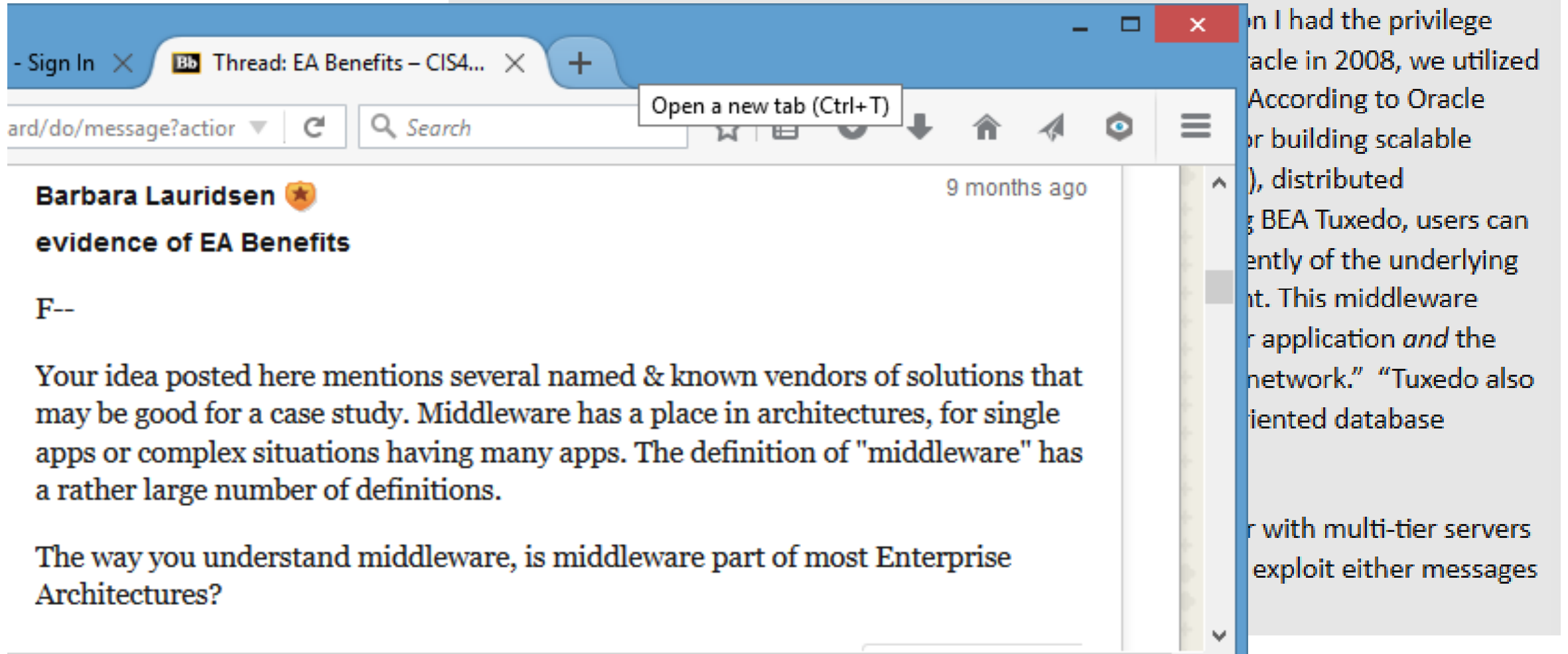
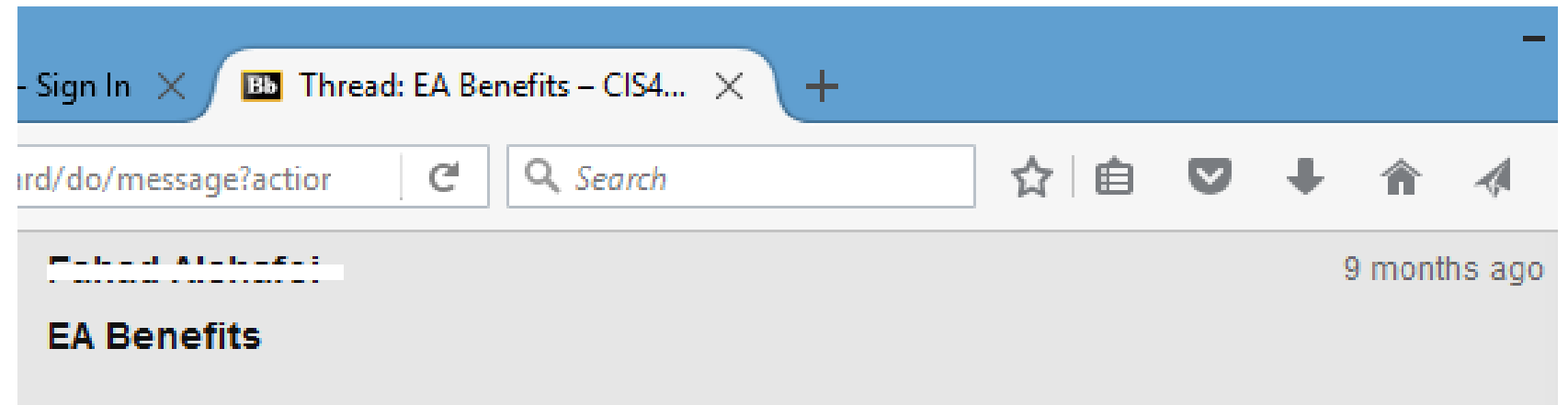
**Fahad Alshafiq** 9 months ago

## EA Benefits

During my past career in application development and integration I had the privilege with working closely with BEA systems which was acquired by oracle in 2008, we utilized their middleware “Tuxedo” to build and ingrate our application. According to Oracle website “BEA Tuxedo provides the framework, or middleware, for building scalable multi-tier client/server applications in heterogeneous (dissimilar), distributed environments that extend from the Web to the Enterprise. Using BEA Tuxedo, users can develop, manage, and deploy distributed applications independently of the underlying hardware, operating system, network, and database environment. This middleware consists of software services that exist *between* a client or server application *and* the operating system and network services on a system node in the network.” “Tuxedo also supports any relational database management system, object-oriented database management system, file manager, or queue manager.”

The utilization of this middleware allowed us to build a multiuser with multi-tier servers integrated with an oracle database and the queue manager that exploit either messages or batches on multiplatform environments.

