Moodle Development Advisory Committee Meeting

MINUTES

March 3, 2016

MEETING CALLED BY
Larry Rouse, Chair

TYPE OF MEETING
Spring MDAC Meeting

ATTENDEES
Lawrence Rouse, Linda Alston, Holly Annison, Louanne Bergman, Ray Castle, Dagoberto Diaz, Dave Elliot, Hala Esmail, Buddy Ethridge, Emily Frank, Chad Mazilly, Will Monroe, Lynn Nahmens, Pam Nicolle, Phoebe Rouse, Robert Russo, Elizabeth Swoope, Sydney Walls

Current Projects

**Moodle 3.1 Upgrade**
- Chad working on UES enrollment/ Dave working on projected final grade
- Target date for upgrade of Lab School, Ag Center, and Community Moodle is the last week of July – these three will have an upgrade, not a new instance.
- To avoid any interruptions, we are creating 2 new Moodle instances for LSU Online and Academic Moodle that will be up and running by the last week of July.
- Moodle 3 for LSU and LSU Online faculty will be available the first week in August.
- *Test course(s) will be made available to FTC staff/ other interested parties in advance of the release for training purposes.
- Summer intersession 2016 would be the last term on Moodle 2. This will not affect post grades for the term.
- The URL for Moodle 3 at LSU will be [http://moodle3.lsu.edu](http://moodle3.lsu.edu). Moodle 2 at [http://moodle2.lsu.edu](http://moodle2.lsu.edu) will go to the current site until it is retired. Then it will redirect automatically to the Moodle 3 site. Courses in Moodle 2 will be backed up and available for restore into Moodle 3.
- All courses will be backed up with student data/ materials for ease of transfer to Moodle3. Testing indicates that there are few, if any problems restoring Moodle 2 courses into Moodle 3.

**New Features for Moodle 3.1**
- New features for Moodle 3: [https://docs.moodle.org/30/en/New_features](https://docs.moodle.org/30/en/New_features)
- New quiz question types: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-pqMDwXICRY&list=PLxcO_MFWQBDfJWBOxTHhqvp5mTHG5giAX&index=2](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-pqMDwXICRY&list=PLxcO_MFWQBDfJWBOxTHhqvp5mTHG5giAX&index=2)
- Improved gradebook interface

**Demonstrations of User Interface for Moodle 3.1 (3 options)**

**Bootstrap** - similar to what we have now

**Essential** - looks similar with added features

**Snap** - different, more modern interface/ navigation (no ‘turning editing on’, save changes, etc.) works well with mobile devices.

- Offering the option to for everyone to choose a preferred personal theme and to give faculty control of the course theme. A student’s preferred them cannot override a faculty chosen course theme.
- Three different courses have been created, one for each theme. All MDAC members have access giving an opportunity to experience and compare the themes. You are encouraged to explore, click around, and create items like you might in one of your own courses.
• Linda will send the committee links so everyone can play in the new themes and administer a survey to receive feedback from members.

Question: Dagoberto Dias-Cortes: Will new themes work with LSU Online? Answer: Templates will need to be updated to fit new theme(s). *Will work with LSU Online on this as soon as the new theme has been chosen.

Question: Ray Castle: When and how will tutorials, PR/ marketing for faculty and students occur? Answer: Work on this will start as soon as the new theme is chosen. Then an evaluation will be made as to what type of documentation, PR and training should be made available.

Question: Are the new themes compatible with screen reading software? Answer: Moodle is usually very conscious of ADA compliance. *Linda will find out more information.

LMS Evaluation

Committee

• Asked for a faculty member from the MDAC group to lead the evaluation. Larry Rouse volunteered. Will be contacting Kevin Cope recommend someone from the Faculty Senate for the committee.*Will work with Larry on the evaluation.

• The committee will include representatives from LSU Alexandria, Shreveport and Eunice since we will be on the same page with Workday (across all LSU campuses) and eventually using the same SIS (student information system).

• Will include Continuing Education since they use Moodle as well.

Timeline

• *Before the Fall semester, informal planning meetings.
• Waiting until after Moodle 3 implementation (Fall semester) to have test sites up to compare with Moodle 3.
• Comparing 3-4 different LMS’s.

New Requests

− eTextbook block: Voted Yes
− Mass Actions block: Voted Yes
− Analytics Graphs block: Voted Yes (if it only requires minimal development time)
− Course sort order on Home Page- list courses from most recent date to least regardless of whether or not they are hidden: Voted: Yes
− Barnes and Nobel LTI integration to allow students to purchase books directly within the course Voted: No, not at this time. *Find out more information about support from Faculty Senate.
− Launch TinCan xAPI Plugin which allows instructors to gather learning experiences data and generate analytics reports. No, not at this time. *Research and send more information to MDAC.

Question- Dagoberto Diaz-Cortez: Is there a way to distribute training videos/ materials to the LSU community: Answer: Yes, Community Moodle/ Kaltura. *FTC can work with Dagoberto on this.

Conclusion

Remember to login to the Moodle3 test sites and take some time to experience the three interfaces. Please take the time to respond to the survey that will be sent soon about the different interfaces.