I. Updates and Announcements: Zarnab and Chitra (5 mins)
   A. CPUC Meeting on Monday
      1. PPPL
      2. McCarter
         a) Get more people in the community involved
         b) Cabare area for student groups to host events
      3. Zarnab’s Presentation
         a) Task force updates
         b) Collaborate with Graduate student government
            (1) Recent GSG initiatives
               (a) Policy change regarding family leave
               (b) Graduate student housing
               (c) Mental Health Week
                  (i) Therapy dogs
            (2) Graduate Students involvement in undergraduate clubs
            (3) Transfer students family housing
               (a) Tigers with Cubs: see if undergraduates students can get in on this
   II. Dean Dun and Dean Graves-Bayazitogu Blackboard presentation (20 mins)
      A. LMS (blackboard) Review
         1. Protects data
         2. Communication within the platform between professors, students, and preceptor, administrators
         3. Has not been re-evaluated since 1997
            a) Current platform will not be supported in the future so it is good to re-evaluate it now
         4. 70% of courses use blackboard
            a) Reading heavy and graduate courses use it less
            b) 86% is used for course material course material
            c) Discussion boards and rubrics are used less
         5. Ideal Platform
            a) As an academic homepage
            b) Show all your classes
c) Communicate with people in your classes (preceptors, other students)

d) Easy to use

6. Other options for a platform: Learn Ultra, Canvas, Brightspace
   a) The new platform will be cycled in within the next couple of years
   b) All the old information from blackboard will be transferred

7. Asking students what they want in a platform
   a) Integrating McGraw
      (1) Request tutoring
   b) Adit Class document (study guide)
   c) Professors adding grades more frequently
      (1) Make gradebook easier to use
   d) Calendar for midterms and finals
      (1) New platform might make it for efficient to give take-home exams
      (2) Auto populate
         (a) Option to sync with google calendar
   e) Combination of places where assignments can be found
      (1) New platform should auto populate calendar with assignments so you don't miss any
   f) Blog/ Discussion Board improvement
      (1) No way currently to have a continuous discussion
         (a) Too much clicking
         (b) Suggestion to add an option to scroll
   g) Benefits of Canvas
      (1) Can see other people's discussion
      (2) Online quizzes
      (3) See clearly which assignments are due
   h) Benefits of Campus Wire
      (1) Anonymously posting on discussion board
      (2) Suggestion for Improvement: categorization of questions (lecture, homework, precept questions)
   i) Suggestion for categorization
   j) Tiger Hub as a separate entity
      (1) Link to Tiger Hub in the new platform?
      (2) Log-in issues resolved
   k) Mobile access
      (1) Should be made priority
   l) Notification when your assignment has been graded
m) Viewer within the platform so that students do not have to
download every single document
n) Allow documents to be submitted multiple times without issues
o) Photo rosters accessible for students
   (1) Good that blackboard has a list of the people in your
classes
p) Tutorial System
   (1) “How to” section on the platform
   (2) Better if the platform was intuitive enough to use that we
wouldn't need this section
   (3) Suggestion for the platformed to be explained in class by
instructors
q) Link to Wase

Motion to extend time by 5 minutes: Seconded

III. Honor Committee and COD application selection process explanation: Olivia Ott ‘20
(3 mins)
   A. Joint selection by COD and Honor Committee
      1. Honor Committee
         a) Composed entirely of students
         b) In charge of academic integrity violations
         c) Time commitment fairly significant (1 meeting a week, at least a
couple of hours a week)
      2. COD
         a) Composed of 3 student members and 2 faculty members
         b) In charge of out of class integrity violations and discipline
         c) Time commitment varies (at least a couple hours a week)
      3. Screening applicants together
   B. Application circulation tomorrow
   C. Selections take place the last week in April
   D. Let Olivia know if you want to be involved
   E. Both Committees are doing selections even though they fulfill different purposes
   F. Personal Outreach
      1. Think of 3 people who will be interested in applying
         a) When the application comes out, email these 3 people!
      2. Recruiting diverse members

IV. Concern that Athletes might not be able to make the meeting time on sundays because it
conflicts with weekend competitions
   A. See who runs and if there is significant conflict with sunday meeting then there
   can be a discussion to change the meeting
THE McGRAW CENTER
for TEACHING & LEARNING
Rebecca Graves-Bayazitoglu  
Director of the McGraw Center for Teaching Learning, Associate Dean of the College, Office of the Dean of the College

James Alexander (Alec) Dun  
Assistant Dean of the College, Office of the Dean of the College

LMS* Evaluation

* Learning management system  
Blackboard is Princeton’s current LMS
What is an LMS and why do we need one?

