

Canvas Q&A Webinar - May 2, 2023

Video: <https://youtu.be/OAJRlyJ8caM>

A one hour webinar updating the transition from ReggieNet to Canvas for pilot faculty.

For assistance teaching with Canvas, visit ProDev.IllinoisState.edu/Canvas/

For technical support, or for student support, go to help.illinoisstate.edu

Transcript

JIM: So, it is a little after noon. And I do want to be respectful of everyone's time. So, as I'm sure we'll have people coming in and coming out, but my name is Jim Gee, and I am hosting today's webinar, which is a reminder being recorded. So, we will post this later. And this is a Q&A for Canvas, which is our new learning management system. Some of you in the audience may have already used it either at another institution or as part of our pilot program. And we have some of our pilot instructors here today to talk about the experience and, and whatnot. So, here's kind of the agenda or the rundown for today's show, as it were, I'm going to introduce our panelists here in a moment, I'm going to give a very brief update on the timeline and highlight some important dates that we have communicated. And we'll be communicating to faculty and staff and the student body as well as we go along. And then I'm going to ask some folks to kind of compare, you know, go over the the high altitude view, comparing ReggieNet and canvas. And then we want to get to your questions. And I'll explain how that's going to work here in this webinar function right now. In just a moment, and we're also going to make sure you know where to go to get help, as you transition from ReggieNet to Canvas in time for the fall of 2023. So, if you're not familiar with Zoom webinar, we don't have a chat available. Instead, what we have is this Q&A tool. And it's actually pretty interesting, because among other things, it will allow us to track things. So, if you hit the little q&a button, you can go ahead and start asking questions right now. And we will see those we being myself and and my colleagues, our panelists here. And when it comes time, we will be able to answer those. Also, of course, we want to make this as easy and accessible and experience as possible. So, we do have the transcription service turned on, you can use the show captions button or to turn it off, I think it'll say hide captions, if you find that distracting. And of course, this is being this is the AI that's translating this live. And so, I would just remind our panelists to you know, speak up a little bit, but we found that this transcription service actually worked really well. So, moving on, let me introduce our panelists. Today we have Dr. Mona Bahll from what is soon to be called just the Department of Management. I'm not just but the Department of Management. Sarah Boesdorfer is here from chemistry, Dr. Abigail Stone from Sociology and Anthropology. And all three of them have been our, you know, faculty members who have been pilot testing Canvas as part of the program this spring, as has Dr. Rosie Hauwk from the Office of Technology Solutions, who also is a professor in accounting. And Rosie has also been one of the driving forces behind the whole canvas transition pretty much from the get go. So, also joining me today Charles Bristow, my colleague here at the Center for Integrated Professional Development formally CTLT, of course, not Charles, the center. And you all know, Charles, if you've

ever come to us for support with ReggieNet, you've probably benefited from Charles experience and wisdom. So, that's why we asked him to be here today to kind of help lead us off, and I am your humble game show host. Migration and backup, and we explain this in emails and stuff like that. But if I had my chance to do this over again, and I'm really hoping I don't but if I were to do changing LMSs again, in my career here at ISU, I wouldn't use the term migration because that implies that you're taking something from one thing and transplanting it someplace else we're not. When we talk about migration in the context of ReggieNet to Canvas, we're talking about taking an automatic process where we receive some information from you the instructor about what the course is, and then we have contracted with a vendor to automatically copy that. Translate it from ReggieNet speak into Canvas speak and put it as a separate course in Canvas for you with the prefix migration. That is a process that takes several weeks. It is not a perfect process and it's probably in many cases not a necessary process for a lot of people. We have found that it's easier for you to do backup which is we will help you do this but we will show you how to do this but you can manually go in and pull certain things out of ReggieNet. And very quickly, and we'll reinforce this as we go along, there are a couple of important dates to keep in mind. So, we're talking about migration, because we have this contract with his vendor. As it stands right now, the last day that we're going to be able to accept these fully automatic migration requests is going to be around Monday, July 24. And that will still give us enough time to get that processed. Hopefully in time for the fall semester, we're really encouraging people not to wait until July 24. However, so migration requests have opened back up, they opened up a couple of weeks ago, we'll be continuing to remind instructors about that, that you can go in and request that we got plenty of slots left. So, there's no problem. We just need some specific information. And you'd probably also need to know that there are some limitations on what's going to get transferred over so we may go over that a little bit later. ReggieNet will not be used for teaching in the fall. It is dealer's choice in the summer, if you're a summer instructor, you can teach with Canvas, or you can teach with ReggieNet, we kind of came up with a nice elegant solution, which is that whichever one you publish, that's the one your students are going to see. We encourage you if you're teaching in Summer, also communicate with your students and tell them which one you're using. But ReggieNet will go into a read only mode on the Friday after the Friday before the fall semester begins. And the reason will actually the only reason why it's so late in August is that it is the Friday after grades are turned in. For, for the summer courses because all the summer courses don't get you know the grades don't get turned in until mid-August. And after that, you'll still be able to go in see everything in ReggieNet pull stuff out of it. But you can't change anything. You can't add people to ReggieNet courses or anything like that. And of course, there are no fall courses created in ReggieNet now. Classes began the 21st. And again, all classes are going to be using Canvas. And we will have by that point at our Center have offered a lot of professional development and training and learning opportunities for you and will be on hand as things start to support you as well, our colleagues in the Technology Support Center. And then Thursday, November 30, is your last day to get anything out of ReggieNet . On December 1 ReggieNet goes bye bye. We haven't. We're not entirely sure what that looks like. But we know that most people will not be able to access ReggieNet after that. And our contract with a vendor that hosts ReggieNet will probably expire soon thereafter. So, with that, I know that was a bit of a brain bank blow for them again, three, two. I know that was a bit of a

