



AGENDA ITEM

A-4. Consolidated Learning Management System Michael Vollmer

Situation: The University of North Carolina System is exploring the adoption of a single, unified Learning Management System (LMS) to serve all constituent institutions. Standardizing on a single LMS enables increased classroom collaboration between faculty across the University, eases the transition for students entering or transferring between campuses, and generates contractual savings. This strategic move supports the System's mission to deliver accessible, high-quality education efficiently and equitably across North Carolina.

Background: The constituent institutions of UNC System currently operate three different learning management systems. Thirteen institutions operate the same LMS, Canvas, all under separate contracts with the vendor. Three institutions use Moodle and one campus uses Blackboard.

Unifying on a single LMS solution will ensure a consistent technology that allows faculty classroom collaboration across the System. This collaboration helps foster innovation in instructional practices. In addition, students will have fewer barriers to learning. A consistent LMS means that transfer students will not have to learn a new course delivery technology when changing institutions. Entering first-time students will also have one fewer new technology to learn. North Carolina's Department of Public Instruction (DPI) standardized Canvas as its preferred LMS in 2014, a platform now used by nearly all public K-12 schools in the state. Under the now enacted S.L. 2025-62, formerly SB133, the North Carolina Community College System has also been directed to select a single LMS solution. They are required to implement a single LMS that is consistent with DPI and the University of North Carolina by December 31, 2027.

Further, standardizing on a single contract will yield significant annual savings for the University. Currently, the 13 institutions operating under the same LMS use different contracts, paying different prices. The price paid varies by more than double between institutions. Consolidating on a Systemwide contract will bring down the cost paid for all campuses, leveraging the buying power of the System.

Assessment: Adopting a single standard Learning Management Solution for the University of North Carolina is consistent with the actions of the General Assembly, supports faculty learning innovation, student success, and delivers cost savings to the University.

Action: This item requires a vote by the committee, with a vote by the full Board of Governors through the consent agenda.