1. While other platforms may be able to create course websites and share files, a true LMS has several distinct features...

2. The software has been reviewed for its security to store highly sensitive institutional data: including student enrollment, course rosters, and grades.

3. The LMS is a trusted conduit for other University data sources, for instance, copyrighted reserves from Library (audio, video, text).

4. The LMS provides integrated course-communications, and collaboration tools, and also a space for course work and curricular materials.
Why are we evaluating our LMS?

• Blackboard was deployed at Princeton in 1997, and has never been re-evaluated
• The LMS market landscape has changed in the last 21 years, and LMS functionality has advanced
• Our peer institutions have all undergone LMS evaluations in the last five years; all have switched to more modern LMS platforms
• Our current version of Bb is no longer in development—at some point we must change
How many courses use Blackboard?

Reasons why some courses don’t use Blackboard:

• Graduate-level courses (don’t typically use LMS for course-communications)
• Reading courses (too small to bother – rely on face-to-face communications)
• Use of alternative platforms

No Bb activity 23%
Bb activity 77%
Among active courses what features are used?

87% (Meaning, among those courses active in Blackboard, 87% upload course files)

46%

30%

11%

1.9%

2.3%

2.2%

1.7%

Based on data from Fall 2017, with 1265 courses.
Among active courses what features are used?

- **Uploaded course material**: 87% (meaning, among those courses active in Blackboard, 87% upload course files)
- **Announcements**: 46%
- **Grades**: 30%

These tools are generally used by faculty members to provide students with information and course materials.

Based on data from Fall 2017, with 1265 courses.
Among active courses what features are used?

87% (Meaning, among those courses active in Blackboard, 87% upload course files)

46%

30%

11%

These tools are generally used by all course participants for collaboration and communication

Based on data from Fall 2017, with 1265 courses.
Why?

We know from past surveys that faculty and students want more and better communication and collaboration tools.
One observation from a faculty member:

“Blackboard's greatest weakness, in my view, is its woeful inability to facilitate collaboration: even for something as simple as discussion boards, Blackboard's interface is onerous to set up, unintuitive for students, and outpaced by several other websites on the market. I typically use other applications for such matters (especially Google products)”
We know from past surveys that people want more collaborative LMS features

Better mobile app
Better annotation tools
Better blogs and journals
Better video conferencing
Better calendar
Better gradebook
Better discussion board
Better collaboration tools

More multimedia support
Better tools for student polling and responses
Better wikis

(Data from 2012 and 2018)
Instructors are using third-party tools to facilitate course collaboration
What is offered by newer, next-gen LMS platforms?

• Mobile-first design philosophies that make the LMS functional on all devices
• Streamlined interfaces – fewer clicks to get what you want – lower barriers to effective teaching and learning tools
• Emphasis on student-centered tools for discussion and collaboration among all course participants
What products will we consider?

Blackboard Learn Ultra  Brightspace (formerly D2L)  Canvas

These are the leading enterprise LMS platforms on the market. We know from our peers’ LMS pilots that these products are robust, and can support a learning community of Princeton’s size and scale.
**Project Timeline**

- **2019**
  - Evaluation and planning
  - Faculty interest group to assess market and define needs, select best product for pilot

- **2020**
  - Pilot of new product concurrent with existing Blackboard
  - Small scale pilot using new product in a few classes

- **2021–2022**
  - Gradual transition to the selected LMS platform
  - All courses using one platform by end of transition period
Where can I get more information?

Visit project website

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