brain dump. However, and let's begin our discussion. We've already had a couple of questions answered in the Q&A. I see Charles, Charles has been answering a couple needing to teach with ReggieNet. If we're not able to get all of that migrated content over, of course you can also the course shell is there. So, you can also populate that yourself.

CHARLES: Most of the things that we had in ReggieNet have some kind of analog in Canvas. Canvas uses assignments, the word the term assignments in a couple different ways. It uses it in the sense of what we were used to in ReggieNet, where and it's also where you can control where you end up controlling some of the setup of the gradebook and the grading structure for your course. So, you don't do it directly in the Grades tool, like you may have been used to in ReggieNet, you do things like setting up what it calls, assignment groups, which are correspond to categories in ReggieNet, and weightings and things like that, that are actually set up in the Assignments tool, the big bucket, rather than in the Grades tool, the Grades tool really is something that you think of as just where the students go to look at a grades. Getting their minds wrapped around is what happens to ReggieNet Lessons pages. So, lessons in ReggieNet were a way to present content to students in some kind of ordered fashion. So, that's kind of like ReggieNet, students won't see a course until it's published. You can put a little picture on it, you can overlay colors, we won't get into details. But we can see that there's an assignment with this little icon. There's a discussion here. This module, this portion of the module has several quizzes in it. So, you can see you can build a module, including pages and links to other elements in the course. You can indent and things like that. So, I think that's one of the biggest differences on our page we our website, we do have a comparison of ReggieNet tools to Canvas tools and what the this is all available, and you can get a comparison of what's going on. And, uh huh, I'm confused about files, pages and Modules in Canvas. How are they used? Hopefully, I just, I addressed that a little bit, but it sounds like Rosie might have a little bit more to add. So, I'm gonna let her do that. I'm gonna...

ROSIE: I was just since you were doing it. I was like, it wasn't answered. I think yeah. Because you're kind of right on to answer David's question. You know, the LMS is, they work similarly, you know, they really, really do. It's just kind of knowing the new terminology. Right? So, those of you who set up Lessons pages in Sekai, you'll be able to set up those modules page and, you know, have all the files and link all the activities kind of like you what you did before. But I do want to call out what that page that Charles showed that is on the CIPD website, that comparison, very helpful. So, you can kind of wrap your head around moving towards Canvas from what we're used to in, in ReggieNet.

CHARLES: So, that's what we wanted to add. And one thing to add to that he asked about files as well, the Files tool is really kind of equivalent to the Resources tool in ReggieNet, and that's where all the things like Word documents, PDF files, video, we'll try and avoid putting video files in there, we've got something else for that. But image files that you might be using in the course, those will get stored in the Files tool, and then employed in in other places light and you can link to them, include those in your modules to share them with students. Hopefully that answered your question

ROSIE: About the files. One thing I didn't notice with Canvas, because the files is a separate tool, it really is a lot easier to share those individual files between your classes as well as with others. And that's a big difference that we have with Canvas that we was challenging to do it and in ReggieNet is sharing those files.

JIM: So, I'd like to open this up to the rest of our panel members or other pilot instructors and get a little bit on their experience. And I actually I'd like to ask a question that Mary Ellen Kalish has put into the Q&A. Dr. Kalish asks for all panelists would feature of Sakai, which is what ReggieNet is based on, do you most miss? And how have you worked around it? I think that's a very insightful question. So, anyone want to take a take a whack at that?

