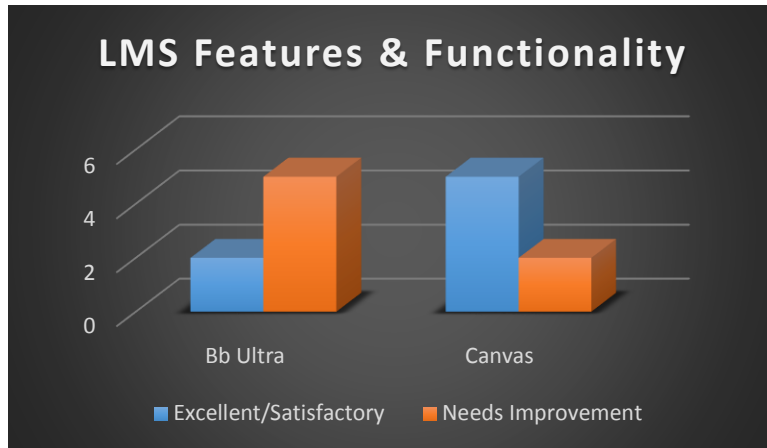# LMS Faculty Survey Results/Summary

Overall, the features and functionality of the LMS are:

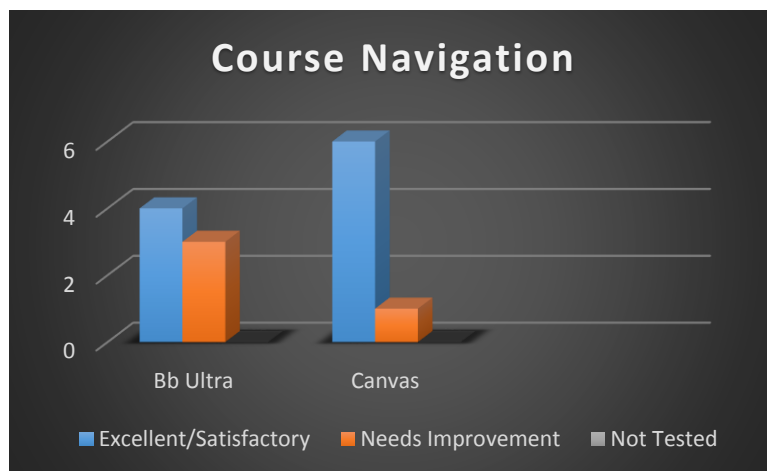The results of the survey show that faculty felt that Canvas provided the superior features and functionality.

Comments included:

- "Blackboard has more features that Canvas, but Canvas is designed in a more easy-to-use manner. The better overall design is more of a benefit to me than those extra Blackboard features, which I don't use anyway."
- "Found Bb to have promise, but they are way behind Canvas."
- "Canvas is a more robust product that is flexible and provides a more intuitive course flow."
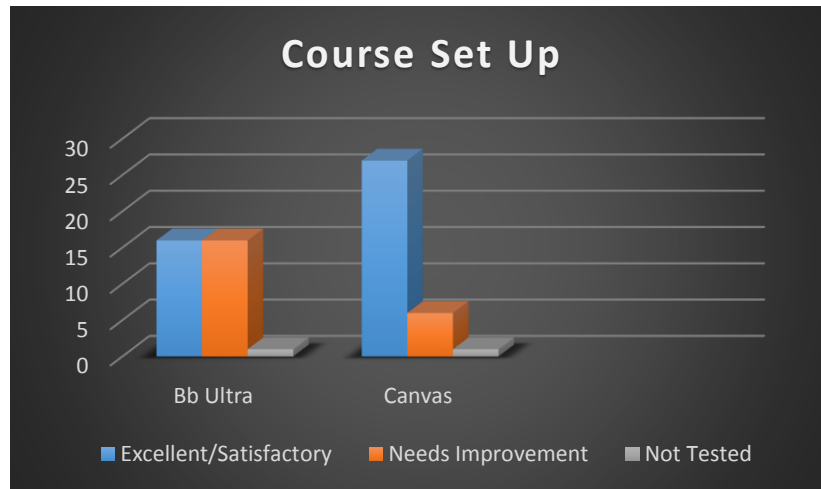
Course Navigation: Rate the Ease of Navigating through the Course

