LMS Recommendation

• Why replace Blackboard?
  o Faculty dissatisfaction
  o Obsolete LMS
  o Failed pilot of "Ultra," Blackboard's replacement product
  o Poor corporate customer support

• Recommend Canvas as industry-leading teaching and learning solution

• Detailed additional recommendations follow . . .
LMS Review: Where We Are

• **Jan. 9, 2018**: Submitted "Early Learning Management System (LMS) Recommendations" memo to LMS Review Committee and Teaching & Learning Domain Committee Chair

• **Jan. 23, 2018**: IT Council Meeting

• **Jan. 25, 2018**: IT Leaders Meeting
1. A University-Wide LMS

- Recommend a single LMS for the entire institution
- Proliferation of alternatives to Blackboard continues
  - Increasing licensing costs for multiple systems
  - Limited staff resources across multiple systems
  - Complexity and overhead for teachers and learners
    - No "one place to go" for students and teachers
    - Problematic across disciplines (e.g., interdisciplinary programs)
2. Required Third Party Integrations

• Next generation LMS must fully support "third party integrations"
  o Replace Blackboard SafeAssign with alternative, like TurnItIn
  o Replace/abandon Blackboard Collaborate web conferencing
• Analysis of current integrations completed and available for review
• Pilot third party integrations proved fairly successful
• **Canvas** supported more third party integrations than **Schoology**
  o Pearson myLab
  o Piazza, Mediasite
  o Box, Office 365
  o **Exception**: iClicker
3. The Need for LMS Governance and Support

• Recommend forming a standing LMS support and governance structure

• Recommend outsourcing 24/7 LMS support service to the vendor as a complement to institutional staffing

• Additional staffing recommendations needed from sub-committee
  ○ Deadline: Feb. 2018
4. Phased Adoption

1. LMS Procurement – Early Spring 2018
2. LMS Implementation – Spring/Summer 2018
3. Early Adopter Phase I (scope indeterminate) – Fall 2018
4. Early Adopter Phase II (remaining faculty opt in) – Spring 2019
5. Mandatory Transition – Fall 2019
5. The Choice of Canvas: LMS Market Share

• LMS changes in larger schools (>2000)
• Growth of Canvas (#2)
• Tailing off of Moodle
• Exit of ANGEL and Pearson

edutechnica.com/2017/09/17/5th-annual-lms-data-update/
5. The Choice of Canvas: Evaluation Data

A. LMS Evaluation Program Surveys
   • 24 of 26 respondents (92%) favorably inclined toward Canvas vs. 9 of 21 (43%) toward Schoology
   • Ease of use numbers higher for Canvas
   • Canvas users more likely to prefer to Blackboard than Schoology users

B. Use Case Testing
   • Canvas tested as successful at significantly more use cases than Schoology
   • Slightly higher average ratings for ease of use per use case with Canvas

C. Vendor Demo Feedback (no clear preference)

D. Power User Focus Group
   • 3 of 6 power users strongly preferred Canvas; remainder comfortable with either choice
   • Serious concerns expressed about lack of features in Schoology
A. LMS Evaluation Program Surveys

Figure 1. Student responses to survey question regarding LMS preference.
A. LMS Evaluation Program Surveys

Figure 2. Faculty responses to survey question regarding LMS preference.
### A. LMS Evaluation Program Surveys (faculty)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>[1 = Strongly disagree, 5 = Strongly agree]</th>
<th>Compared to Blackboard, [the pilot LMS] is: easier to learn</th>
<th>Compared to Blackboard, [the pilot LMS] is: easier to use</th>
<th>Compared to Blackboard, [the pilot LMS] is: better at supporting my students' learning</th>
<th>Compared to Blackboard, [the pilot LMS] is: better at supporting effective teaching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Schoology (n = 17)</td>
<td>4.29</td>
<td>4.29</td>
<td>3.71</td>
<td>3.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canvas (n = 20)</td>
<td>4.55</td>
<td>4.60</td>
<td>4.30</td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>[1 = Not at all helpful, 3 = Very helpful]</th>
<th>Providing feedback on homework and assignments</th>
<th>Communicating course updates and changes with my students</th>
<th>Computing and sharing course grades with students</th>
<th>Sharing course materials and activities with students</th>
<th>Collaborating with TAs and other instructors in the course</th>
<th>Helping students prepare for assessments</th>
<th>Tracking student progress in the course</th>
<th>Organizing course materials and activities</th>
<th>Answering student questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Schoology (n = 21)</td>
<td>2.54</td>
<td>2.63</td>
<td>2.60</td>
<td>2.90</td>
<td>2.67</td>
<td>2.64</td>
<td>2.85</td>
<td>2.85</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canvas (n = 22)</td>
<td>2.73</td>
<td>2.80</td>
<td>2.67</td>
<td>2.95</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>2.67</td>
<td>2.80</td>
<td>2.90</td>
<td>2.67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>[1 = Extremely difficult, 5 = Extremely easy]</th>
<th>Activity feed</th>
<th>Updates</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Calendar</th>
<th>Discussions</th>
<th>Files</th>
<th>Inbox/ Messages</th>
<th>Modules/ Folders</th>
<th>Syllabus</th>
<th>Tests/ Quizzes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Schoology</td>
<td>4.75 (n = 9)</td>
<td>4.42 (n = 20)</td>
<td>4.53 (n = 20)</td>
<td>3.90 (n = 11)</td>
<td>4.56 (n = 10)</td>
<td>4.68 (n = 20)</td>
<td>3.71 (n = 15)</td>
<td>4.67 (n = 19)</td>
<td>4.45 (n = 11)</td>
<td>4.00 (n = 5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canvas</td>
<td>4.64 (n = 11)</td>
<td>4.61 (n = 18)</td>
<td>4.67 (n = 20)</td>
<td>4.57 (n = 14)</td>
<td>4.91 (n = 11)</td>
<td>4.68 (n = 22)</td>
<td>4.13 (n = 15)</td>
<td>4.73 (n = 15)</td>
<td>4.57 (n = 21)</td>
<td>4.75 (n = 12)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B. Use Case Testing

• 96 use cases, derived from survey results
• Two testers, evaluated each use on both pass/fail and ease of use
• Canvas *passed* 20 more use cases than Schoology
• Canvas had slightly higher ease per use case
B. Use Case Testing: Results

The diagram shows the results of testing for different categories: Pass, Fail, and Uncertain. The categories are represented for two platforms: Canvas and Schoology.

- Pass category:
  - Canvas: Approximately 70
  - Schoology: Approximately 50

- Fail category:
  - Canvas: Approximately 20
  - Schoology: Approximately 40

- Uncertain category:
  - Canvas: Approximately 0
  - Schoology: Approximately 10
B. Use Case Testing

• Canvas had *higher overall ease of use*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Schoology</th>
<th>Canvas</th>
<th>Total Possible</th>
<th>Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Points</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>480</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Total</td>
<td>45.2%</td>
<td>63.1%</td>
<td></td>
<td>Winner: Canvas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Earned 86 more ease of use points than Schoology

Ranked 17.9% higher than Schoology
C. Vendor Demo Feedback

• Attendees at vendor demos generally confident that either system could serve learning and teaching needs

• No clear preference between Schoology or Canvas evident
D. Power User Focus Group

• 3 of 6 power users **strongly** preferred **Canvas**; others were comfortable with either choice

• None preferred Schoology

• Serious concerns expressed about lack of features in Schoology, particularly group assignments

• Minor concerns noted with **Canvas**, particularly grade weighting
Questions? Comments? Concerns?