ABIGAIL: I mean, I can go a little bit. The thing that I miss most is I found it much more intuitive and much more easy in ReggieNet to put pictures and videos in in places and embed them next to text and in ways that looked good on a computer screen. And I maybe I'm just not experienced with Canvas. But I found that more difficult to do in Canvas. And that maybe because Canvas is more translatable to kind of mobile apps and things like that. So, they, you know, they're not assuming that everybody's looking at it on a big computer screen. So, I found it, you know, less visually pleasing in terms of lesson, I guess what we call the lessons and ReggieNet, but pages within modules here. And so, I mean, I've just done less of that. I'm also teaching a very different class, which is like a, you know, an upper level lab class this semester on Canvas, which is very different from my gen-ed class where I use pages a lot. So, I'm not sure what to do about that might just be your visuals unless they're absolutely necessary in the future.

MONA: But building off of that, I feel that I was able to embed some simple pictures from Google on the pages. So, the pages format, when you edit a page that gives you options to embed pictures, the key thing is to first save those pictures in the Files folder. At least that's what helped me instead of bringing the link directly in so if there is a picture we're interested in, I downloaded it in the Files folder. And then from there, I migrated into my Pages folder and I was I can share with you what I did. Very basic thing on my current strategy course, it's a capstone course. So, when I created my homepage, all I wanted to do was bringing these pictures modules one two and three. I downloaded them from you know, the from Google and then I added links to these pictures and now if students here Module One, they go straight to module one in the modules page, and so on and so forth. So,, yes, again, I do not use videos and pictures. Well, I do not use pictures very widely. I do use videos. And I don't necessarily have to embed them in a Canvas for my class. So, that's less of a challenge than Abigail. So, yeah, it's a learning process. To that extent, you know, to what kind of pictures and what sizes, can we include an embed? At least, that's been my experience so far.

SARAH: Go ahead...

JIM: I was just gonna say, did you Sarah, did you have any observations on, on the translation between Sakai and,

SARAH: Um, well, one tool that I found that I, that I that doesn't translate really well that I do use as the blog tool, because I do like to have students do reflections, and I don't want

it to be like on in one course, it's like a weekly reflection, and I don't want it to be a different assignment every week, I just wanted them to, hey, this is what you said. And then and then I can comment. And so, it was quick, in the red in Sakai, just do the blog tool. And that doesn't exist in Canvas. But you can create a discussion board. That is only for the student, if you want it to be really personal. And then they, you can reply and things like that. And they can just reply to themselves keep replying to themselves in that discussion board. So, it becomes like a blog tool, you just have a lot of disk, you create one discussion per student, basically, it's one discussion board for you. But then they only see one, but it's got little links. So, that's one and Mary Ellen, I will say that I do use the checklist, but I don't use it until the fall in the course. So, I have not found a way to use that as well. I did like the checklist idea to give students ideas of what they should be doing, when rather than assigning it some things, and have not found a solution for that yet. But that wasn't in the course I was teaching this semester.

JIM: Right. Did anyone have anything else to add on the on the translation? I think I cut someone off at some point. I apologize for that. Are we good? Okay,

ABIGAIL: I mean, I mentioned one thing I do like in the greater in Canvas, when you're grading essays, there's a lot more tools. And so, instead of just seeing it and being able to comment on the side, you can actually do comments in their text and highlight and there's you can even like use a little marker and like, circle things and basically draw on their page. So, it's much more free in terms of how you can communicate things to students. And I find that very helpful.

SARAH: And I'll answer the discussion question somebody asked the did we use the discussion feature for like an asynchronous course and like using it graded? I did, I do, and I do I have it planned for the summer, my summer courses as well, it works actually better than I what I don't like about it compared to Sakai is that it is easier to throw the disc when that a lot of students started to post, that thread was much smaller. And so, they could scroll down to find the next list or click to open up the list. Whereas in Canvas, it's just kind of one discussion just becomes this long running. Discussion, it does thread them in that in indents them. But it's just it's not collapsible, quite like it is in ReggieNet, where it's really easy to kind of see who replied and things like that. So, if you have large groups that can get really long, so you have to keep the group small, or if or you can get some really, really long discussions. But the grading aspect is really much better. I used to use rubrics to grade and Sakai and tried to do it with discussions and it was a mess. I would get into like sometimes it would work. Sometimes it wouldn't and groups. And so, I had troubles with that I have no problems. Now the rubric can attach. The only other thing is if you put a due date on it, the due date would be like if you wanted to post multiple times, you can only put one due date on it. So, it might be when the discussion ends or when it begins. So, the due date piece of it. It's a little confusing. If you want students posting a few times in it, you would just need to communicate to your students out of that due date, if you gotta put a due date on it, how that due date appears like it's the end of the discussion, or it's when the first reply is due. But you can keep discussing it and things like that. So, I find it very useful. No problems.

