Tech Snacks: Canvas Updates

With the transition to Canvas coming soon, OTLE has some general updates on where we are in the process, what faculty can expect over the next month or so, things to consider as we make this transition, and some new and exciting integrations that will be available in Canvas.

Course Migration

The final Brightspace to Canvas course migration run will begin within the next month. For those of you who submitted Spring or Summer courses, those courses should be migrated first. Any Fall courses will not be migrated until after December 12th, when the Fall semester ends. All courses migrated in the first migration run are already in Canvas and faculty have been assigned to their courses.

Things to be aware of...

With the Canvas transition, there are a few things OTLE want to discuss with faculty to make sure everyone is on the same page.

Incompletes

Students and faculty will have access to Brightspace for the Spring 2025 semester **if necessary.** This means, incompletes for the Fall semester can still take place in Brightspace. However, please be aware of the following:

- Brightspace access will shut off in June 2025 (there is no exception to this)
- Any student with an Incomplete that is extended beyond the Spring 2025 semester will need to be handled outside of the LMS.
- Students (& faculty) will have to balance two LMS platforms in Spring 2025
- Course work will not be migrated from Brightspace to Canvas in the event of an extended Incomplete.

Archiving Student Work from Brightspace

The migration company hired by OCHE is only migrating course content, not student work. If you need to archive student work for any reason (assessment, accreditation, examples, etc.,), you will need to download any student work from Brightspace. There are a few places you can store/organize archived student work:

- Microsoft OneDrive is a good place to store work for your personal records.
- Microsoft SharePoint is a good place to store work if multiple faculty members (in a department, for example), should need access to that student work.
- You can also use a personal hard drive or a thumb drive if you want to save student work off the cloud.

New LMS Features Coming Soon

With the LMS transition, we are also investing in new technologies to help further improve the online learning experience. MSUN will be implementing an accessibility software, YuJa Panorama, that will help both faculty and students ensure course content is accessible. MSUN will also be implementing a new video capture platform, which will likely be either Panopto or YuJa Video.

YuJa Panorama

YuJa Panorama is an accessibility software that will be embedded into the Canvas LMS. Both faculty and students can utilize Panorama's features to ensure course content is accessible. Some of the key features include:

- Inline Document Remediation: resolves document issues on the spot
- Visual Accessibility Gauge: provides both a color and visual shape representation of the content's accessibility
- Review Accessibility Reports: instructors and administrators have a variety of reports to help measure the level of accessibility and track trends over time
- Generate Accessible Alternatives: Panorama can convert a variety of file formats into accessible alternatives, including PDF, PowerPoint, Excel, Word, HTML, images, and more.

Video Platform (TBD)

Due to Canvas storage limitations and new accessibility guidelines, we are investing in a new video platform that will be integrated within the Canvas LMS. We are in the final stages of picking a platform, but we have not confirmed a selection yet. Either way, both platforms will provide some features that will help faculty improve the online video experience and grow their online classrooms. Some examples include:

- Auto-captioning and searchable video transcripts
- Embedded quizzes inside your videos
- Screen capture from within the LMS
- New analytics and statistics for video watching
- Sharing videos across Canvas courses