# 1DQ3 Ideas post ... reply by instructor



... reply to instructor

Travis Althoff

8 months ago

**RE: evidence of EA Benefits**

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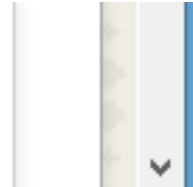
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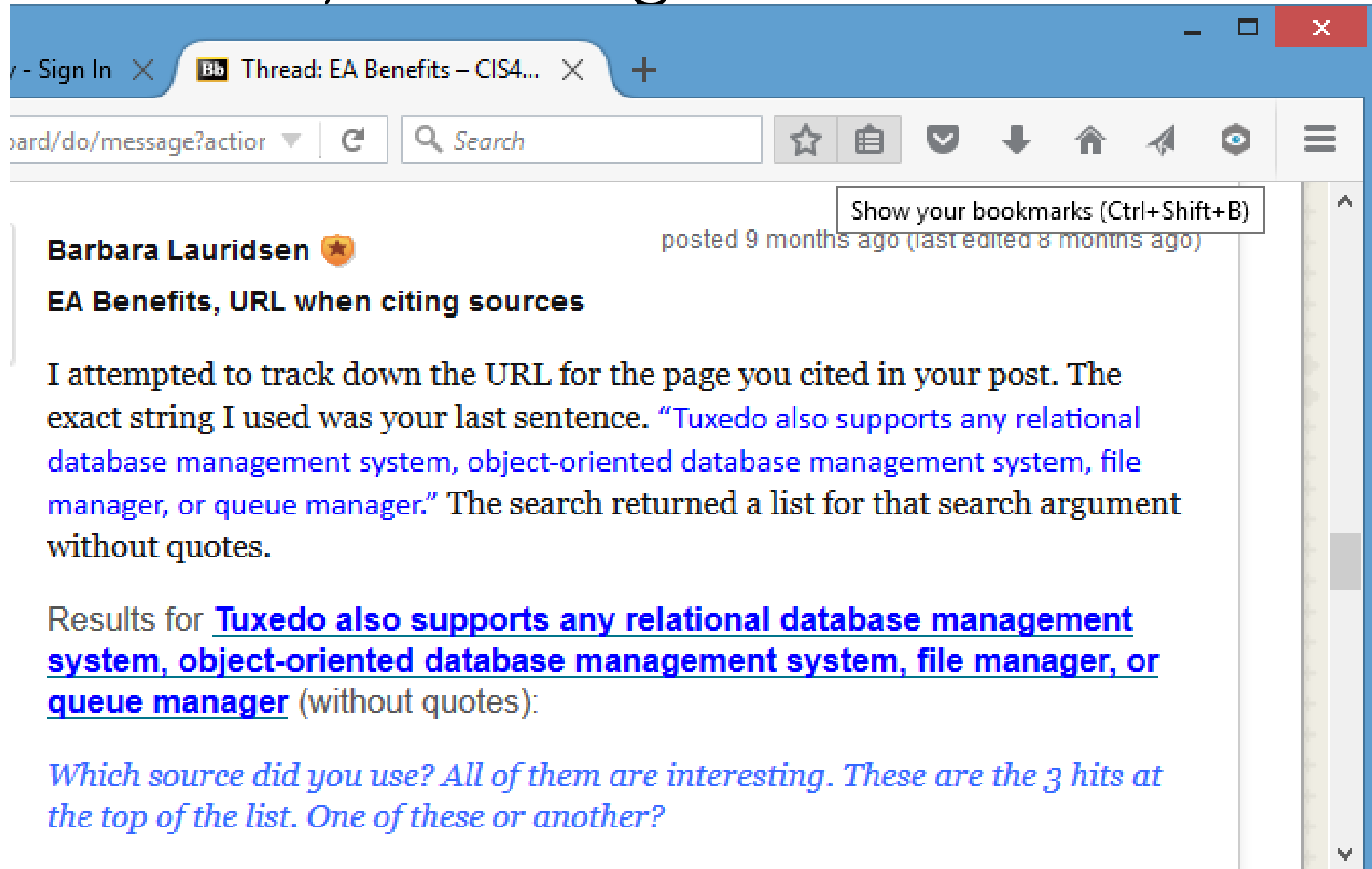
a

I would say no middleware is not a part of most Enterprise Architectures, specially in our current time with the new established corporations, older ones might be forced to use middleware in order to integrate their legacy systems. Further more, the world is moving to the cloud now and more web apps; this makes integration much easier with the use of just API's and JAVA converters.

The way you understand middleware, is middleware part of most Enterprise Architectures?



# 1DQ Ideas thread, encouragement to cite sources



The screenshot shows a web browser window with a Blackboard forum thread. The browser's address bar shows a URL ending in 'board/do/message?actor'. The forum post is by Barbara Lauridsen, who has a star icon next to her name. The post title is 'EA Benefits, URL when citing sources'. The post content discusses a search for a specific URL and includes a search result snippet. The browser interface includes a search bar, navigation icons, and a 'Show your bookmarks' tooltip.

board/do/message?actor

Search

Show your bookmarks (Ctrl+Shift+B)

Barbara Lauridsen ★ posted 9 months ago (last edited 8 months ago)

**EA Benefits, URL when citing sources**

I attempted to track down the URL for the page you cited in your post. The exact string I used was your last sentence. [“Tuxedo also supports any relational database management system, object-oriented database management system, file manager, or queue manager.”](#) The search returned a list for that search argument without quotes.

Results for [Tuxedo also supports any relational database management system, object-oriented database management system, file manager, or queue manager](#) (without quotes):

*Which source did you use? All of them are interesting. These are the 3 hits at the top of the list. One of these or another?*



*Which source did you use? All of them are interesting. These are the 3 hits at the top of the list. One of these or another?*

## [Introducing Oracle Tuxedo](#)

*[docs.oracle.com/cd/E13161\\_01/tuxedo/.../overview.html](https://docs.oracle.com/cd/E13161_01/tuxedo/.../overview.html)*

Oracle Corporation

Oracle **Tuxedo** does not provide **any** technical **support** or documentation for third party CORBA Java ORBs. ... It **also** includes a high-speed, highly reliable server-side message switch ... as well as **any relational database management system, object-oriented database management system, file manager, or queue manager.**



## Encou [\[PDF\]What is BEA Tuxedo? - Read](#)

[read.pudn.com/downloads159/ebook/709690/overview.pdf](http://read.pudn.com/downloads159/ebook/709690/overview.pdf)

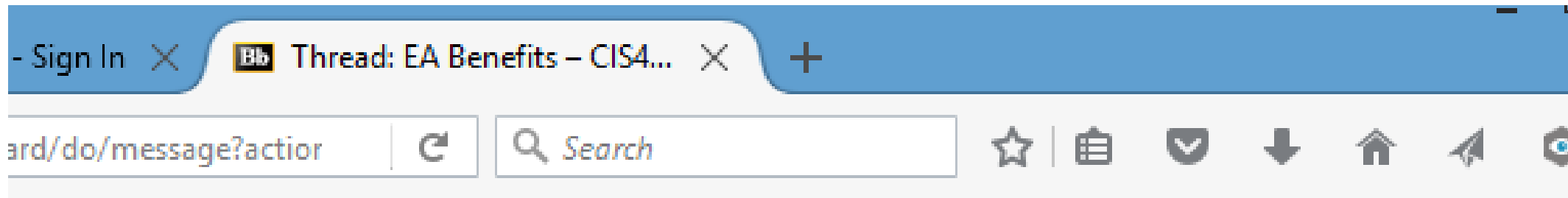
**Support** for Multiple Programming Models and Languages. .... PDF Document  
**Files** . .... BEA **Tuxedo** does not provide **any** technical **support** or ... Release  
7.1 **also** introduced multithreading and multicontexting—ATMI functions ....  
**database management system, object-oriented database** management ...  
**queue manager**.

## [\[PDF\]Queues Are Databases - arXiv.org](#)

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/cs/0701158> arXiv by J Gray - 2007 - [Cited by 19](#) - [Related articles](#)

Abstract: Message-**oriented**-middleware (MOM) has become an small industry.  
... **Queue** systems need **DBMS** functionality. ... **Object**-Request Brokers  
(ORBs). ... **manager** atop an **object-relational database** system [Chamberlin],  
[Stonebraker]. ... reasons encourage us to **support** non-transactional tables in  
an SQL database.

# Reply about source used



8 months ago

## **RE: EA Benefits, URL when citing sources**

I mainly used the first source, since it's an overview of the product, the second source is almost the same but more detailed. Thank you for the link. I am not familiar with the last document but looks like a good technical whitepaper, which I will read and perhaps conclude my own insights in regards to the subject, and although I am Microsoft certified I always tend to avoid their products in my solutions. Perhaps I am being more emotional than technical in this but I tend to notice that I loose a small percentage in performance when a Microsoft product is involved in the solution versus the same solution implemented using other equivalent products.



**Barbara Lauridsen** 

Just now

### URL when citing sources

F-- When you quote from an interesting source, it is handy to cite that source. In a blogging style post like this, it is convenient to provide the URL from the web site, such as thi. In Blackboard if you highlight the URL string and click the tiny chain link above, you can complete a popup form that enable you to turn on the link so that we can click it and open the site.

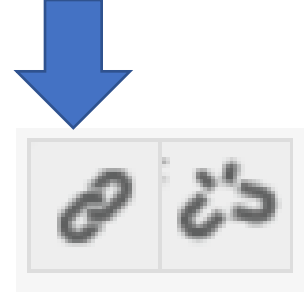
[http://docs.oracle.com/cd/E13161\\_01/tuxedo/docs10gr3/overview/overview.html](http://docs.oracle.com/cd/E13161_01/tuxedo/docs10gr3/overview/overview.html)

A more elaborate way to cite this source for is to provide the author (date) Title style. like this:

ORACLE. (2016). Product Overview: Introducing Oracle Tuxedo. [White paper] Available from [http://docs.oracle.com/cd/E13161\\_01/tuxedo/docs10gr3/overview/overview.html](http://docs.oracle.com/cd/E13161_01/tuxedo/docs10gr3/overview/overview.html)

To make our discussions in more useful, we are pretending that these conversations are like blogging. Rather than a public environment for sharing ideas, we have a private Bb LMS, and a series of topics for our learning outcome list. To anticipate what a visitor will do next after reading your own idea, encouraging going to the site you found.