JIM: Thank you. I want to quickly address a couple of other questions that I see in here and I do want to by the way, you can go to the Q&A tool if you don't have that open and you can see Some of the questions that have been answered using text, but we will try to highlight some of those. I'll ask people if there's one that they answered that they think is particularly noteworthy. Let me share my screen again very quickly, though. So, we had a question about, you know, a department that has courses that are not regular for credit courses. But their courses that are what in ReggieNet it used to be called a special project courses are ongoing courses. They're used for organizing, either instructors or student activities and whatnot. Those in Canvas are called special use sites. And you can request to have those, if you go to our Center's website, ProDev.IllinoisState.edu, the old CTLT.IllinoisState will still work to scroll down to Canvas, and this will take you to our main Canvas page. And you'll see these quick links over on the right hand side of the screen. And this has an awful lot of useful information linked here, everything from combining courses, which we will talk about here in a moment, I suspect, but I'm gonna go down to special use sites. So, if you have an old site that you want migrated, one of these special use sites, one of these non for credit courses, you can go down here, we have a bunch of information on options. But we have a couple of different things you can do. First of all, if you want to use Canvas for that you can request to have a brand new course, shell put in for you. So, whoever had that, that's the way to do it. If you have if you have old content and ReggieNet that you want migrated over, you can put that request in as well again, until July 24, largely. However, there are also some other alternatives. So, one person I think had mentioned, if I remember seeing the question correctly, I want to use this for newly admitted students well, until students are actual students, they won't be able to access it so they have to be so Canvas, one big difference is that Canvas can only be accessed by people who are currently employees or students of Illinois State University. That's different from ReggieNet and it has to do with the license that we that we have with Canvas versus the instance in Sakai we were running. And so, that's why you'll see some of these alternatives our main campus page, I saw one question in general, can I can I get help setting up something? Absolutely. We have a whole team of graduate students, and professionals who've been there a long time like Charles. So, we bolstered our numbers to help do all of that. And to help walk you through all of that. So, all you have to do is either email us ProDev.IllinoisState.edu or call us at our main number here. 309-438-2542. We're open from eight until 430, Monday through Friday. I also keep an eye on things on the weekend in terms of emails, if there's something urgent, but we'll be more than happy to set up a one on one appointment and walk you through some things. And one of the things I want to mention is that we do have a workshops scheduled now for May, a little bit in May and June. So, we have a new slate of Canvas workshops. We actually have a couple of new topics that are going to be added later today. So, so, when will new faculty gain access to Canvas? We have new professors who start in the fall. I'm not even going to attempt to answer this one who wants to jump ball, Rosie, or Charles

ROSIE: Charles is typing, or I can start.

JIM: I think that's one that we need to I think this we need to talk about.

ROSIE: Yeah. So, like, like Jim mentioned, you know, for new faculty, new students once you're onboarding so there's the whole HR side of things, right? It gets updated in Canvas so that that instructor you know gets access to that course shell, right? And so, it depends on, you know, HR kind of moving through, but then also for your department to assign instructors to the right courses, right? So, it's pulling on other systems, but Canvas is set up to automatically update once those pieces of data are, you know, entered by your department.

JIM: And that second, that second step or that second set of criteria. That's nothing new that that has happened in Regina for years that we would often get questions from people. I don't see my courses in ReggieNet. Well, has your department assigned you to teach the course now you get to talk to them. So, that's a long standing thing. But the new piece is the fact that that the HR for new faculty that the HR piece has to be or has to be brought into it. Once that happens, though, even if there hadn't been assigned as the instructor of record. If I'm correct, Rosie, they can still get into Canvas and look around. Correct?

ROSIE: Right. Yeah, access.

JIM: And hopefully, though, if you're hiring them in new that you already know, what they're planning to teach for the for the Fall department that moved through quickly. Right? Absolutely.

ROSIE: We have had some training questions from people who might, you know, I might be taking a sabbatical. Right. And then I don't have a class on the record. But I still want to play with Canvas. If you go back to the site that Jim has been putting up the ProDev, you know, CIPD doesn't only say that the the you know, you can request a sandbox. Right? And so, yeah,

JIM: and we'll, we'll take a look at some of the Health Resources again, as we, we wind up here. We do have one question in chat. Or in the Q&A, is there any person at Canvas that we can directly contact from ISU with our questions, no support, basically no support for everything goes through either our center or if it's a more technological issue technology as you like, it's not working on your computer or something like that. Either your department tech support or you know, of course, the Technology Support Center. And students also should contact you should send your students to the Technology Support Center. And we'll highlight that again, here in a few minutes. There is a lot so, we will go over some of that other stuff. So, we're in the process of answering some questions here. Let me turn it over to Charles really quickly. Charles, can you kind of give us before we go to our actual pilot instructors. I'd actually like to ask you a question that I originally asked you a year or so ago when we did a webinar like this when we were shopping for a new learning management system and what a difference a year makes. But what are some of the high altitude kind of broad strokes differences that instructors are going to encounter in using Canvas as opposed to renting it?

CHARLES: That is a good question. The biggest so

JIM: Sarah, how about you? Did you have a...

ROSIE: Yeah.

