Evaluation of Cornell’s Learning Management System (LMS)

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Provost’s Fellow for Pedagogical Innovation

Faculty Senate Meeting, March 8th, 2017
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

*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
Course Information

Attached Files:  P1112 Course Info Fall 2015.pdf (119.04 KB)
This document outlines course procedures and policies and your responsibilities for classes and outside work.

Syllabus

Attached Files:  P1112 Fall 2015 Syllabus.pdf (85.362 KB)
Our schedule of topics, assignments, and activities for the semester.
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 from Academic Technologies, led by Todd Maniscalco, J.P. Brannan, Rob Vanderlan
• 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)
• In-depth feedback about 3 alternative products: Canvas, Brightspace, Blackboard Ultra
Canvas Demo Course Home Page

ABOUT OUR COURSE

You have the option to create a dedicated ‘Home Page’ or select the preferred entry point for your course (e.g., the default ‘Activity Stream’ page, ‘Modules’ etc.). A dedicated landing page is a useful tool to help students effectively navigate online materials. For example, consider providing the following information:

Getting Started
Please visit the navigation links on the left to get started. Become familiar with the layout and navigation of the course and review the syllabus carefully.

Questions
Remember to check the syllabus, announcements, and the Course Information Module before asking questions. You may also want to create a FAQ Discussion Board as a central question/answer site. For example, “Please post questions on the content, assignments, and/or schedule in the FAQ Discussion Board.”

Guided Tour for Navigating the Course (video)

Insert video tour here.

Instructors, learn how to create a home page

Here
LMS evaluation- timeline

• Short faculty survey (March ‘17)
• In-depth interviews with 30-40 faculty/staff across colleges (March, April, ‘17)
• Pilot testing of 3 alternative products in courses (Fall Semester ’17)
  – Identified faculty users representing all groups of Blackboard users
  – Expert tech support provided for pilot study
• Focus groups, using “sandbox” access to the 3 alternative systems, access to sandbox also by request (Fall ‘17)
• Collection of student feedback

You will hear from us, and you can email us if you’d like to participate (see also https://it.cornell.edu/lmseval).
• More information: https://it.cornell.edu/lmseval
(also linked through the Faculty Senate web page)

Comments:
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# Team Members

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