Subject: New LMS at DMACC - Staff information

Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 at 10:21 AM
From: Raineri, Joseph L <jlraineri@dmacc.edu>
To: *Supervisors of Staff

Attachments: Admin_Resource_LMS-Training-for-new-faculty.pdf, Canvas_Instructor_Info.pdf

Please share this with your staff/admins and others who might find it useful.

Good morning,

I am writing to share some exciting news. DMACC will be transitioning from Blackboard to Canvas this fall. Our Online Advisory Council reviewed three LMS options in March of 2021 and overwhelmingly chose to move to Canvas. COVID slowed down the transition but we've been working for the past several months to configure and implement Canvas at DMACC. We're now in the process of training faculty and migrating courses for the fall term.

We know everyone works with students and helps answer questions related to the LMS at some point, so we want you to know where to direct students for additional help or support. Please know that there are several advantages with Canvas including ease of use over the other platforms. We also polled our high school partners and found that 29 of them already use Canvas so students at those schools will find the transition much easier than they did with Blackboard. Also note that both Iowa and Iowa State use Canvas which factored into the decision to change.

Some information we hope you'll find useful as things progress late this summer and into fall:

- All faculty have to complete a short DMACC Required Training to teach using Canvas. If you hire a new instructor and need to know what is required, please see the attached Admin Resources document.
- The Blackboard button in myDMACC will be changed to a Canvas button on August 11th. There are a few Continuing Education courses that start in the summer and continue through fall so we're working with them on how to access Blackboard after this transition.
- DMACC standards and processes regarding course creation, naming structure, faculty and student enrollments and timing won't change. See the attachment (Canvas_Instructor_Info.docx) if you want to review this.
- The same course delivery types will be used in Canvas as have been with Blackboard.
- Textbook selection is still the responsibility of each faculty member and the delivery (print or eBook) is chosen by both the bookstore and student. We are happy to help if possible but have the student contact Follett or the instructor first.

- Publisher integrations are similar to those in Blackboard. Students should log into Canvas to access publisher materials and instructors should provide students with instructions.
- We have contracted with *Simple Syllabus* to create and manage our syllabi starting this fall term as well. It's a tool integrated in Canvas where faculty will add personal and course information but it integrates into Banner and Curriculog to pull course-specific information. Students will access it from Canvas and have the ability to search and look at other syllabi. The reporting feature is automated for Deans.
- Collaborate has been the virtual tool used for virtual classes and it will be going away starting this fall. Instead, we've contracted with Kaltura to add *Kaltura Classroom* to our contract. It's very similar to Collaborate but has some exciting new features that can be used in coordination with our courses.

This is a work in progress and we expect things to be fluid for a while until we're ready to go this fall so please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Regards,
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