JIM: They have been doing a lot of work to present to prepare a lot of material, not only for you to go in and search and read, but also so that they are best informed to answer your questions if you call them up or chat with him, or text with him or something like that.

MONA: So, David had a question which I plan to answer live. So, if he asked about if files could be shared directly with the students, and or do we need to use pages and modules. So, I just wanted to show him the building blocks on this one and how we do this. So, David, and others who need assistance on this one. So, typically, first, we populate the files here in the file section. And then when we create a module, we typically link the file. So, for example, I have filed these are my OneDrive links that I've added as lecture videos. And then I have slides here, which I first added to my files, and then created a link here while creating the module. So, if we want to provide access to students for the files, I just want to be sure, can we even do that?

SARAH: Yes, you can you just drag it up, we

MONA: just drag it yes, we drag it up. But then that what I found is that creates a bit of confusion for the students if they have to access files or through the modules. So, I found that x providing access through modules, keeping that as a single point of access for students is helpful, because then they just might wonder which file is more relevant, the one in the module or in the file section. So, just to avoid that redundancy. I kept, I did not allow access to files, but I have enabled access to the modules through which they can access all the relevant material. David, I hope that makes sense to you.

SARAH: And can I clarify something that was an answer to one that I gave to someone as well, with the modules. One thing to recognize with the modules is all it's doing is linking to things in other places. So, when you add a page to a module, you can add a page at any point you just in a module, you click Add, and I can I guess I can show it to on mine. You can add a page or whatever. But all it does is like when I click this little button right here to add something and if I create an assignment even, or if I create a page, and I want to create a page right here, and it adds it to my course. It also goes in the Pages link. So, all modules are doing is linking to other things that you are showing your students or not showing your students but they're there. So, when you add a file here, it automatically goes in the files. Like if I click on this, I didn't organize mine. I added them as I went, because I was in that moment at the time. But there's the files I added to my modules and they're not well organized because I didn't do it that way. But there Are there my students can't see them because they're here, they have to access them through the modules. But like even the assignments, if I hit assignments from my students, the assignments link, but I had assignments in the modules, they would still be able to get to the assignments. So, like these links, if it didn't, the module is just because it's as long as it's published, they're going to get to it, even if they can't get to it directly. Now I like to have it so that they can get if they just want to go to the assignments and they don't want to work, they know they're going in to work on an assignment. And not to go through all the modules or see what else is going, they can click and go right to the Assignments page and do that. Um, so I like to have those, but

you don't have to, I could drag this down and they couldn't see it. And then they would be able to do it. So, all modules is, is something to like organize all the contents, once you create the link, it's there somewhere else, as well. So, I just thought I would clarify that. I think it was Tara that asked the question.

JIM: So, and I know Charles is typing a response to David, but I'm actually going to take a shot on kind of framing. And because I have not used Canvas extensively for teaching at all, I'm not part of the pilot program. But I think I'm finally cognitively putting my wrapping my brain around the difference between lessons and modules and pages. Modules seem to be the structure, the framework? And to answer a follow up question from David in within a module, you can put pretty much anything you can put a page which displays information, you can link to videos, you can also put links to documents from your files. So, let me ask, let me follow up with what Aris D'souza has said, I share my PowerPoint saved as PDFs with students, would it be easier to do so under Files or modules? So, what do we think?

ABIGAIL: I mean, so students can find it, I would say save it as a file, but then put it linked to it under modules, like Sarah was saying earlier, because the modules, you can organize them by like time of the semester unit or something like that. So, students can always go, oh, this is the week that I need to go and look at at this file. Or, you know, these are the set of things I need to look at at this period of time.

MONA: And I think files is, it is interesting, because you do not have to recreate resources like we did in ReggieNet, that creates a collection of documents that you can reuse semester after semester. So, it provides ease of pedagogical organization on the platform itself. So, I think that has files access like one point source that will get copied over Jim, correct me if I understood that correctly, we can use that resource for the next semester. And the same, we don't have to reload, fight unless we plan to upload some documents or slides and material. We plan to reuse a particular document even as professors we can do that. For students. Yes, like Sarah said, And the girl said that we need to connect it to the module for them to be able to access.

JIM: It makes sense to me. But again, I'm not as experienced. So, I would defer to my learned colleges.

ROSIE: So, what, what is it so you have a file tool, like you saw in the class. And that's the files that you guys were like, you know, unhiding or hiding, you could drag it up to show it or not. You also have files under your account, where you can see all your classes and all your files, right? And so, I don't know if you guys have played with that, but it's under account. So, outside of the individual courses, then you have a link to all your files across all your courses. And so, it just makes it easier to, you know, when a new course comes, you don't have to like, transfer everything. Like like Mona says, it's just, you know, you drop the link to it, you know, into there.

