



Stanislaus
State

CSU East Bay - converting from Blackboard Learn to Ultra Minutes

Date/Time	Location	Conference #	Zoom Link
Nov. 10th – 10:00PM	MSR 200	669-900-6833	https://csustan.zoom.us/j/130902209

Items	
1	Introductions
2	Faculty Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Transfer of images, video and audio to the new system?<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Kevin – Had a bunch of videos that were embedded and none of them came over. Unsure if the embed feature works in Ultra. Also, had issue with Podcasts. Was annoying in the beginning but Ultra made it easy to add things.○ Heather – little video lecture. Program can be done online, hybrid or face-to-face. Didn't convert any classes just started from scratch since the conversion happened at the same time as when they converted from a quarter to semester system. Modules make it easier for students to move through the coursework.○ Roger – Integration is not issue, not Ultra itself▪ Using groups and assigning students to groups?<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Kevin – doesn't like this feature about Ultra. Can't get them to work as smooth as desired. Students didn't know their groups until asking instead of just viewing in Blackboard.○ Heather agrees with Kevin – students had a hard time finding groups in Ultra.○ Roger – Assignment Group and Group on the left can confuse faculty and student. Submitted a report to Blackboard to submit an enhancement request.▪ Grading Issue<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Heather – Does seem to take longer to grade in Ultra, more lag time. Likes layout of grading, easier to read, more options with setting up the grading algorithm.○ Kevin – Has to have algorithm set up and ready, there is no save function. Easier to set up.○ Roger – there is a feature that can be used to set up the formula itself. Submitted ticket regarding lag time, should be fixed within the next couple months.▪ Any features not transferred over?<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ LTI connections, tools are increasing. Journal, Wiki, Blogs and a couple others - should be released within the next year.▪ Various Comments<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Heather – appreciates copy feature in Ultra. Students and evals have negatively affected her since it is a change and appears disorganized. Kevin also relates – believes that it is simpler.○ Roger – all courses have transferred over. One student said it is the most organized she has seen.▪ Touch more on Base Nav and option of yes or no, Canvas comparison, etc<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Rodger screen shared – view recorded video○ Kevin has never used Canvas.○ Heather has used Canvas from the student side – interface of Ultra looks like Canvas.○ Rodger – Heard that gradebook didn't work from the student side, not confirmed,



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something to look into. Transition period was done over a long period of time. Students preferred Ultra more.

- Any time period or final date when faculty have to decide for Classic or Ultra?
 - Rodger – there to provide support. There is no sunset date for Classic currently. When Blackboard informs them when they will stop supporting Classic then they will most likely put a sunset date on it. When new faculty start, we start them on Ultra not Classic. Current faculty still have a choice.
- How many instructional designers?
 - Rodger - 4, and student assistants trained to become course builders. 14-15000 students – online population is around 3000 students, over half the student population is participating either in online or hybrid courses.
- What else do we need to know?
 - Rodger – working closely with the backend. Our downtime is way down, even scheduled down time. Downtime has been caused by human error not the infrastructure.
 - Kevin – would never go back. Doesn't like the auto messages, prefers that students not auto message but email him. Only big negative – otherwise loves it.
 - Heather – would also not go back. Classic looks old, not updated