CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

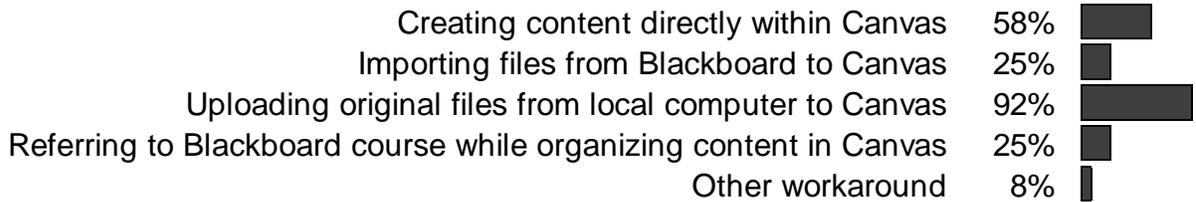SPRING 2013 SURVEY OF FACULTY USING THE CANVAS
LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Notes:

- This survey was administered online to all faculty using the Canvas Learning Management System during the spring 2013 quarter
- The surveys were emailed to faculty and links appeared to the surveys in Canvas
- 12 out of 21 faculty responded for a response rate of 57%
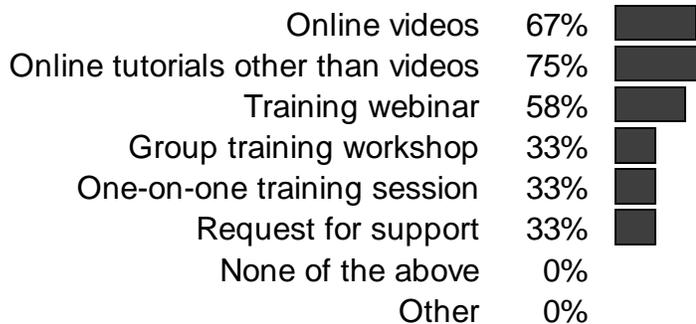
1. How strongly do you agree that...

	Did not answer	- 1 - Strongly disagree	- 2 - Disagree	- 3 - No opinion	- 4 - Agree	- 5 - Strongly agree	Average
a. Using Canvas has allowed me to deliver course content more easily	0%	8%	25%	0%	25%	**42%**	3.7
b. Using Canvas has allowed me to communicate more efficiently with my	0%	8%	25%	0%	**33%**	**33%**	3.6
c. Overall, using Canvas has enhanced my teaching experience.	0%	8%	**33%**	0%	**33%**	25%	3.3
d. I like the look and feel of Canvas.	0%	8%	0%	8%	25%	**58%**	4.3
e. Canvas is easy to navigate.	0%	17%	8%	8%	17%	**50%**	3.8
f. It was easy to add my existing course content to Canvas.	0%	8%	17%	0%	25%	**50%**	3.9

2. Which of the following procedures did you find successful for adding course content to Canvas? Please select all that apply

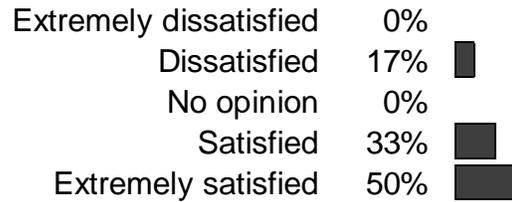|	
Creating content directly within Canvas	58%
Importing files from Blackboard to Canvas	25%
Uploading original files from local computer to Canvas	92%
Referring to Blackboard course while organizing content in Canvas	25%
Other workaround	8%

No comments were made specifying "other work arounds."

3. Which of the following methods did you use to learn how to use Canvas? Please select all that apply.

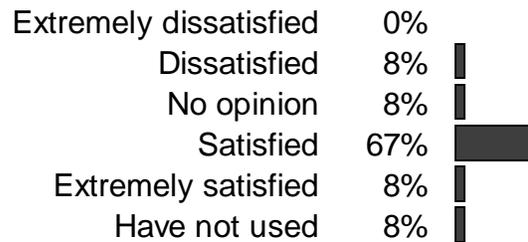|	
Online videos	67%
Online tutorials other than videos	75%
Training webinar	58%
Group training workshop	33%
One-on-one training session	33%
Request for support	33%
None of the above	0%
Other	0%

4. How would you rate your overall satisfaction with Canvas?

Extremely dissatisfied	0%
Dissatisfied	17%
No opinion	0%
Satisfied	33%
Extremely satisfied	50%

5. How would you rate your overall satisfaction with Blackboard? If you have not used Blackboard, please select "Have not used."