SARAH: And I will say if you have like resources for students, it's not really, I have one class, I made a module at the very bottom of the list that was called resources. And I just started linking some things that they might want to use for assignments, but they may not use for some, like some students may use this one. And some students may use

this one. So, in one course, the one I did this semester, I did it as a as a there's a module at the bottom and has a bunch of files listed in a page or whatever. Actually, what I'm teaching this summer, I'm trying something different just to see if I like it better, I made a page that's called resources. And then in the Pages link to those files. So, like, and then I've put the page in a couple of the modules. So, it's still kind of the same idea, but it's there. And it's called resources. So, it was just different ways of making that file folder for students to get some things that aren't directly accessible or needed for the course. But they may be useful depending on what assignment in which direction they go with an assignment so

JIM: so Eroze had a follow-up to that and then we probably couldn't move on to another topic, but just to basically indicating, you know, he doesn't want to duplicate effort, but we're not uploading the file twice. What you're doing is you're uploading at once, and then you're pointing to it in the modules is that is that cool? Correct?

MONA: Yes, yeah,

SARAH: you can either add it from the modules, if you add it right, then it'll upload it. Like if you add it and create a new one and upload it, or, you know, when you look at the files, you just scroll and find the one you've already uploaded and link to it. So, like, if you upload everything all at once, you can just link to it, if you haven't uploaded it, yet, you upload it and, and automatically put it in your files.

JIM: So, in terms of what your trading effort for, what you're doing is, you're you're putting in a little bit more effort, perhaps, but you're also making it a lot easier for your students to actually find it and get used get value out of this file that you taking the time to upload.

ROSIE: And once you've created any of your modules, or you know any of the assignments or quizzes, right, it's easy to take that and copy it to any other course. Right, any other courses that you have. So, that's something that I think even our pilot instructors will be, you know, doing for the for the next time they teach. So, it really is really that first setup, once you have it created, it's easy to say I created a module for exam one. And then if you want to use it next, in another class, next semester, whatever, you can just take that module and copy it over to whatever class you want to.

JIM: So, Crystal has is asking I think Sara's typing in an answer right now. But when folks have shared their screen, it appears the modules are continuous page that students can scroll through, can these be released at certain points in time? Or is everything in the module section open? And then they have another question as well. But yes, you can, you can have things released at a certain time, if I understand correctly, it can also be you have to do one module in order to see the next module. Is that correct?

MONA: Yes, it can be scheduled.

JIM: And then another question. Can we have co-instructors for courses? Yes, the roles, the roles are termed a little differently in Canvas and they are in Reggie net. I don't know if the term I think you just add another teacher. Is that right?

SARAH: No, it's I thought it was an instructor. It's an instructor.

JIM: Maybe Charles can look at

CHARLES: the role. The role in Canvas is actually labeled teacher.

JIM: Yeah, we have teachers and students. So, one final thing. And David, I feel I feel for you the difference between files, modules and pages. Oh, my. The one the one thing I'd like to go back something Abigail said and Canvas is really built on the student experience and for whether we like it or not, students are as likely or more likely to use a mobile device, at least to first engage with this material. You know, hopefully, they're not writing essays on their phone, but maybe some of them are. But the whole idea is that this is a very collapsible structure. So, it is very what what in the term of art is responsively designed, right? It's designed to it. And unfortunately, the result is that it does look a little aesthetically displeasing on a big widescreen monitor, but it collapses down in a very logical fashion. And so, the modules I think is what creates the sequence of events and how things collapse. And I too, am going to have to give up my beloved two column Lessons pages. But you know what I will also say that there's a lot of good research, a lot of good pedagogical research out there. On how learning works, it shows that that's less effective than we may think it is it may look visually pleasing, especially to those of us with a certain age, but it is not as effective from a learning standpoint, it's better to habit, one after the other. So, I think that go ahead.

ROSIE: One thing about kind of division when you guys brought this up, too, is that just the mobile app, but also, Canvas is much more cognizant of accessibility concerns. And part of that does affect you know, kind of visually, you know, how it set up in the use of, you know, different images and stuff like that. And so, that's one of the things that our accessibility expert really picked at you know, when, you know, she was doing the assessment of, of Canvas especially compared to our ReggieNet, which we know had accessibility problems. So, it's kind of a mobile app issue but also accessibility issue as well.

CHARLES: And the Dave What one final thought get in and get your hands dirty, start playing around with it. And I think once you do that, it will start to make more sense than us talking heads trying to explain it just actually getting in there and doing it well I think will help a lot.

JIM: So, I want to add also okay,

ABIGAIL: Because I'm also going to say that if you did not use the lessons in ReggieNet then pages does doesn't really make sense because they didn't use anything like that. So, if you don't didn't use lessons and want to keep using it the same way you can probably just ignore pages and just organize your files and modules and you know It would probably be a functional experience for your students, I think pages really comes in if you're trying to do something equivalent to the lessons function on ReggieNet.