Faculty felt that Canvas edged out Bb Ultra in the area of course navigation. Some comments included "Both are very easy to navigate once the Course Menu is edited down to just the pages actually being used by students" and "Canvas seems more streamline and simple. Blackboard is confusing."
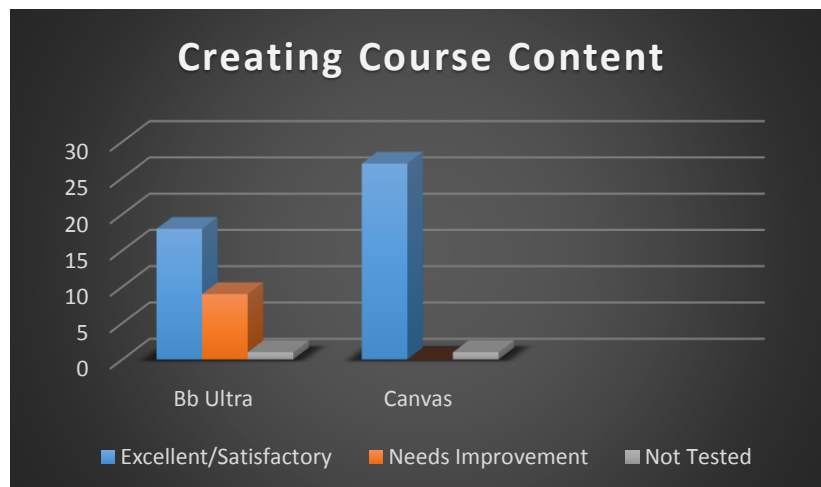
Course Set Up: Faculty were asked to evaluate the ease of design and functionality of the course menu, personalizing the aesthetics (e.g. theme, color scheme, etc.), managing dates, importing or copying course material, and organizing course material.

For each category evaluated, faculty felt that Canvas was slightly superior to Bb Ultra. Cumulatively, when all of the evaluation criteria was considered, faculty opinion was that Canvas was the easier product to set up their course.
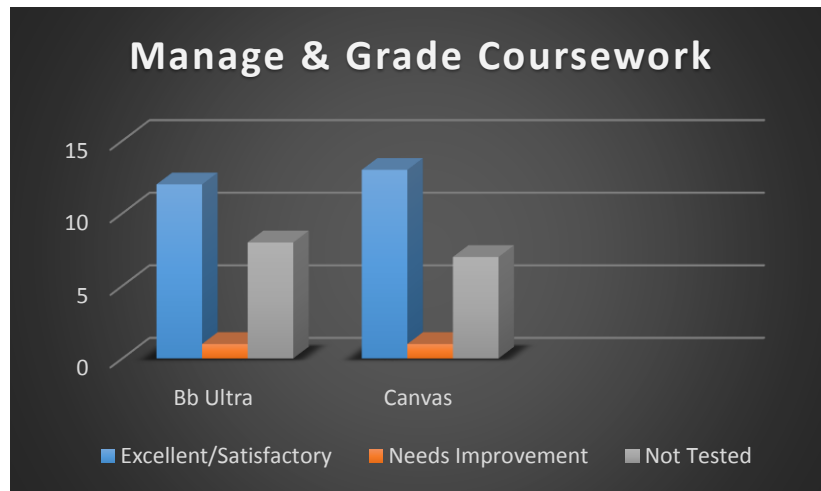

Course Content: Faculty were asked to evaluate the ease of adding content (e.g. documents); creating assignments, tests/quizzes, and discussion boards.

