

RECOMMENDATION: The Educational Technology Committee (ETC) highly recommends the following:

1. Adopting Canvas as our sole Course Management System (CMS) by fall 2016, thus replacing Blackboard. The recommendation to convert to Canvas is independent of the decision to join the statewide Online Education Initiative Exchange (OEI).
2. Joining the statewide Online Education Initiative Exchange (OEI), if and when the academic senate understands and fully supports all the requirements and ramifications of participating in the OEI.
3. Using the resources developed and provided by the OEI, such as tutoring platforms, readiness tools, professional development and course design rubrics, by fall 2016.

What is the OEI Exchange? The Online Education Initiative (OEI) is a statewide collaborative effort among California Community Colleges committed to increasing student success and retention in online courses by working together to expand online learning and provide access to quality online courses and student services. The Exchange refers to an initiative allowing students to take online classes across a group of participating colleges within the consortium. (For more information, see <http://ccconlineed.org/documents/category>)

BACKGROUND: The Governor wants to increase access to online classes to help students complete educational goals. \$56.9 million was budgeted as a one-time grant for 5 years for California community colleges to set up a system-wide exchange of online classes offered by individual colleges but open to matriculated students from any college. The overall goal is completion (degrees, certificates, transfer). Important secondary goals are to increase retention and success in Distance Education (DE) and to increase DE access for basic skills. (For greater detail, see <http://ccconlineed.org/>)

ETC highly recommends joining the OEI for the following reasons:

1. Benefits for students:
 - a. Students frequently cite schedule conflicts or course waitlists as their primary stumbling blocks to completing their education in a timely manner. The Exchange will provide the opportunity for colleges to offer quality online courses to students across colleges so that students can complete their education in a timely manner.
 - b. Students enrolled at colleges in the Exchange will be able to seamlessly register for Exchange courses across different colleges. So, with the OEI, students will have access to a greater selection of quality online courses.
 - c. The OEI will increase our students' ability to succeed by providing access to online tutoring, online readiness tools, and ways to increase proficiency in basic skills areas.
2. Benefits for CHC and faculty:
 - a. The OEI Exchange will allow CHC to serve more students and in a broader capacity.
 - b. The OEI Exchange benefits participating colleges by increasing enrollments in both high demand and difficult-to-fill courses.
 - c. The OEI will assist CHC faculty through the use of resources in achieving more successful outcomes in their online courses.
 - d. With OEI funding, our faculty can collaborate, receive professional development, access support services, and participate in continuous innovation in online education.

- e. With the OEI Exchange, faculty will have access to products and services that enhance online course delivery.
- f. The OEI ensures that CHC will be a relevant choice for students in the technological age, especially with respect to the future of online education.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE OEI EXCHANGE:

- Courses within the OEI Exchange must be offered in the Canvas common course management system (CCMS).
- Unclear if all courses will be required to meet C-ID standards, and if other non C-ID courses may or may not be offered on the exchange.
- MOU (still in draft form) will need to be signed and agreed to. This may require the college to accept as equivalent all courses offered on the Exchange. (Removes local course approval of courses being offered at other California Community Colleges.
- Exchange courses must be aligned to the adopted Course Design Rubric as established by the OEI Steering Committee, and therefore will be part of the OEI review process.
- Instructor certification not yet established or defined.
- Long-term costs are yet to be determined.