JIM: So, we've had great questions coming in. And a lot of them have been answered kind of off to the side. So, I, again, encourage you all to go into the interest thing. And I want to save about five minutes, we have about 10 minutes left, I want to save about

five minutes to just make sure that that if there's anything that we need to vocalize from that list of answers we can do, though, do so I do want to acknowledge something that Derek Story said, first of all, that what we talked about earlier about HR and employees, like tenured or non-tenure track faculty that goes through for getting graduate student assignments as well. So, I would encourage you all to take it back to your departments and say, "Hey, don't delay, get your graduate students situation sorted out if you can", for fall, especially your graduate teaching assistants. Derek also asks, and Charles, I'm going to leave this, I'm going to ask you to answer this one to start off with. Very, very briefly. David is asking about what's kind of the standard template? That's implied, could you talk about kind of the shell and the structure of the shell that's created? So, when a new core shell is created every semester, there's already a certain structure in there and things that that the faculty member can turn on? And off? Can you talk a little bit about why that was developed that way?

CHARLES: Sure, so there is a template that gets applied when when the course shells are created. That includes some sample, a kind of examples of how you might want to set up your course, you can use those as as a beginning structure or not, as you see fit. One thing that is included is a student module. And we do request that you leave that in because that contains a lot of links for students for getting help on campus for a variety of things, not necessarily just canvas, but advising, accessibility services, all those things that students need to be able to access. So, we do request that the folks keep that module in place. I'm trying to think what else is in I mean, that's that's the basics, that there are some kind of some placeholder. There's a placeholder module example module, there's a placeholder introductory page that you can decide to use or not. But we've tried to do that to make it a little bit easier for people to kind of enter into using Canvas. Yeah. And Dave, yes, your students will be able to continue to take exams, through Canvas as they did in Reggie net.

JIM: Yes, there's a there's a Tests and Quizzes tool in there as well, Abigail.

ABIGAIL: On that note, the there are way, way more options in the tests and quizzes, function for the ways you can design quizzes and things like that. So, there's much more creative things that you can, you can do than work be enabled on ReggieNet. So, if you're planning on using exams, or quizzes, and there, there's a lot of things that you can explore. You know, I think there's instructions on the modules on how to how to play with all of those, there's a lot of options there.

SARAH: And I will say, for the template perspective from the students, like I can't change the name assignments, all I can do is either make it visible or make it hidden. And so, for students, they like that better, because modules has to be called modules, like the whole time. So, it will look the same from course course. Whereas before I could change lesson where it said lessons to say like exam one, or like different things. So, in that sense, the template is very, across the board, all classes will look a lot like it's just what's visible and what's hidden.

JIM: Yeah, and let me let me take a step back and kind of talk about a larger consideration for years and years when we've surveyed students about ReggieNet. Yes, they wanted

an app. Yes, there was no confidence in it at times, it got better over the years, that it was actually just going to work. But one of the number one complaints or concerns that they had was how differently all of their instructors used it. Now, students, you know, we could have, we could do a complete webinar on all of the benefits to academic freedom and teaching the way you want. You're the content experts, you should be able to teach a course the way you want to. But there is something to be said about that standardized framework. So, I think, Derek, I appreciate Derek's question in terms of a larger consideration as well. And let me show you one thing I can answer another question that just came in as well. Oh, this is this is my dashboard and canvas. And by the way to access Canvas right now you just go to Canvas.IllinoisState.edu, there are some links that are showing up and will be more links showing up soon and My.IllinoisState.edu, but that's how you can get to it. If I go into the blank shell, I haven't done anything with this yet. This is the course I'm assigned to teach myself in the School of Communication in the fall. If I go into this, there is a standard design here. Unlike ReggieNet, Canvas has two sets of left hand menu items, and the furthest left hand menu can't change. So, there is a lot more standardization in Canvas already, that you that you would not see necessarily in ReggieNet. So, the and there may be some things here that I have that you don't have because of my access to in order to go in and grab screenshots and do communication related work. But that's that's kind of the thing. Under modules, I believe it is the For Students Module, I think Elizabeth had asked, What's the one that we want you to keep, it's labeled very clearly as for students, and as you can see here, the modules can be renamed something but it takes a little doing going in here and you can put a title in and stuff like that. I think it's helpful though, to call them modules, because that's what they are. So, students and students are kind of used to using that that term as well. So, I just kind of wanted to share that we have about five minutes left. So, really quickly. I do want to sum up a little bit about what other help, help is out there. But for our panelists, are there any other questions that you've answered on the side that we need to verbalize that we need to bring out here that you want to just quickly touch upon?