## Follow-up for how to cite a source



F-- When you quote from an interesting source, it is handy to cite that source. In a blogging style post like this, it is convenient to provide the URL from the web site. In Blackboard, if you highlight the URL string, click the tiny chain link above, you can complete a popup that enable you to activate the link so that we can click it and open that site.

[http://docs.oracle.com/cd/E13161\\_01/tuxedo/docs10gr3/overview/overview.html](http://docs.oracle.com/cd/E13161_01/tuxedo/docs10gr3/overview/overview.html)

Follow-up for how to cite a source



...Or provide ad author (date) Title style. like this:

ORACLE. (2016). Product Overview: Introducing Oracle Tuxedo.  
[White paper] Available from

[http://docs.oracle.com/cd/E13161\\_01/tuxedo/docs10gr3/overview/overview.html](http://docs.oracle.com/cd/E13161_01/tuxedo/docs10gr3/overview/overview.html)

We are ***pretending that these conversations are like blogging.*** Rather than a public environment for sharing ideas, we have a private Bb LMS, with topics about EA. To anticipate what a visitor will do next after reading your own idea, make it convenient to look at the same source you found.

## Forum: 2DQ3 Ideas

Create Thread

Grade Discussion Forum

*Week2 Forum Discussion Question 3, about real time Enterprise Architecture (EA), Instructions to provide citation links*



### 2DQ3 Ideas



*Open the thread*

### Real time EA

Each person will research an aspect of this week's reading (text or Bb articles set up in "Wk2 Lessons". *Discuss a topic as it can be applied to a potential "real-time" business/IT scenario* (within 1 year). Share your ideas about a feasible benefit achieved by an **Enterprise Architecture**. An attached or embedded image single image with a brief narrative is encouraged with citation URL link embedded in the post, tested after being saved to ensure that it navigates to the site where you found the image.

# Forum: 2DQ3 Ideas

*Week2 Forum Discussion Question 3, about real time Enterprise Architecture (EA)*

Create Thread

Grade Discussion Forum

National University - Sign In × Bb Forum: 2DQ3 Ideas - CIS4... × +

ebapps/discussionboard/do/f | Search



*Open the thread*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Date	Thread	Author
<input type="checkbox"/>	7/21/16 5:48 PM	Purpose of SOA	[Profile Icon]
<input type="checkbox"/>	7/19/16 7:59 PM	Importance of TOGAF (1)	[Profile Icon]
<input type="checkbox"/>	7/19/16 2:28 PM	Real time EA	[Profile Icon]
<input type="checkbox"/>	7/17/16 6:49 AM	Service Oriented Architecture (SOA)	[Profile Icon]



# Forum: 2DQ3 Ideas

Create Thread

Grade Discussion Forum

(1)



The screenshot shows a web browser window with a Blackboard forum thread. The browser tabs include '- Sign In' and 'Bb Thread: Importance of TO...'. The address bar shows a URL ending in 'ard/do/message?actor'. The forum post is titled 'Importance of TOGAF' and is dated '8 months ago'. The post content reads: 'Upon looking at the lessons of week 2 I decided to explore TOGAF and the importance it has to a company. I found a website that discussed in depth what TOGAF was and how it could be helpful for a company to implement. I've read that TOGAF is the most popular of the EA Frameworks so I felt like I should look into it due to the fact I would be able to find more information.' Below the text is a table with four columns: 'Foundation', 'Common Systems', 'Industry', and 'Organization'. The 'Common Systems' column contains the text 'Products & Services', 'Systems Solutions', 'Industry Solutions', and 'Organization Solutions'. Below the table, the post includes an image source link: <http://www.opengroup.org/public/arch/p1/oview/cont.jpg> and a website link: <http://www.opengroup.org/public/arch/p1/oview/>. A green 'it' watermark is visible in the top right corner of the screenshot.

Upon looking at the lessons of week 2 I decided to explore TOGAF and the importance it has to a company. I found a website that discussed in depth what TOGAF was and how it could be helpful for a company to implement. I've read that TOGAF is the most popular of the EA Frameworks so I felt like I should look into it due to the fact I would be able to find more information.

# Forum: 2DQ3 Ideas

it

Create



8 months ago

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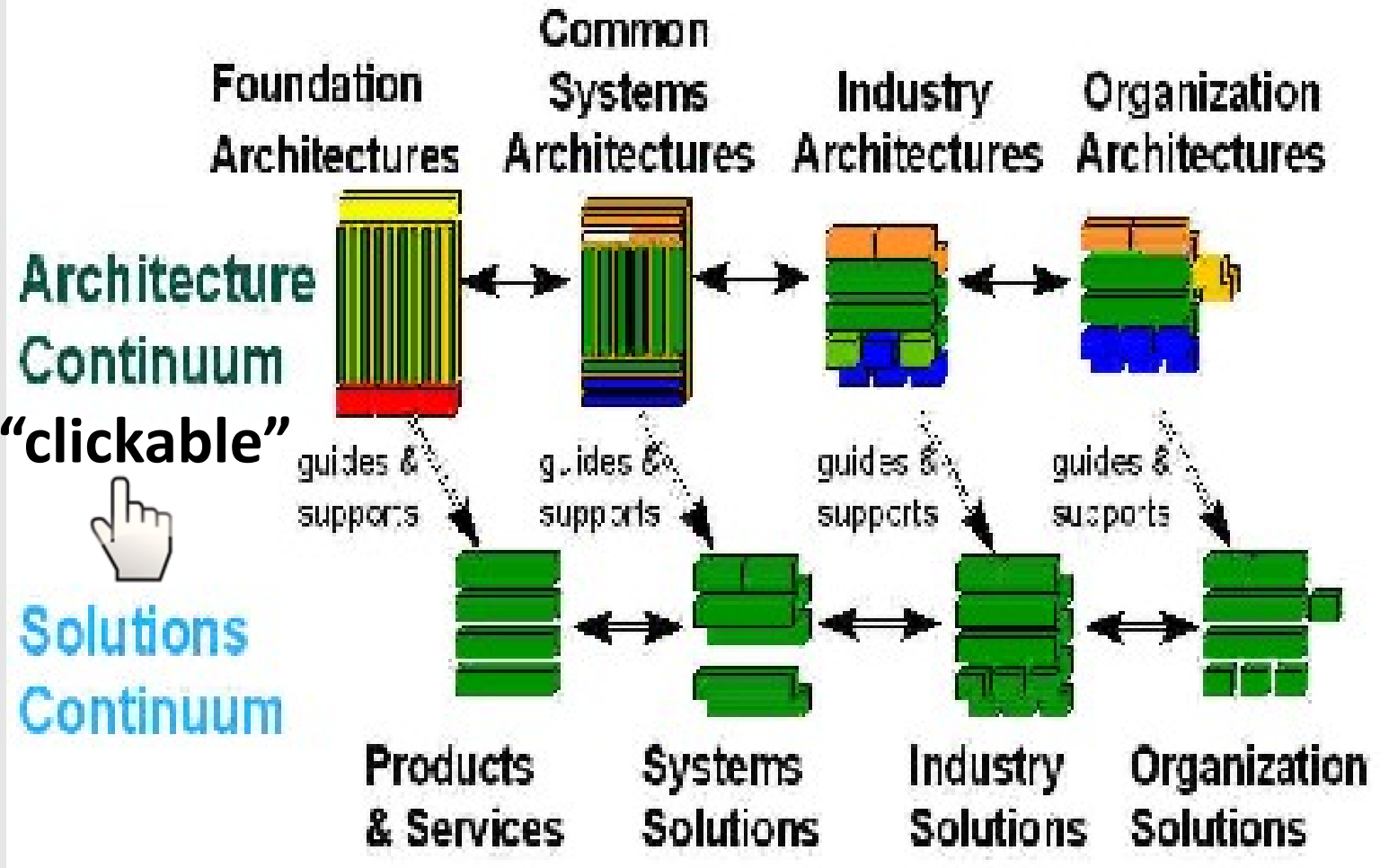
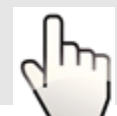


Image is "clickable"  
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Image source: <http://www.opengroup.org/public/arch/p1/oview/cont.jpg>

(2)  
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Website: <http://www.opengroup.org/public/arch/p1/oview/>



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<http://www.opengroup.org/public/arch/p1/oview/>

## The Business Executive's Guide to IT Architecture

*Why IT Architecture is Crucial to the Success of Your Business*

Have you thought about your need for an IT Architecture? This Guide explains:

- [What is an IT Architecture?](#)
- [Why do I need it?](#)
- [What are the specific business benefits?](#)
- [What is TOGAF?](#)
- [How does TOGAF help deliver an effective IT Architecture?](#)
- [What Specifically Does TOGAF Contain...?](#)
- [How do I use TOGAF?](#)
- [What Do I Get From Participating in The Open Group's Architecture Forum?](#)
- [What Are the Specific Business Benefits of Participation?](#)
- [What action do I take now?](#)

(2)



**What is an IT Architecture?**

**The Business Value of a Technical IT Architecture**



## Forum: 4DQ3 Ideas

Create Thread

Grade Discussion Forum

*Week4 Forum Discussion Question 3,  
exploring ideas about value of  
Enterprise Architecture (EA)*

ent Login |... x | National Unive... x | Bb Discussion Boa... x | Enterprise arch... x | +

https://nu.blackboard.com/web Search

4DQ3 Ideas

**4 DQ Ideas using EA**

12



*Open the  
thread*

Conduct an Internet search about value of an Enterprise Architecture, find an opinion about usefulness of enterprise architecture frameworks, ***then "triangulate" that idea by finding another source that agrees, or disagrees.*** Task: Post both statements and also your idea about how blogger's opinions distort or support the "truth".









# Forum: 4DQ3 Ideas

Create Thread

Grade Discussion Forum

*Drill down on two dialogs*

*Open the thread*

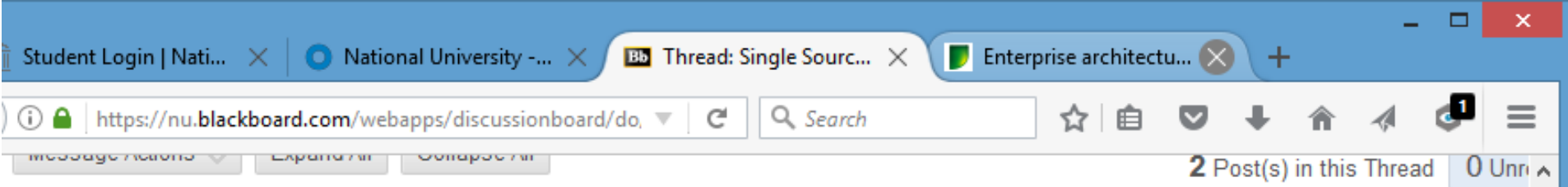
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>Date</b> 	Thread	Author
<input type="checkbox"/>	8/1/16 2:50 PM	Hybrid EA	 [blurred]
<input type="checkbox"/>	7/31/16 9:31 PM	4 DQ Ideas using EA	 [blurred]
<input type="checkbox"/>	7/31/16 6:27 PM	Single Source of Truth	 <b>Barbara Lauridsen</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	7/31/16 5:07 PM	4DQ3: Value of an Enterprise Architecture	 [blurred] Cannon
<input type="checkbox"/>	7/31/16 7:24 AM	4 DQ Ideas using EA [I am for EA] (2)	 [blurred]
<input type="checkbox"/>	7/29/16 10:21 PM	DQ4#3	 [blurred]

(1)

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# Blogging style post by an instructor

(1)  
↓



**Barbara Lauridsen** ★  
**Single Source of Truth**

8 months ago

According to Dragon1, " The Single Source of Truth image shows that you can create your own Framework or Method with meta models and have users create compliant user models. Next users can create views of these models and paint and generate static and interactive visualizations on Dragon1. Finally the visualizations can be re-used over and over again in documents and the documents can be published on the web via the content viewer or printed out (2d or 3d)."

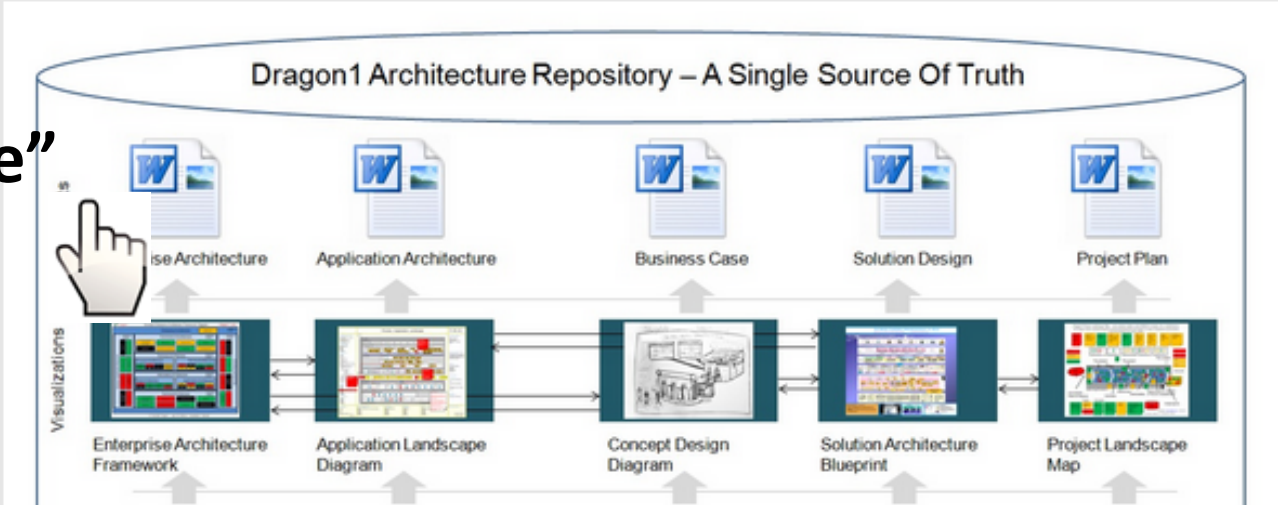


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Blog

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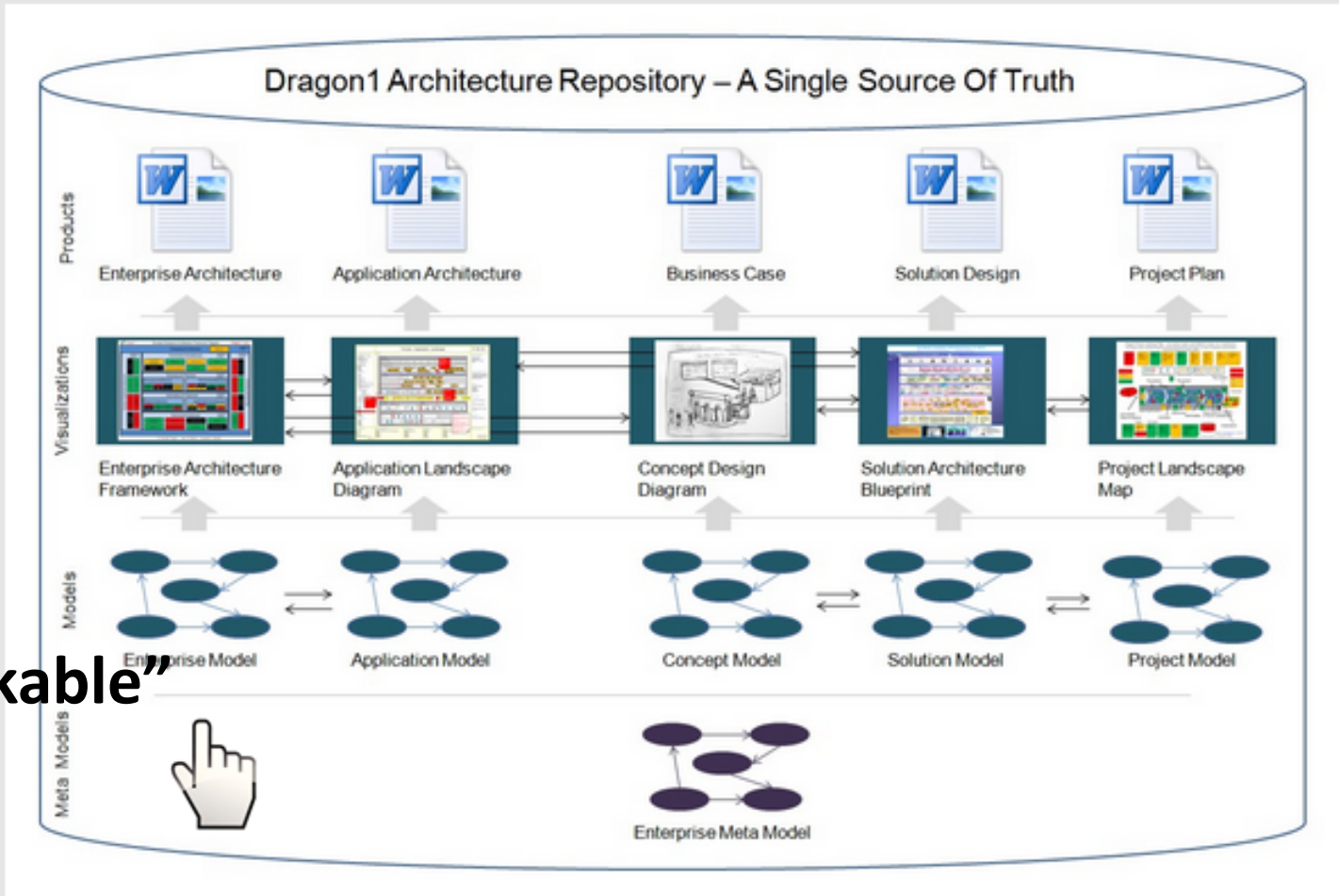


