



LMS Exploratory Task Force

Task Force Chair	Lorna Wong
Completion Date	July 1, 2011
Budget	Limited
Deliverables	Findings and recommendations on the future direction of LMS use within UW System
Sponsors	UW System Administration CIO and Learn@UW Executive Committee

Overview

The University of Wisconsin System currently supports a common, and centrally hosted, Learning Management System (LMS), utilizing the Desire2Learn (D2L) application platform. The existing contract with D2L ends in July 2013. With the fast changing LMS landscape, emerging technologies, and an agreement with the Department of Administration (DOA) to study the LMS market prior to a contract renewal, the Learn@UW Executive Committee has formed the LMS Exploratory Task Force to provide guidance. This initial step is taken to address the future direction of LMS use for UWS.

Stakeholders

Faculty and instructional staff
Students
Provosts
UW Campus CIOs
Learning Technology Development Council (LTDC)
D2L Site Administrators
Instructional designers
Learn@UW Utility staff
Librarians

Project Deliverables

The Task Force will deliver a written report on the findings and recommendations to the Learn@UW Executive Committee and the UW System CIO by July 1, 2011.

Project Scope

It is the goal of the Task Force to review the current state of UW System's use of the current LMS, understand the extent to which the current platform meets existing and emerging needs, assess the existing LMS market space and other strategies to meet the needs of online learners, and be mindful of the impact of change on campus resources.

- Study the status of the current LMS (D2L) at UW campuses from the faculty, student, and academic program's perspectives. Assess any current unmet needs and requirements and identify those needs most effectively addressed via the LMS product.
- Scan the current LMS environment and ascertain how D2L's current offerings and product development roadmap compare to other vendors.

- Scan the emerging technology trends and provide recommendations about the needs that should be addressed by the LMS or LMS related strategies to meet the needs of online learning in the next five years.
- Make recommendations to the Learn@UW Executive Committee and the UW System CIO on the next steps in the LMS direction.

The outcome of this task force will align with the UW System’s Common Systems roadmap and recommendations from the eLearning Workgroup on Lifecycle Planning.

Out of Scope

- RFI/RFP process
- Cost/benefit analysis

Assumptions

In keeping with the mission of the University of Wisconsin, it is necessary to examine the use of instructional technologies, current trends in Higher Education, and continue the tradition of providing a learning environment that employs high quality instructional systems. It is our responsibility to seek opportunities to improve available services to meet the present and future needs of UW System institutions.

There is sufficient leadership within the Stakeholders to provide support to implement recommendations from the task force concerning the use of an LMS.

Budget

There is “limited funding” available to support the efforts of the task force, e.g. travel to learn from other institutions, employ limited consultative services, etc. All requests for funding need the approval of Ed Meachen, Task Force Co-sponsor.

Team Key Members

Name, Institution	Role(s)
Lorna Wong, UW System Administration	Task Force Chair Director of Learning Technology Development, Learn@UW Executive Committee
Barbara Barnet, UW-Platteville	Faculty (Statistics) and Learn@UW Executive Committee
Jeff Bohrer, UW-Madison	Madison Learn@UW Team Lead
Rovy Branon, UW-Extension	Executive Directory of eCampus
Al Hartman, UW-Oshkosh	Executive Sponsor, Chair of Learn@UW Executive Committee, Faculty (Management)
Jane Henderson, UW-Stout	Directory of Learning Technology Services
Peter Mann, Learn@UW Utility	Learn@UW Utility Service Manager
Sharon McCarragher, UW-Milwaukee	Learn@UW/D2L Site Administrator
Ed Meachen, UW System Administration	Executive Sponsor, Associate Vice President and CIO
Andy Speth, UW-Green Bay	Manager of Learning Technology Center, LTDC Executive Committee, Learn@UW/D2L Site Administrator, and Online Course Instructor
Dan Voeks, Learn@UW Utility	Learn@UW Technical Team Lead
Jim Winship, UW-Whitewater	Faculty (Social Work)

Project Schedule

WHAT	DEADLINE
Official starting date of task force	September 9, 2010
Submit charter to Learn@UW Executive Committee	October 29, 2010
Provide progress report to Learn@UW Executive Committee	November 30, 2010
Subgroups finalize plans	December 2, 2010
Subgroups submit final reports	April 1, 2011
Task force drafts final report	April 13, 2011
Deliver final report to Learn@UW Executive Committee	July 1, 2011