The UNO Canvas Task Force Recommends that UNO switch to Canvas.

In Spring 2017, 51 faculty taught 83 courses in the Canvas pilot. Of these, 37 faculty completed a user survey between February 22 and March 3 (73%). In addition, 1,661 students enrolled in Canvas pilot courses, 583 of whom completed the user survey during the same time frame (35%). Two focus groups were held to gain faculty input, with an additional two sessions scheduled to discuss the Canvas Learning Management System with student users. The Task Force used survey and focus group data to make the recommendation.

The 2016-2017 Canvas exploration was led by UNO’s Information Technology Services (ITS). Lending support throughout the investigation/pilot, developing the evaluation, analyzing the feedback, and writing the recommendation was a Task Force composed of faculty from each college, staff from critical support areas on campus, and a student member.

Faculty Task Force members: Dr. Michelle Friend (COE), Dr. Craig Maher (CPACS), Dr. Dale Eesley (CBA), Dr. Briana Morrison (IS&T), Dr. Tomm Roland (CFAM), Meghan Salsbury (Library), and Dr. Randy Adkins (A&S).

Staff/Student Task Force members: Suzanne Withem (A&S), Rick Murch-Shafer (COE), Anne Heimann (Accessibility Services), Drew Nielsen (Compliance), Karen Hein (Center for Faculty Excellence), Melanie Krings (eMBA), and Josiah Krutz (student).

UNL, UNK and UNMC have announced they will move to Canvas.

Feedback from pilot faculty and students clearly supports switching to Canvas:

- 94% of faculty and 63% of students surveyed prefer Canvas over Blackboard.
- Students results can be traced back to student's comments within the survey. Students were not happy having to jump back and forth between Canvas and Blackboard. Also, there is likely a correlation between how an instructor has used the tool and student perception of it.

Feedback from pilot focus sessions:

- Both faculty and students agreed that Canvas is a better LMS platform.
- Faculty said if the other campuses are moving then UNO should move.
- Everyone who has used the 24x7 support line finds this to be a very good option for students and faculty.
Faculty and students were both able to become comfortable with Canvas during the first seven weeks of the Spring 2017 semester.

Faculty were asked to specify how well specific tools worked within Canvas compared to Blackboard. For each tool Canvas was preferred by a large majority of the pilot faculty.