Image is "clickable"



Image URL:

Web host URL: Enterprise Architecture Tool. Introduction of Dragon1 as Enterprise Architecture Tool. Architecture Tools for the Enterprise Architect, Manager and CIO is the software of today. Increase enterprise governance, compliancy and control.

Embedded link



# Blogging style post by an instructor

(1)  
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Image URL:

Embedded link →

Web host URL · Enterprise Architecture Tool.

Intructions Enterprise Architecture Tool. Architecture Tools for the Enterprise Architect, Manager and CIO is the software of today. Increase enterprise governance, compliancy and control.

https://www.dragon1.com/enterprise-architecture-tool  
Ctrl+Click to follow link

<https://www.dragon1.com/enterprise-architecture-tool>

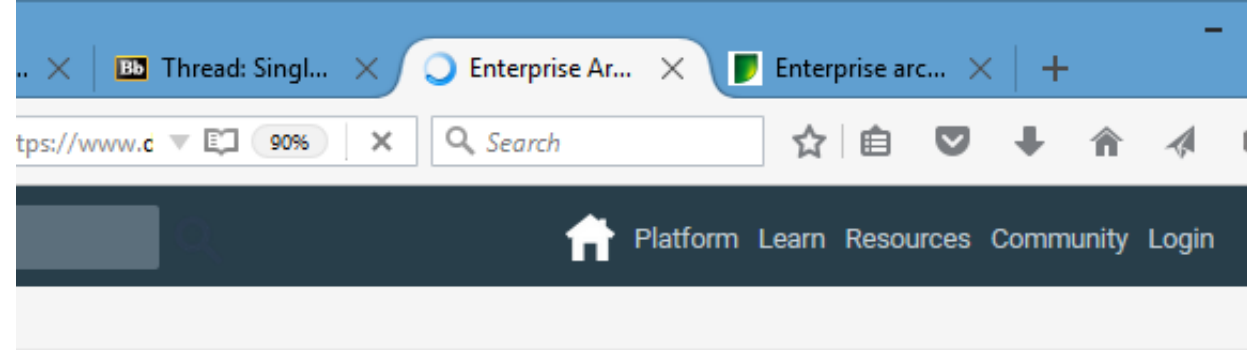
Open the embedded link

Image URL:

Web host URL: <https://www.dragon1.com/enterprise-architecture-tool>

Embedded link

Introduction of Enterprise Architecture Tools for Enterprise Architect, Manager and CIO is the software of today. Increase enterprise governance, compliance and control.



## Enterprise Architecture Tool

Dragon1

### Introduction of Dragon1 as Enterprise Architecture Tool

Online Architecture Tools for the Enterprise Architect, Manager and CIO is the software of today. Increase enterprise governance, compliance and control.

#### Main Benefits

- Build Target Architectures upon your Strategy



Example of an Enterprise Architecture blueprint at A0 size, created on Dragon1 by importing data from Microsoft Excel into the repository and using the Architecture View Layout from the Dragon1 open EA Method to generate the visualization

Open the embedded link

Image URL

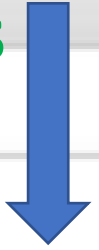
Web host URL

Introduction of Dragon1 Enterprise Architecture Manager as an enterprise

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the Dragon1 Enterprise Architecture website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://www.dragon1.com>. The website's navigation menu includes: Products (Dragon1 Platform, About Dragon1, Pricing Plans), Editions (Dragon1 CONNECT, Dragon1 PRO, Dragon1 ENTERPRISE), Training & Certification (Foundation Training, Certified Training, Bridge Training), Consultancy Services (Landscaping, Blueprinting, Roadmapping), and Tools (BPM Tool). The main content area features the heading "Enterprise Architecture Tool" and "Introduction of Dragon1 as Enterprise Architecture Tool". Below this, it states: "Online Architecture Tools for the Enterprise Architect, Manager and CIO is the software of today. Increase enterprise governance, compliancy and control." The "Main Benefits" section lists: "Build Target Architectures upon your Strategy". To the right, there is a large diagram titled "Enterprise Architecture Blueprint 2016 - My Mark Corporation" showing a complex 3D architectural view. The diagram is labeled "Dragon1" and includes the website URL [www.dragon1.com](http://www.dragon1.com).

Reply

(1) Reply to instructor's post



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**RE: Single Source of Truth**

Intr

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The Dragon1 open method is constructed around four distinct 'modes:

1. a way of thinking,
2. a way of working,
3. a way of representing.
4. a way of supporting.

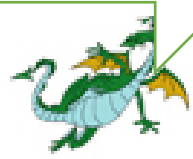
Full Article [here](#)



*Student provides an embedded link*



Open the embedded link



# Dragon1

Dragon1 EA Method meets requirements for method recognition by the Open Group Certified Architect Program

Home » What is Dragon1?

- > **What is Dragon1?**
- > Enterprise Architecture Framework
- > Dragon1 References
- > Supporting Materials
  - Dragon1 Wiki
  - Checklists
  - Document templates
  - Open Standards


## What is Dragon1?

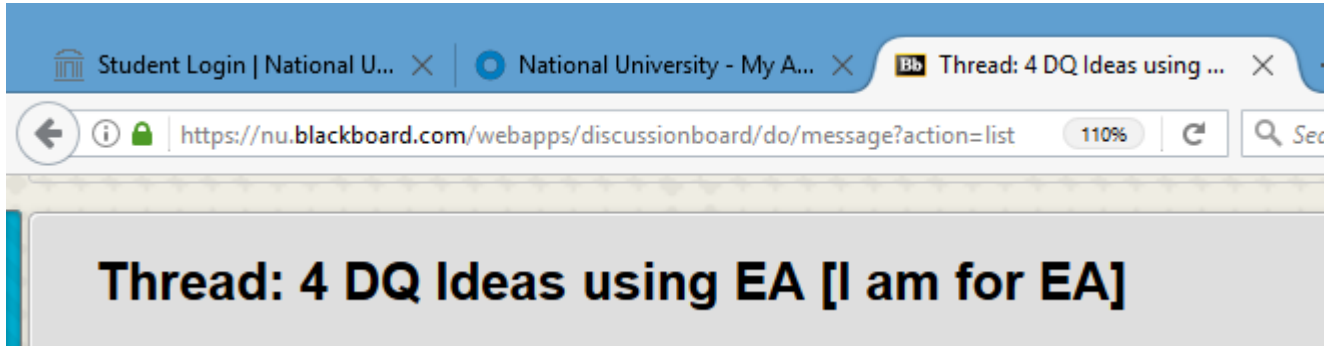
### Dragon1 Open EA Method for Visual Enterprise Architecture

Dragon1 is the open method for working with Visual Enterprise Architecture, as applied to both profit and non profit organizations.

Making use of architecture designs and architecture principles enables an architect to ensure a more predictable and controllable quality of integrated IT business solutions and strategic innovations for Company Board members and management.

