

1. At the CanvasCon online conference Oct. 15, Canvas announced several improvements to its product, including Discussions (a new interface, the displaying of newest posts first, and multiple due dates), accessibility (an optional high-contrast mode and better responsiveness when resizing the browser window), and improved analytics.
2. Canvas shells for Spring 2021 courses are scheduled to be created Nov. 3. Students won't be added until early January.
3. The Follett Discover Access link sought by bookstore manager Nolan Howe was placed in the course navigation menu of the new Student Support hub.
4. The OEI was asked Oct. 14 if it is necessary for courses undergoing POOCR review to continue having to contain all of the links to Student Services, or if it is OK for them to contain some verbiage that tells students to go to the hub to access those services. We were told that the OEI would discuss this at its next POOCR norming meeting.
5. The Office of Academic Services submitted 84 programs to the ACCJC to be approved for Substantive Change. Each of those programs had to be submitted because students can complete over 50 percent of the required units at a distance.
6. TOAST (Teaching Online And Sharing Tips & Tales) will host its next session on Oct. 26 from 5-6:30 p.m. on Zoom. Contact Toby Bielawski for more information. TOAST is a Teaching-Institute-inspired support and social forum for online teaching at LPC.
7. The issue of TLS protocols mentioned previously that was supposed to be enforced in Canvas first on Sept. 19, then Oct. 3 was postponed again until Jan. 6.
8. On Oct. 17, Canvas introduced a new History icon in the global navigation menu. Clicking it will show the most recent pages viewed in Canvas up to the last three weeks. In addition, when you click Account – Notifications, you will see a new interface for choosing account-level Notifications. This new interface will match the interface for course-level Notifications. Keep in mind that Notifications for individual courses can be changed within each course and override your account-level Notifications. The math equation tool in the Rich Content Editor was made more ADA-compliant. This change is behind the scenes and improves accessibility for equations throughout Canvas. Previously, equations were treated as an image and included title attributes and alternative text and were not available to keyboard users. Additionally, image views varied by browser and screen readers, equations could not be copied, and alternative text could be inadvertently changed or removed. Canvas had planned one more update, changing the interface for students submitting assignments created by the Assignments tool. However, that never happened as planned. After consulting with Chabot, we have decided to leave the interface as it currently is but will update it between semesters. This way, students won't see something different in the middle of the semester. When implemented, students will be able to drag and drop a file to submit or click Upload File to navigate to a file to submit. More Options will allow them to submit a file that they had previously uploaded to Canvas, access Canvas Studio and even their Google Drive. Once they do any of the above, they will have to click the Submit button.
9. Because the regular November and December meeting dates fall on holidays, the committee typically chooses one alternate meeting date to cover both months. The committee chose Dec. 4 at 10 a.m.

10. A group organized by the LPC President's office met Sept. 25 to review the district legal counsel's opinions on issues centering around the use of webcams and recordings, pictures of students, and using Proctorio. According to VP Whalen, guidelines will be created for LPC and shared. No timetable was given.
11. On Oct. 19, the California Community College Chancellor's Office of General Counsel issued two legal opinions relating to real-time captioning and cameras as requirements in live, online synchronous classes.
 - a. The first question posed to the state was: Is real-time captioning required in live synchronous online classes offered in California community colleges? The answer: "An auxiliary aid or service is required if the class includes deaf or hearing impaired students. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and relevant provisions of state law, require auxiliary aids or services to be provided to deaf and hearing impaired students to ensure they are able to participate in their educational program. In most cases, this requirement will be satisfied by the provision of real-time captioning in live, synchronous online classes. However, community colleges also must give "primary consideration" to the choice of aid or service requested by deaf or hearing impaired students, and weight such requests against the burdens they would impose upon the college program."
 - b. The second question posed to the state was: Is it permissible for California community college faculty to require students to keep their cameras on during live synchronous online instruction? The answer: "While there is no express prohibition against faculty requiring students to attend live online synchronous classes with their cameras on, an indiscriminate cameras-on requirement risks violation of student privacy rights under the California Constitution, and potentially implicates other federal and state privacy and civil rights laws. However, if there are circumstances where full audio and visual student participation is essential to instruction, a carefully tailored cameras-on requirement might be appropriate. Community college districts should adopt policies to address these issues to ensure faculty and students are fully informed and that it respects concerns related to personal educational privacy, access, and equity."
12. A Canvas global messaging policy was agreed upon by the LPC Executive Council: LPC may use global messaging to push out "changes to policy and services that need to be communicated evenly to students." This means that we would not use global messaging for events and campaigns. Everbridge will be used for urgent messages.
13. The committee's recommendation to upgrade to the district-wide implementation of ConferZoom was brought to the district Technology Coordinating Committee on Oct. 9. No action was taken because Chabot has yet to discuss the issue.
14. Canvas announced Oct. 15 that it has an agreement with Microsoft to integrate MS Teams and other Office 365 tools into Canvas. Teams is Microsoft's competitor to Zoom and would replace the current Conferences tool (Big Blue Button).
15. The FA, District ITS and the lead Canvas administrators at LPC and Chabot have been working on the implementation of EvaluationKit to conduct online course evaluations

within Canvas. On Thursday, after many hours of dealing with the complexity of the software to match the complexity of the CLPCCD process, the Canvas admins got the project to the point of being launched. It was launched Thursday night. Because of so many issues and so little time to complete the project, the reporting part of the project was postponed. That part will most likely be dealt with next week.

16. The committee's recommendation to deactivate past semesters beyond one year while sending data from Banner to Canvas was brought to the district Technology Coordinating Committee on Oct. 9. No action was taken because Chabot has yet to discuss the issue.