**Hosted Learning Management System (LMS) Project - Summary**

The Division of Distance Learning and Faculty Development (DLF) is leading this project. The new DLF central line is extension 7572. Please visit [www.LMShosting.weebly.com](http://www.LMShosting.weebly.com) for details and updates.

Background

We use Blackboard Learn for our learning management system (LMS) in a self-hosted environment. In late September 2014, CSM engaged in a COOP process (continuity of operational planning). At the same time, it was noted that CSM’s contract with Blackboard expires on December 31, 2016. Based on these developments, an initial group recommended that CSM (1) move to a hosted environment and (2) evaluate three hosted systems – Blackboard Learn, Instructure Canvas, and Brightspace D2L. The objective is to fully transition to a hosted LMS by the Spring 2017 semester.

Two working groups were formed. One is the Technology Review Group comprised of DLF and IMT staff. The other group is the LMS Evaluation Task Force; it is comprised of faculty and staff. Both groups will submit a recommendation with a decision expected by August 15, 2015. In addition, faculty and staff can request access and provide input to DLF during this evaluation period.

Transition Process

All content in our current system will be copied into the new system. Faculty can choose to use the migrated content with some editing or create a “fresh” new shell. DLF will provide extension training and assistance throughout the transition.

* The hosted LMS will be added during the Fall 2015 semester.
* We will run our current self-hosted LMS through December 2016.
* An “early adopters” pilot takes place during the Spring 2016 semester. 6 to 8 courses will be selected, and content for these courses will be copied into the new system. DLF and the vendor will provide training and assistance to the early adopters.
* Summer 2016 courses will use the new system.
* We anticipate that most Fall 2016 courses will also use the new system.
* All courses will use the new system by January 1, 2017.

Graphic of the Timeline