MONA: I think an important part of this hands on training one, training, Canvas for fundamentals is a very good tool. Second, if you want to have get that hands on feel that the hands dirty, getting a sandbox will be very helpful. And then in the process, the most important thing is that you can view the student, you can see the student view. So, as you upload, as you prepare your site, you can click on the Student View button, and you can see what the students will be seeing and accessing in your course. So, I think that is very important tool. I use that quite often as an already pilot faculty. And that was very helpful.

SARAH: And that includes, you're a test student, and so you can submit your own assignments and see what it looks like in the grader and things like that. So, like there's a test student automatically built in. So, if you go to the assignments and like type, bla bla bla and see it, then you'll see it from the instructor's perspective,

JIM: This is this is something that I am so excited about. And I've been here long enough that I remember the dummy student in Web CT and ever thought I'd be talking finally about our old old learning management system. But that was very handy. So, that feature for those of you who've been around a long time that feature is back, then

they don't call it the dummy student, they call it a test student or something like that. So, we have just a couple minutes left. So, I'd like to wrap up a couple thoughts, I would like to leave with you all. First of all, we will be quickly transcribing this and getting a recording set up. And so, we will announce when that's going to happen. But let me share my screen again, really quickly. I want to highlight a couple of things. First of all, where do you go to get help? And you know, one of the things that we've always encountered with ReggieNet is people kind of you are all smart people. People who teach college courses are smart, right? You have to be we wouldn't be here otherwise. But you don't have to go it alone. You don't have to try to figure this all out. And these things are much these learning management systems are much more complex, complicated tools. And you would think, because they're more than one tool, they're like Swiss Army knives, and they only fold a certain way and all that other stuff. I'm torturing the metaphor. But the bottom line is, if you need help from an instructional standpoint, or if you want to access the training and learning opportunities that we have, and I'm going to show you that here in a moment, in a little more depth, what Mona was talking about ProDev.IllinoisState.edu, you can just go to the main page, you're gonna see Canvas plastered all over the place. But slash canvass is the direct link. If you have technology issues, if you click a button and something's not working, if you're not seeing something on the screen, you think you should see, you can reach out to the Technology Support Center, their main website has Help.IllinoisState.edu. And you know what, if you're not sure which one you should go to pick one, and we're gonna get you to the other one. We are working very closely together, a lot of the resources on our center site are linking to help desk articles, a lot of the Help Desk articles say and to figure out how to teach with this go here. So, we have done a much better job I think interlinking not only between our two halves of the house, but also with all of the community resources which we really haven't talked about the greater Canvas community resources that are out there as well help downloading the app, you're gonna want to go to the Help Desk. And one thing I want to really emphasize for all of our instructors in the audience, send your students to the to the TSE go to Help.IllinoisState.edu. There's a variety of ways for them to interact with him through an online chat and everything else. You do not you are not expected to do tech support for your students, you never have been. But Canvas especially one reason why we bought this is because that can get handled by other people, you don't have to do that need to explain to them how you intend for them to use Canvas that's different. But from how tech support works, how to upload it on there, and everything else. So, checking inboxes, per course, Derek asked, or these emails, go through emails through email and are responsible. From there. Also, you can set up you can check stuff in your courses, however, there's an inbox app in Canvas, but also you can send it to forward and work through your, your campus email as well. And the and the and the notification system in Canvas is very robust. So, again, we we are at time we didn't get started a little bit late. Thank you for being here. I do just want to highlight one other thing, which is, can you see the website here now? Am I showing the right thing? No, no, let me try that out. Okay. Yeah, so I apologize, I thought I was sharing that I wasn't. So, this is where you go to get help. ProDev.IllinoisState.edu/canvas. Help.IllinoisState.edu. Okay. And of course, that's this information is in pretty much every email we send out. If you go to our support page. A couple of other things, you instructors can combine courses themselves in Canvas. So, you find yourself needing to combine courses. You can do that yourself that information on how to do that is here

and again, an example of a help desk article that we link to. And the other thing is that fundamental self-paced learning, we have a complete Canvas experience for you to go through and to experience. And it's self-paced, you can jump around. But when you go into that, one of the wrong thing, what do I want to go to here, I want to go to Courses. So, I've signed up, because my academic home is CAS. And this is experienced, and I can go through and learn as a nice gardening metaphor that they that our designers have used for that Charles and his colleagues. And you can go through and learn about all the different tools at your own pace. And we can indeed correct create a sandbox course site for you for that. So, all of those requests and everything else are listed here on our website. So, we are over time. Thank you for your patience. Does anyone on our panel have anything else they want to add? I want to thank Mona, Abigail, Sarah, Rosie and Charles for being here. We had a lot of good questions. We had a good turnout today. A lot of questions answered offline. We're going to work on getting all this information out to a wider audience now too. And thank you for you being here because we couldn't have done it without your questions. So, have a good rest of your week and have a good final regular week of the semester. We'll see you soon.