Hi my name is Pheobe Rouse and I’m the pre-calculus mathematics director at Louisiana State University. I first started working with Moodle in October of 2007 when LSU announced it would be our new Course Management System. I piloted the system in Spring 2008 and I joined the MDAC committee in March of 2008 when it first was formed.

I think it is essential that faculty members have a voice in the development of Moodle. We can be more aware of the needs of the program and give feedback to the developers. I think this is the main reason why our Moodle is such a success now.

Over the three plus years that I have been involved with the MDAC committee I have asked for several features and all of them have been developed. I think the one that has been the most important to the math department is the gradebook. The gradebook is wonderful. It has features that we really need. One of the biggest ones is the ‘add/drop’ feature. Our students are constantly adding at the beginning of the semester and then dropping throughout the semester and this enables us to track them individually. Another one that is really big that the students love, is the one called ‘estimate final grade.’ Students can estimate their grade on the last test, their grades on the final exam and see exactly what they have to make to get whatever the highest grade possible is.

One more thing I would like to mention is that we use a learning system in the math department that requires us to export grades from it, and upload them into Moodle. The Moodle developers wrote a script for us that allows us to do that with about three or four clicks, and this saves hours and hours of work. Overall, it has been a very positive experience for me.