Evaluation of Cornell’s Learning Management System (LMS)- an Update*

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Vice Provost for Academic Innovation

Faculty Senate Meeting, October 11th, 2017

* See also talk from March 17 Faculty Senate meeting
Cornell’s LMS: Blackboard Learn

– Last evaluated in 2007. License up for renewal June 2018
– Major educational technology tool at Cornell*- important that it meets faculty needs now and in the future
– Chance to evaluate experience for teachers and students, look at alternatives
– Chance to widen/unify use across campus, and use of effective pedagogical technology in the classroom
– Project started in Spring 17 with a faculty survey. Today’s talk is a mid-point project update. No decisions have been made.

*Roughly 2/3 of CU courses use Blackboard. Exceptions: CIS, CVM, Weill, individual instructors. Reasons: Blackboard not best fit, or reluctance to use any LMS
LMS evaluation plan- overview

Achieve broad faculty/students/staff participation in the review process to ensure that Cornell’s needs are met as best we can

Who is conducting the review:

• Team co-led by staff from CIT and Center for Teaching Innovation: Todd Maniscalco, J.P. Brannan, Rob Vanderlan, Chloe DeShong, Matt Ouellett

• Academic Liaison: Julia Thom-Levy

Outcome of the Review:

• Report to the Faculty Senate and to the Provost

Review content:

• Feedback and data about current Blackboard system (and support service), and if it meets the current and future needs

• In-depth feedback about 3 alternative products: Canvas, Brightspace, Blackboard Ultra
LMS Evaluation Overview: Timeline

**Begin**
- Initial evaluation of needs and options
- Instructor survey, interviews; Technical testing

**Pilot FA 17**
- Canvas, Brightspace, and Blackboard Ultra

**Decision**
- Report findings to Provost’s Office for decision.

- Dec 2016
- Feb 2017
- Aug 2017
- Nov 2017
- Apr 2018
- May 2018

**Timeline Stages**
- Begin
- Initial inquiries, testing
- Pilot
- Eval
- Decision
Completed

- Sent faculty survey to 2,566 faculty, 28% response rate
- Completed and transcribed over 50 faculty interviews. Analysis in progress.
- Procured and implemented pilot systems with Blackboard Ultra, Brightspace, and Canvas.
- Completed an initial summer pilot session with one course in all three systems.
- Recruited representative faculty and launched 32 Fall pilot courses.
Ongoing

- **Fall Pilots**
  - Our fall pilot consists of a diverse and representative group of faculty from all colleges, wide range of disciplines and use cases.
  - Almost 3000 students are enrolled in pilot courses and their feedback will be included in the analysis.

- **Requirements Gathering**
  - Continuing to meet with faculty and staff from around the campus to gain a clear understanding of their needs.
Upcoming

• **Round Table Discussions**
  – Discussion groups are being planned for TAs, administrators, and students. If you know anyone who would like to be involved, please have them contact us at lmseval@cornell.edu

• **Student Blackboard Poll**
  – Students who log into Blackboard will be prompted with an opportunity to provide feedback in a survey similar to faculty survey sent in March.
November Information Sessions

A chance to leave input, ask question, see LMS systems, try out empty test course.

These will be held at:

- Sage Hall Atrium: November 2nd from 10:00am – 1:30pm
- Duffield Hall Passage: November 6th from 11:00am – 3:00pm
- Mann Library Lobby: November 7th from 11:00am – 3:00pm
- Klarman Atrium: November 9th from 11:00am – 3:00pm
GET INVOLVED

Try It Out

Go to it.cornell.edu/lmseval and click on “Try it out” to request an empty test course.

Your feedback is critical to the success of this project. To share your thoughts please email us as lmseval@cornell.edu.
Spring 2018

• **Final Report**
  – Will include the faculty survey and interview analysis, requirements comparisons, pilot analysis, cost comparison, and implications of each option.
  – To be presented to the Provost and Faculty Senate in the Spring of 2018
Backup material
LMS Market Share For US & Canadian Higher Ed Institutions

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM


- Open Source
  - George Washington 1998
  - Virginia C. U. 1997
  - U. British Columbia 1996
  - WebCT
  - Angel Learning
  - Real Education 1996
  - eCollege

- Consortium
  - 2002 Noodle
  - 2004 Sakai

- Other
  - e.g. Jenzabar, Edvance360, LoudCloud Systems, WebStudy, Schoology, CampusCruiser

- Homegrown
  - Canvas
  - 2010
  - Started as Community Source, now run as Open Source

The thickness of the line represents percentage of institutions in US / Canada using selected system as primary LMS

All data from LISTedTECH LMS database under agreement with MindWires Consulting
# Team Members

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Project Role(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Julia Thom-Levy</td>
<td>Provost</td>
<td>Project Sponsor, Executive Committee</td>
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<td>Rob Vanderlan</td>
<td>CTE</td>
<td>Communications, Interviews, Surveys, Testing</td>
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