Extremely dissatisfied	8%
Dissatisfied	17%
No opinion	0%
Satisfied	67%
Extremely satisfied	8%
Have not used	0%
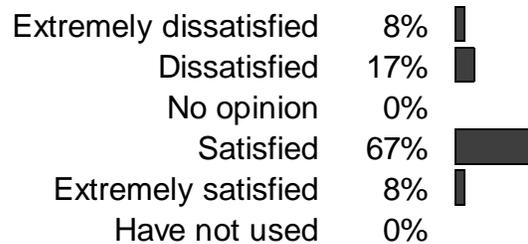
6. How would you rate your overall satisfaction with Canvas Help & Technical Support? If you have not used Canvas Help & Technical Support, please select "Have not used."

Extremely dissatisfied	0%
Dissatisfied	8%
No opinion	8%
Satisfied	67%
Extremely satisfied	8%
Have not used	8%

7. Would you recommend Canvas for campus-wide adoption to replace Blackboard?

Yes	67%
No opinion	8%
No	25%

8. Please provide any other feedback that would help in our evaluation of Canvas.

Students enjoyed Canvas over Black Board. They found Canvas to be easier to navigate and apply other applications.
I think that the learning curve for Canvas is much shorter than for Blackboard. Once mastered, both work well and Blackboard is a more mature/sophisticated product, but it is not as easy to learn and it has too many of its features that seem to be "added on" rather than integrated.
I'm using the Discussions intensively for my online class this quarter, and the Canvas user interface is not as user-friendly as I'd like. My students have been frustrated as well. Some issues: 1. There are no subject lines for postings, which makes searching and sorting more difficult. There is a threading option when you set up a Discussion, but it is sometimes difficult to discern the indentation.   2. I have discussion forums set up for each week with multiple threads for each reading assignment that week. I find I need to collapse all the threads to find the thread I am looking for or do a search.   3. With multiple threads in one forum, it also becomes confusing for students to find the right place to hit Reply.   4. When you expand a thread it does not actually expand the complete thread, only a certain number of messages. You then have to click Show More under the last message to keep expanding. This can be an issue when searching as well.   5. Students have complained about posting responses and then having their responses disappear. Part of it may be that the composition of the response takes place directly under the message to which you are responding, but after you click Post Response, your response may be placed in a different spot in the thread. It may also be a browser issue, requiring a browser refresh or using a different browser.
I can't imagine going back to Blackboard after using Canvas.
A fine LMS, but its Discussion Board options are awkward. Canvas's interface is simple, perhaps elegant, but also very limiting. Its advantages over Blackboard (the file upload and storage) do not surpass its disadvantages (Discussions, Customizable Menus and Sections, Gradebook Customization and Control). I could live with Canvas, but considering Blackboard's recent student interface and design changes, I believe Blackboard to be a superior tool for both traditional and online courses.

8. Please provide any other feedback that would help in our evaluation of Canvas. - continued

(I love the capabilities of Canvas, and the support for learning has been great. Delayna has been especially helpful in walking me through things I didn't understand, and also having someone at Canvas to call 24/7 and speak directly to was wonderful. My students were a little confused at the start, but that is mostly my fault as I should have prepared better instructional guides from the start. Looking forward to second time around after I've worked out some of the kinks.
I'm still learning but I found creating rubrics on Canvas difficult. I liked the Speedgrader when I created an assignment to review over the student papers and write an email and attachments all in one. That was my most favorite feature of Canvas. I'm doing it again this summer and I'm sure I will have more time to explore and feel more comfortable. I also like the notifications connected to my email a lot. I still find Blackboard easier to navigate and assess. With the new features of Blackboard 9.1, I have enjoyed the rubrics and grading better. It is easy and helpful to me and for the students.
Canvas ROCKS!!!
Blackboard Collaborate is very useful in my online classes because I can record the lectures and post them for students. The third party site Canvas uses did not have the ability to record.   I had a couple of students who were locked out of Canvas and could not get back in even after calling IT for help.