**Download**

 [The Official Statement](#)



Blogging style DQ (2)  
post by a student



**4 DQ Ideas using EA [I am for EA]**  8 m

[For]

The first article is for EA framework and a way that truly simplifies the process to the point they made an acronym using S.I.M.P.L.E. to describe EA framework. **"SIMPLE** is an acronym that we use to let people what to expect when engaging with Enterprise Architecture. **The "S" is for Standardization.** We seek create and drive standards through the organization to synergize performance and reduce costs by leveraging technologies we already own.

(2)



# DQ post by a student, with detail text

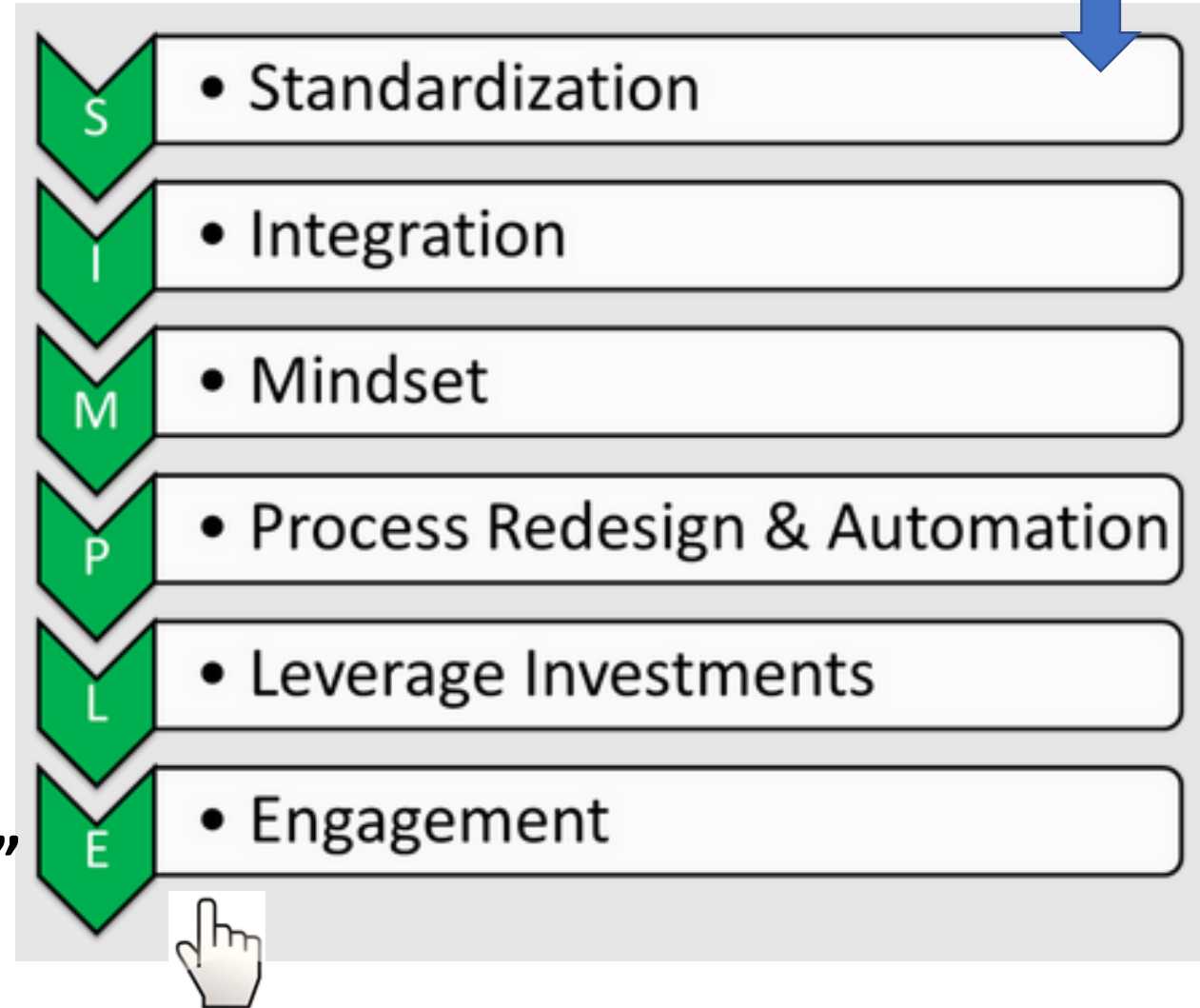
- **The “I” is for Integration.** We ensure all platforms, applications and technologies can work together.
- **The “M” is for Mindset.** An Enterprise Architecture Mindset is something that we look to create throughout IT. It relies of bringing groups of people together who can drive solutions that meet the business, application, technical, security and data goals of the solution.
- **The “P” is for Process Redesign and Automation.** One of the main goals of technology is to remove, redesign or improve manual tasks. Within IT and our government community, we are always looking for ways to improve the way we do business improving our efficiency and satisfaction.
- **The “L” is for Leverage Investments.** Many times, we buy products that we do not fully implement. We leave features on the shelf. In Enterprise Architecture, we strive to use what we already own instead of buying additional tools.
- **The “E” is for Engagement.** Everyone in Oakland County expects Enterprise Architecture to engage.

# DQ post by a student, with an image containing an embedded link

(2)

Whether creating or improving an Enterprise Architecture function, the **SIMPLE** mantra can help you achieve incredible results and an IT Culture where people are excited, engaged and passionate.”

Image is “clickable”



# DQ post by a student, copying in an article, with author's APA citations

(2)

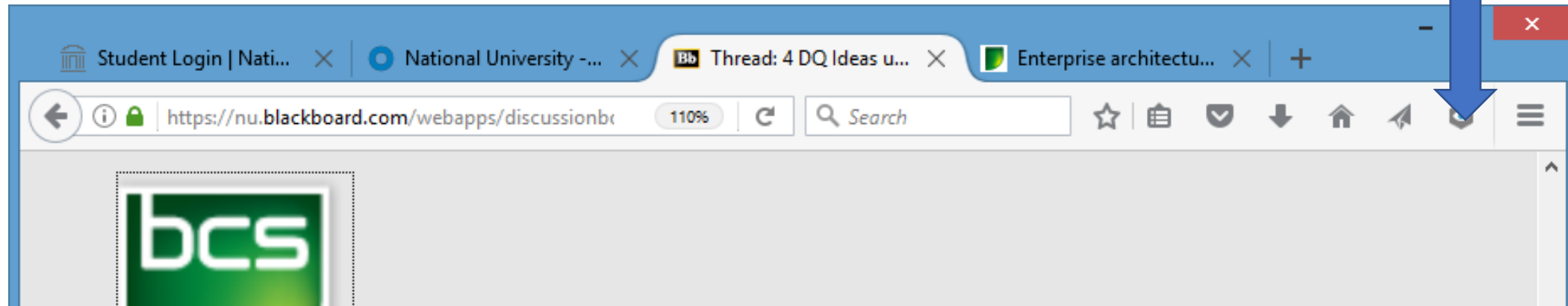


## [Against]

- The blog against EA frameworks targets TOGAF stating “Despite the promise that ‘TOGAF provides a best practice framework for adding value’ (TOGAF 2011, p. 7), the analysis of its usage shows that this best practice can be hardly applicable and TOGAF can be hardly used in any real sense: only as a ‘dictionary’ where some useful information can occasionally be found or as a ‘horoscope’ from which vague recommendations can be adapted and interpreted to fit all organisations, but, not providing any real practicable guidance to any of them. Though positioned as a comprehensive end-to-end EA framework covering most parts of EA practice, TOGAF rarely provides useful advice on its most critical aspects.
- Surprisingly, my conclusions are not innovative and far from new, but rather old and widely known. They are supported by numerous previous empirical studies (Ahlemann et al. 2012; Buckl et al. 2009; Haki et al. 2012; Holst and Steensen 2011; Ross et al. 2006; Smith et al. 2012) that consistently demonstrate that EA frameworks, including TOGAF, have only a minor value at best or are even detrimental at worst.”