For each category evaluated, again faculty felt that Canvas was slightly superior to Bb Ultra. Cumulatively, when all of the evaluation criteria was considered, faculty deemed Canvas to be the simpler product to use for creating content.
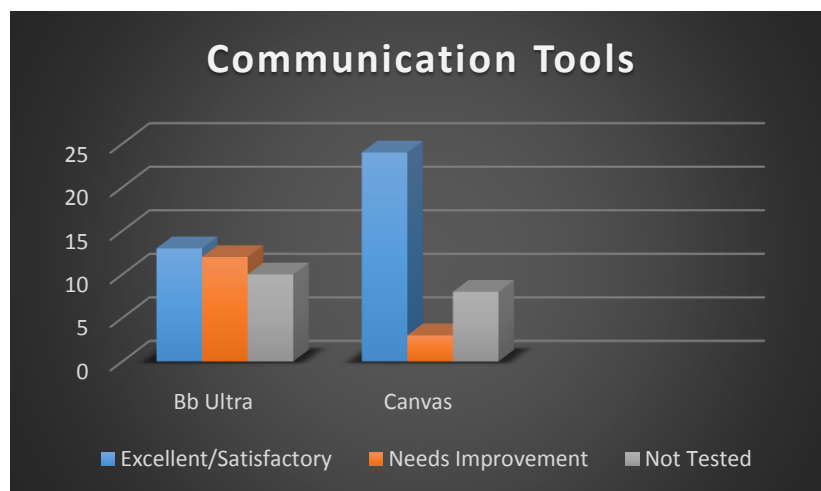
Course Execution: Faculty were asked to evaluate the ease of managing and grading assignments, tests/quizzes, and discussion boards.

For each category evaluated and reflected in the cumulative responses, in contrast to the previous results, there was virtually no preference indicated by faculty between the LMS systems for managing and grading assignments, tests/quizzes, and discussion boards.
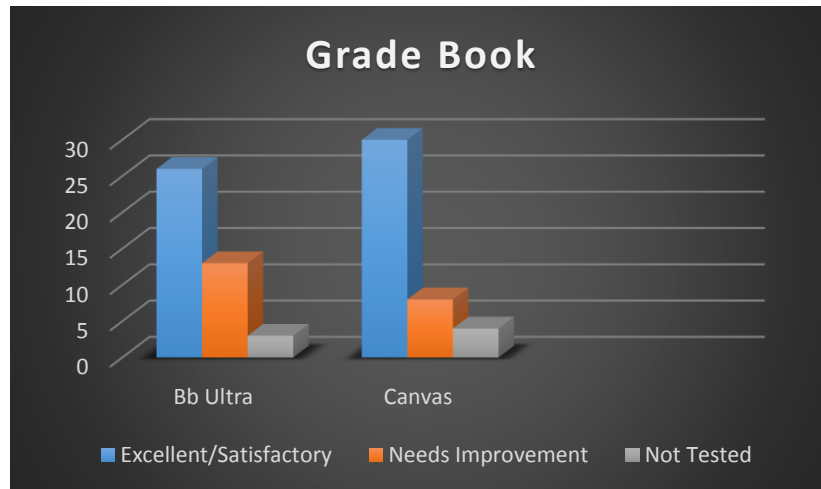

Communication Tools: Faculty were asked to evaluate the ease of accessing, creating, and using the syllabus, announcements, calendar events, Email or messaging, and personal notification settings.

