Dear Faculty and Students,

The Learning Management System Request For Proposal process has entered the contracting phase. The university intends to sign a new 3 year contract with D2L. At the end of the 3 years the university will have the option to renew for a 4th and 5th year.

The finalists were Canvas, D2L, and Moodlerooms. The committee spent the month of December comparing the products by attending presentations, comparing features, and working through teaching and learning use cases within each system. Overall, D2L was the vendor that best met the evaluation criteria of this RFP. D2L’s combination of flexible course design, robust features, and having the least change associated with it for faculty and students made it the LMS with the best fit for the University of Arizona.

What to expect moving forward (Dates and times are tentative. Updates for the listed events, dates, times, and improvements will be made through the D2L My Home News page.):

1. Move from UITS to D2L hosting facility – Friday, May 27, 6:00pm – May 28, 6:00am
   • No screen changes for faculty and students.
2. Upgrade D2L from version 10.3 to 10.6 – Friday, July 8, 6:00 pm – July 9, 6:00am
   • Almost no changes to tools such as Content, News, Dropbox, Discussions, Quizzes, and Grades.
   • Significant changes to My Home screen, Intelligent Agents, D2L’s mobile apps, and via D2L’s Dropbox tool there will be a TurnItIn Peermark integration.
   • New features will be available in Awards (badging), ePortfolio, and Google Apps for Education.
   • Begin supporting monthly upgrades. (similar to the way Firefox and Chrome update.)
     o Small changes roll in every month. (An example is the renaming of a button.)
     o Large changes will have a 1 year period for the university to choose the best available moment to upgrade. (Past examples are Content and Discussions. Future examples are Quizzes and Grades.)
3. Launch “D2L Community site” – August 1.
   • Faculty will now be able to use D2L for both matriculated students and for “workshops” whose participants do not have NetIDs.
4. Identify a few departments to pilot degree competency and advanced analytics – September 1.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

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Instructional Support, Director

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