# Blogging style post, *student's own opinion*

(2)



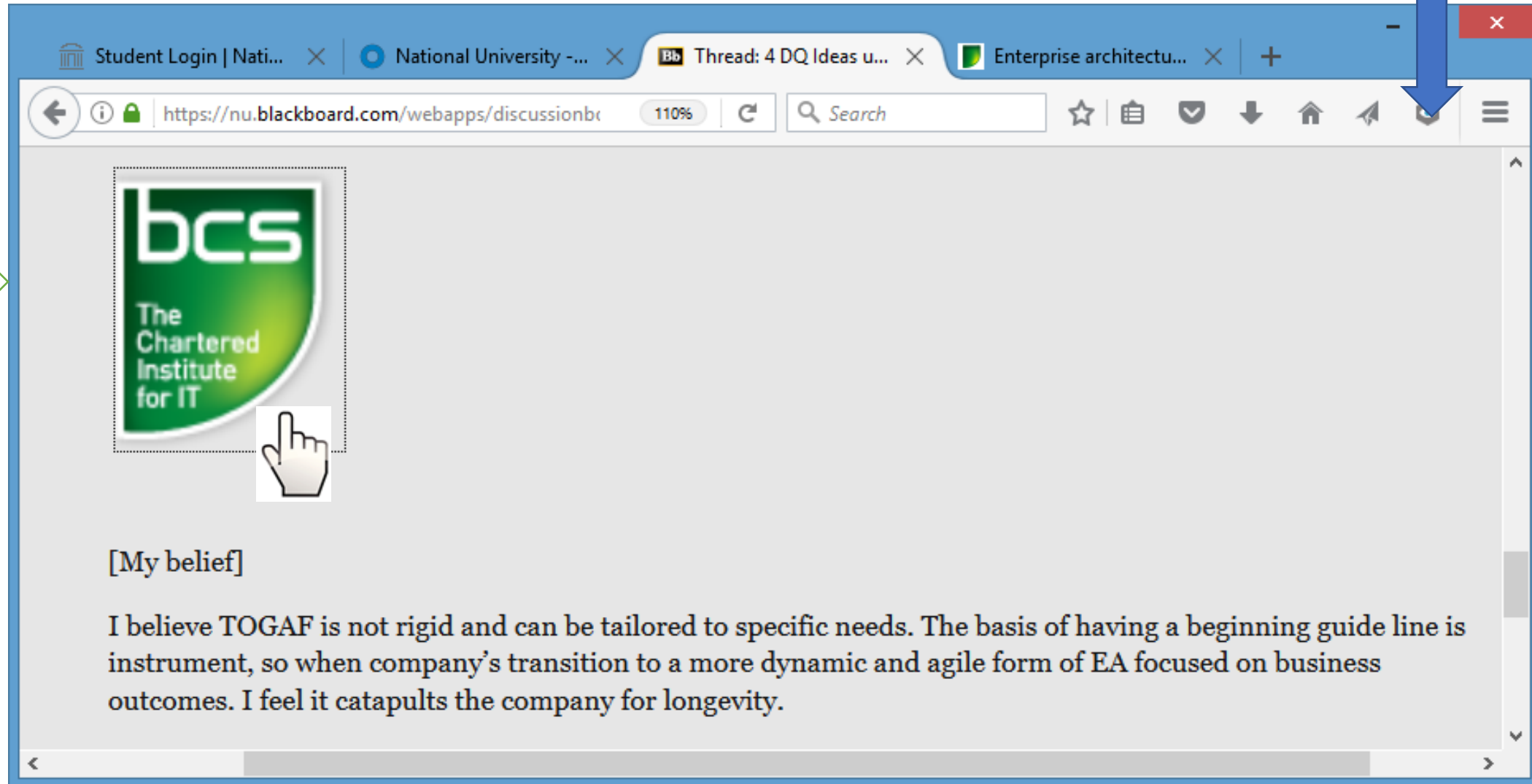
[My belief]

I believe TOGAF is not rigid and can be tailored to specific needs. The basis of having a beginning guide line is instrument, so when company's transition to a more dynamic and agile form of EA focused on business outcomes. I feel it catapults the company for longevity.

<http://www.bcs.org/content/conWebDoc/55547>

# Blogging style post by a student, *logo as a link* (2)

*Embedded link*



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying <https://nu.blackboard.com/webapps/discussionbr>. The page content features a green shield-shaped logo for BCS (The Chartered Institute for IT). A dotted box highlights the logo, and a hand cursor is positioned over it, indicating it is a clickable link. Below the logo, the text reads: [My belief] I believe TOGAF is not rigid and can be tailored to specific needs. The basis of having a beginning guide line is instrument, so when company's transition to a more dynamic and agile form of EA focused on business outcomes. I feel it catapults the company for longevity.

<http://www.bcs.org/content/conWebDoc/55547>

Following the  
embedded link

The screenshot shows a web browser window with several tabs open. The active tab is titled 'Enterprise architectu...'. The address bar shows the URL 'www.bcs.org/content/conWebDoc/55547'. The browser interface includes navigation buttons, a search bar, and a 'Open a new tab (Ctrl+T)' button. The website header features the BCS logo (The Chartered Institute for IT) and navigation links for 'Login', 'Home', 'About us', 'Secure area', 'Contact us', and 'International'. A secondary navigation bar contains 'Qualifications and Certifications', 'Membership', 'Consultancy', 'Events', and a 'Search' button. The main content area displays the article title 'Enterprise architecture is not TOGAF' in large green text, with a sub-header 'January 2016'. The article text begins with 'Svyatoslav Kotusev, an independent researcher, questions whether the Open Group Architecture Framework (TOGAF) is the industry standard framework that enterprise architects really deserve.' To the right of the text is a photograph of a man in a green shirt and blue tie, gesturing with his hands. Below the main text, there is a paragraph starting with 'The Open Group Architecture Framework (TOGAF) is currently promoted as an industry consensus framework for enterprise architecture (EA) representing the best practice of numerous EA practitioners.' Another paragraph follows, starting with 'However, my observations of successful companies using TOGAF as a basis for their EA efforts suggest that most TOGAF recommendations are usually found inapplicable, while the most critical parts of EA practice are usually established from scratch in company-specific ways.' On the left side of the page, there is a sidebar with a 'Back to Publishing and editorial' link, followed by sections for 'Blogs and videos', 'Subject areas', and a list of categories: 'Business', 'Hardware, software and games', 'Internet and communication', 'IT management' (highlighted in a dark bar), 'Learning and development', and 'Security, data and privacy'. On the right side, there are two sections: 'Related Articles' with links for 'Ransomware recovery', 'A matter of survival', 'Vulnerability intelligence', 'Informatics and measuring wellne...', and 'The relationship between enterpr architecture artefacts'; and 'Related Blog Posts' with a link for 'Archive of all articles relating to Management'. The browser's status bar at the bottom shows a scroll bar and navigation arrows.

<http://www.bcs.org/content/conWebDoc/55547>



*opens a Webdoc  
that accepts  
comments*

*This source was a  
positive example of a  
public blog which offers  
a professional exchange  
of ideas that have value,  
with names & date for  
the blog post.*

<http://www.bcs.org/content/conWebDoc/55547>

## Comments (18) [Leave Comment](#)

**1** **Mike Chad** wrote on 10th Feb 2016

The bottom line is that there is no substitute for competent analytical capability, which seeks to learn from others, but applies intelligence, experience, perception, common-sense, and good communication skill to each unique context. One size does NOT fit all, and many of the criticisms expressed here might be directed at other brands, such as PRINCE2 and ITIL, where inexperienced practitioners try to apply them without broad understanding and a degree of pragmatism. There is no golden bullet!

[Report this comment](#)

**2** **William** wrote on 10th Feb 2016

It feels like you had some negative experience(s) with either the TOGAF framework or more generally Enterprise Architecture or maybe both. Maybe you should explain where and why you believe TOGAF didn't help (people and company names can be changed to sthg that doesn't identify them too obviously if you can't disclose those details). I believe TOGAF and the ADM are not rigid and can be tailored to specific needs (like with most frameworks). Are you TOGAF certified yourself ?