For each category evaluated and reflected in the cumulative responses, faculty overwhelming favored Canvas to Bb Ultra for the ease of use in communication tools. Some features that were particularly appreciated in Canvas was the ability to reply (permitted by the instructor) directly to announcements, and the ease or setting up and available options in the personal notification settings.
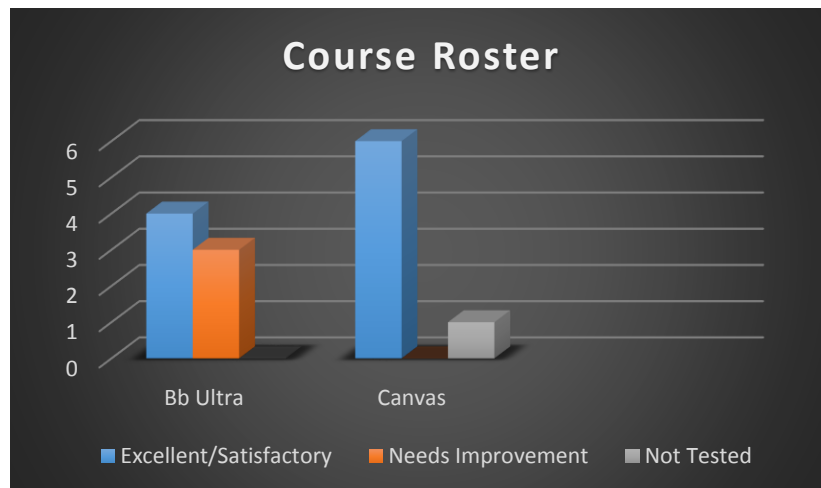
Grade Book: Faculty were asked to evaluate the ease of accessing, configuring, organizing, grading coursework, running and interpreting grading reports, and the display of grades for students.

For each category evaluated, there virtually no distinction in preference between the systems. Upon the cumulative evaluation of the responses, Canvas was marginally preferred by faculty. While testing faculty noted that both systems had issues, there was a slight preference to the Canvas grade book functionality.
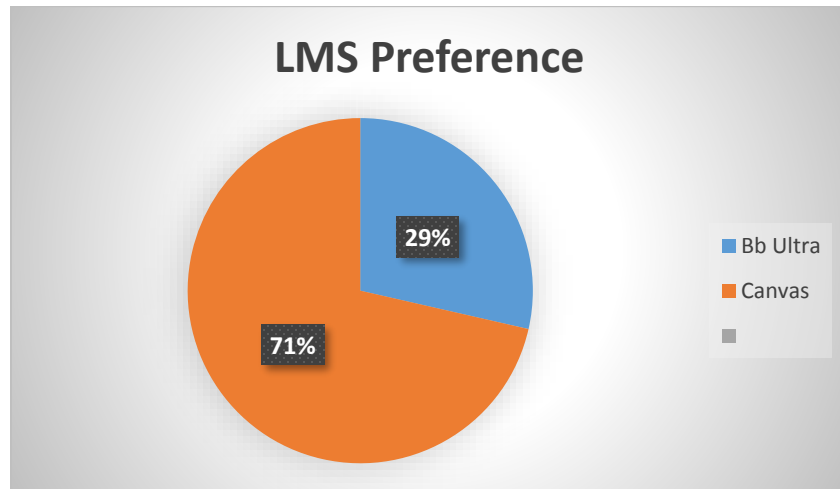

Course Roster: Faculty were asked to evaluate the ease of accessing and managing the course roster.

Faculty express that Canvas edged out Bb Ultra for each of accessing and managing the course roster. Some of the features of the Canvas course roster that were noted by faculty was the ability to disable a user's access without going to a separate page, and the display of student activity in the course.

Based on the exploration of the Learning Management Systems, which system do you think would be serve SAC faculty and student needs.

The results of the survey show that between the two systems tested, faculty felt that Canvas provided the superior features and functionality, and would best serve the needs of the faculty and students.

LMS Preference

Bb Ultra 29%
Canvas 71%

Comments included:

- "Honestly, at this moment, I do not believe either [system is] capable. Neither provides the extent of tools that Faculty have access to in the current LMS. Both are heavy and sluggish."
- "Overall, Canvas is better designed in terms of ease of use. It's less cluttered. This should encourage use and make using an LMS less intimidating for the first time user. It's more intuitive."

Overall, what did you like and/or dislike most about Blackboard Ultra?

