Charge to the LMS Evaluation Committee

In 2005, Carmen was introduced as the centrally supported learning management system (LMS) at this university. The service is provided by the Office of Distance Education and eLearning (ODEE) and runs on D2L software.

In the past several years, the introduction of Canvas and the formation of Unizin have shaken up the market, causing rapid development and changes in product strategy. It is time to assess our options and determine which LMS will provide the best platform for teaching and learning at Ohio State.

This committee is charged with evaluating the functionality of best-in-class learning management systems and providing a recommendation to Liv Gjestvang by June 15, 2015. The recommendation should consist of two elements:

1. An assessment indicating whether each LMS is suitable for the OSU environment. This should include a comparison of the products based on key features used by instructors and students.
2. A recommendation that OSU continue with D2L for the foreseeable future, or explore in detail, the feasibility of moving to a specific, alternative LMS.

Scope of work

Committee members will be expected to:

- Attend 2-3 meetings in April and May
- Approve or adjust the selection of best-in-class products
- Approve a rubric to assess the functionality of each product
- Attend vendor demonstrations (in addition to committee meetings)
- Author a recommendation

The committee is not expected to:

- Evaluate factors such as accessibility, security, ability to integrate with other systems, infrastructure needs, scalability and performance, or cost. If the committee recommends further exploration of an alternative LMS, these factors will be considered during a subsequent analysis

ODEE staff will provide:

- A selection of best-in-class products for committee review, although the committee may add or remove products
- Vendor demonstrations and test sites
- Communication with vendors, including submitting questionnaires on the committee's behalf
- Technical resources to answer questions or resolve issues with test site