*opens a Webdoc  
that accepts  
comments*

*When shared during  
Blackboard Collaborate  
session, this was a  
practical opportunity to  
encourage students to  
visit the site, read, the  
post ideas or to ask  
questions.*

<http://www.bcs.org/content/conWebDoc/55547>

Report this comment

## Post a comment

Your Name

Your email address (not published)

Your comments



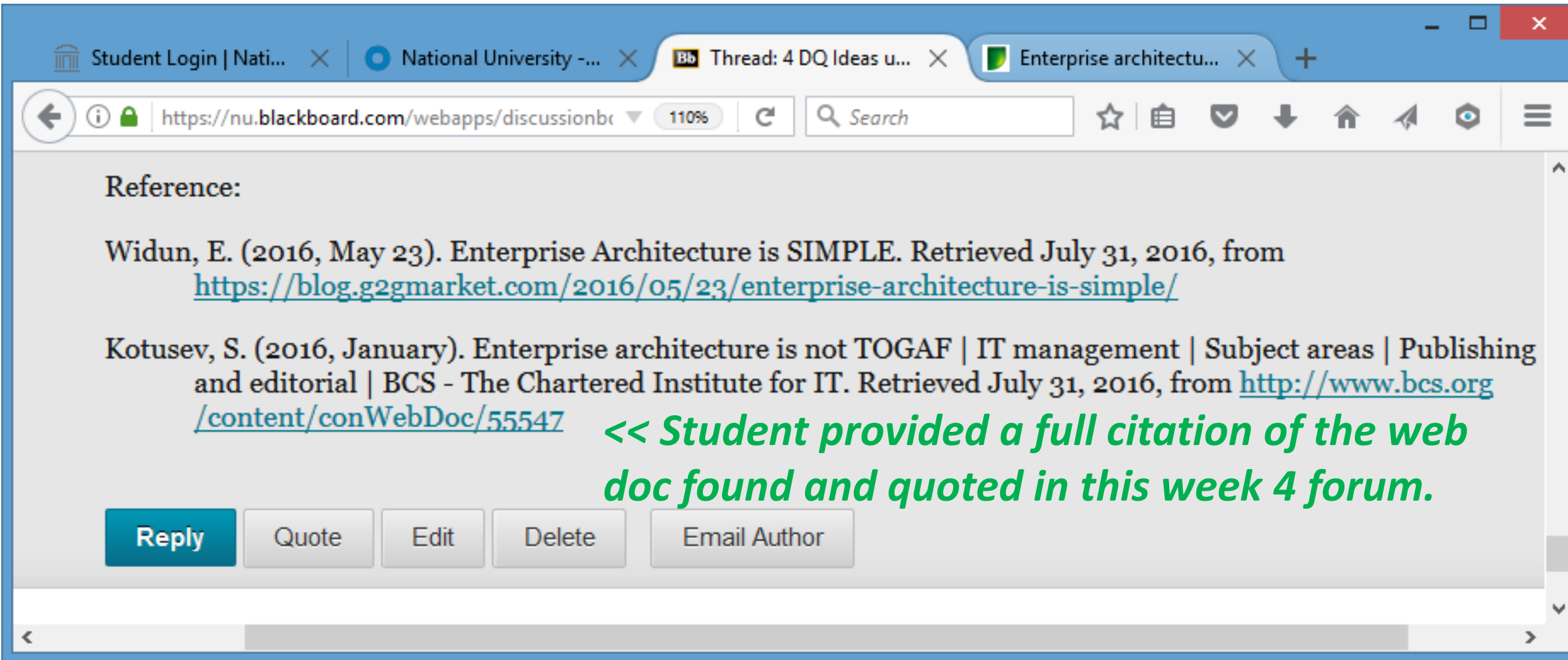
Type the text

Privacy & Terms



Post Comment

# Student provided APA references *with live links*



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the following elements:

- Browser tabs: "Student Login | Nati...", "National University -...", "Bb Thread: 4 DQ Ideas u...", "Enterprise architectu..."
- Address bar: "https://nu.blackboard.com/webapps/discussionb...", 110% zoom, search bar.
- Reference text:

Reference:

Widun, E. (2016, May 23). Enterprise Architecture is SIMPLE. Retrieved July 31, 2016, from <https://blog.g2gmarket.com/2016/05/23/enterprise-architecture-is-simple/>

Kotusev, S. (2016, January). Enterprise architecture is not TOGAF | IT management | Subject areas | Publishing and editorial | BCS - The Chartered Institute for IT. Retrieved July 31, 2016, from <http://www.bcs.org/content/conWebDoc/55547>
- Buttons: "Reply", "Quote", "Edit", "Delete", "Email Author"

*<< Student provided a full citation of the web doc found and quoted in this week 4 forum.*

<http://www.bcs.org/content/conWebDoc/55547>

# Pole attendees for their opinions about:

question

Do what degree do you agree?

High (5) (4) (3) (2) (1) Low

1. The S M A R T approach provided guidance for focusing research for starting up a team case study.
2. Using Bb DQs with embedded links provided a encouragement to be engaged in sharing ideas.
3. Instructor's blogging provides insights and useful hints for students' actions.

# Works cited

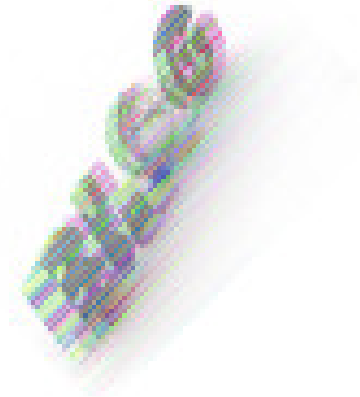
Hansen, H. E. (2016) The Impact of Blog-Style Writing on Student Learning Outcomes: A Pilot Study, *Journal of Political Science Education*, 12:1, 85-101. Available from <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/15512169.2015.1060887>

Lauridsen, B. (2016, July). CIS421-10533-1701: CIS421 Enterprise Architecture (*last available Saturday, August 6, 2016*) Instructor: Barbara Lauridsen; Referencing DQ posts under terms of IRB rules for protecting students' identities

Meyer, P. J. (2003). ["What would you do if you knew you couldn't fail? Creating S.M.A.R.T. Goals"](#). *Attitude Is Everything: If You Want to Succeed Above and Beyond*. Meyer Resource Group, Incorporated, The. ISBN 978-0-89811-304-4.

# Questions?

*What is the Meaning of Blogging?*



**Get** *More with Challenge*

**What is the Meaning of Blogging?**

Ani March 27, 2016



# #tcc22nd



OLC and 1 other follow

 **Bert Kimura** @kimubert · 12h  
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**TCCHawaii** @tochawaii  
TCC 2017 Pre-Conference: A New Way of Looking at Apps  
March 15 at 2pm (HST)  
Free  
Details: [2017.tcconlineconference.org/pre-conference/](http://2017.tcconlineconference.org/pre-conference/)

← ↻ 1 ❤️ 1



# Chat with us!

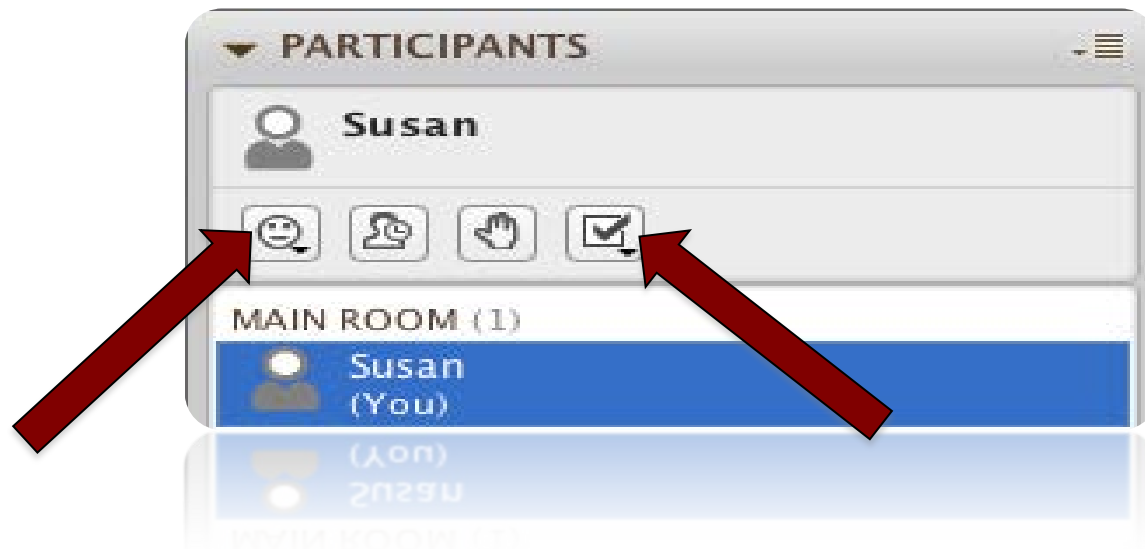


Private messages can be viewed by Moderators, just so you know.

Type your message here and press Enter to send.



# Polls, smiles and handraising





# You have a voice!

Audio Setup Wizard



Click on the Talk button. We won't be using Video.