- "Very easy to navigate. Things are easy to find."
- "Lack of the instructor menu that you have in regular Bb. Does function well in copy course but hard to edit."
- It is confusing to learn, difficult to navigate, and clunky. The organization of the course components is difficult and cumbersome."
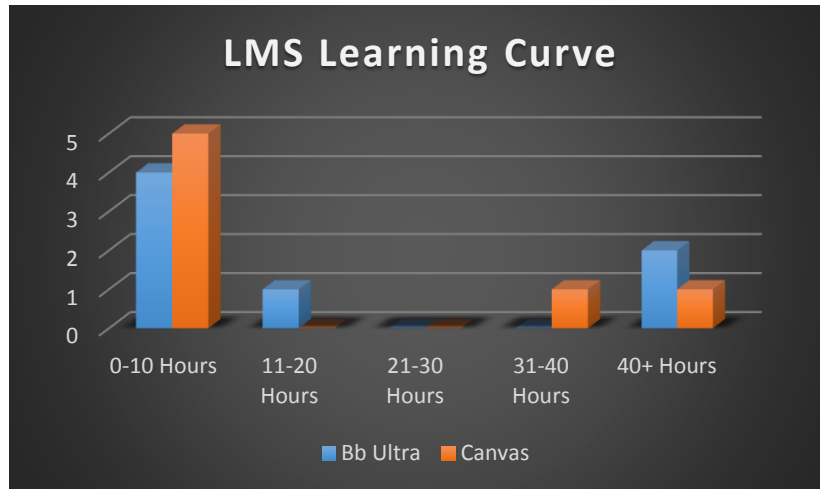
Overall, what did you like and/or dislike most about Canvas?

- "Canvas is more streamlined. It's easier to do things in Canvas, such as add files and links, to create content pages, and manage the roster. These things can be done with fewer clicks overall. There's less features than Blackboard, but it does have all the features I actually use. The design principles overall are more in line with current tech design, going for ease-of-user use and simple, uncluttered visuals."
- "I love the ease of use. It's very intuitive and so easy to navigate. A lot of its design makes sense and is so simple. It also look a lot better with a more modern design."
- "Display is bland. I can't find the grade book and student roster is not very user friendly."
- "I don't like the Pages feature in Canvas. Maybe with time I will learn to use it. But, overall the inability to easily include images and links was disappointing. The difficulty in adding media
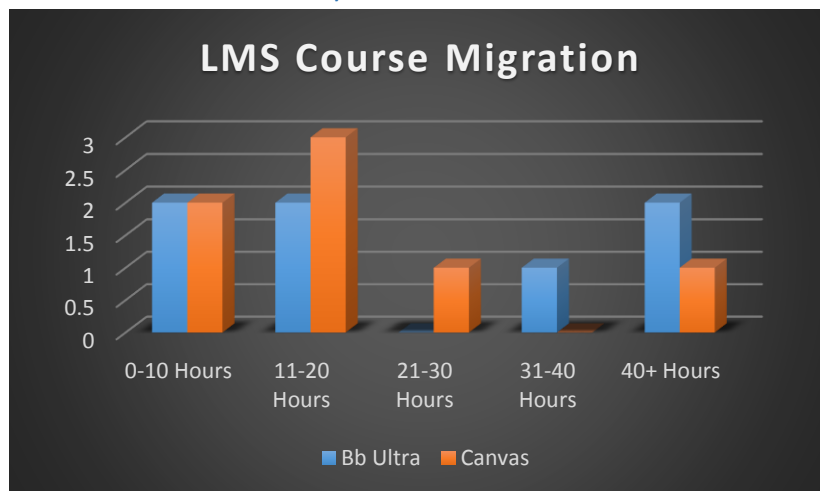
was also disappointing. Finally, the LMS was insufficient due to the lack of tools. But, it was fairly easy to navigate."

If a new LMS is selected, how many hours do you anticipate it would require for you to learn the new system?

The responses indicate that faculty believe that regardless of the LMS selected, the time required to learn that new system will be approximately the same.

If a new LMS is selected, how many hours do you anticipate it would require for you to migrate your courses to the new system?

SUMMER PILOT PARAMETERS:

- 7 Courses were part of the pilot.   2 courses from SCC and 5 courses from SAC. The disciplines included in the pilot were Accounting, Business, Computer Science, Kinesiology, Music, and Philosophy.
- The survey encompassed 139 responses from total pool of 286 students, or a total of 49% student participation; and 7 faculty responses for a total 100% faculty participation.