



**SUNY Digital Learning Environment Update
SUNY Online Summit**

February 28, 2024



Agenda

1. Quick Intro to SUNY & SUNY Online
2. What is the SUNY Digital Learning Environment (DLE)?
3. Implementation Project Path & Structure
4. SUNY's Brightspace Ecosystem
5. Current Digital Learn Environment Metrics
6. So ... We are almost done with the project, right?!
7. Questions!



Quick Intro to SUNY & SUNY Online

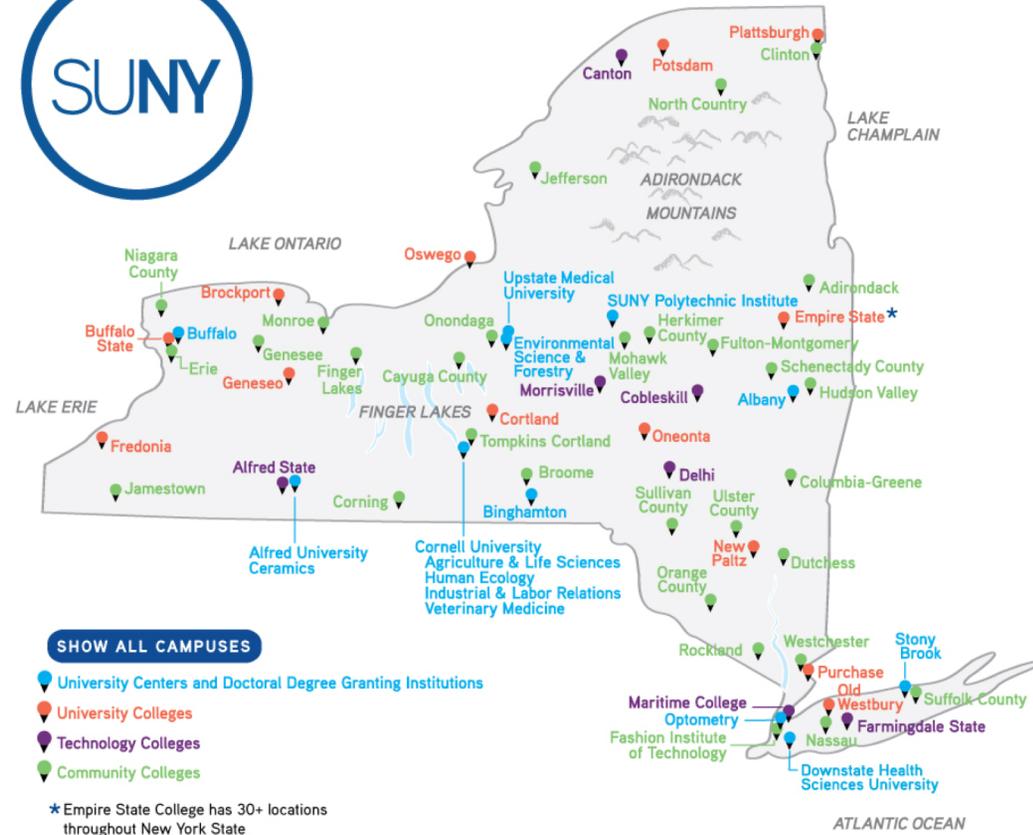
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The SUNY System

- 29 State-Operated Campuses
 - 4 R1 Research campuses
- 30 Community Colleges
- 5 Statutory Colleges

- 363,612 students (Fall 2022)
- 1,381,119 Non-credit instructional activities (AY 22)
- 85,043 faculty/staff (Fall 2021)



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SUNY System Administration

- Based in Albany, NY and is charged with supporting the SUNY System as a whole as well as the SUNY Board of Trustees and other components
- Supports IT services, institutional research, System level record keeping, many procurements, and Systemwide Initiatives





What is the SUNY Digital Learning Environment

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SUNY Digital Learning Environment

- **Goal: Provide a comprehensive digital learning environment across SUNY that is robust, modern, reliable, secure, accessible and easy to use for faculty, staff, and students. It includes:**
 - The **LMS as the foundation** with opportunities for **integration of a suite of tools** at both the system and campus level to support enable and support all of SUNY's teaching and learning activities.
 - **Standardization** of the environment where we can **align with academic and IT policies and SUNY level standards/guidance**.
 - **Less-redundancy of tools** with overlap in functionality to allow SUNY campuses to maintain or expand their DLE while **reducing the overall licensing costs** across the SUNY System.
 - **Flexibility for campus** level-specific tools and campus level administration where that is needed.
 - **Consistent data structures** and data elements to allow for a **more efficient ways to support and aggregate/collect critical data** for strategic decisions.
 - A consistent user interface to make it **easier for students and faculty** to work across campus boundaries

Ultimately, the DLE should enable student success with a range of opportunities for students to connect with their campus, including other students and faculty



Advantages of the DLE

Student	Instructor / Faculty	Technical Admin / Support	Institutional
<p>Seamless access to cross-campus course enrollments</p> <p>Familiarity with common LMS and navigation for pathway students which will lead to a more positive student experience</p> <p>More accessible tools and functionality</p> <p>Expanded opportunities for connecting</p>	<p>Greater opportunity for community and cross-campus collaborative teaching</p> <p>Seamless course and learning assets sharing through the Learning Object Repository</p> <p>Greater opportunity for cross-campus professional development and training</p> <p>Having a common U-wide LMS will provide familiarity for faculty who teach at various campuses and ultimately lead to strong adoption</p> <p>More accessible tools and functionality</p>	<p>Collaboration across campuses for documentation, templates and training support</p> <p>Reduce effort for implementation and deployment of third-party tools and vendor management</p> <p>Streamlined issue resolution across all campuses</p> <p>Reduced complexities in supporting the environment across SUNY; efficiencies for upgrades, integrations, changes to environment across the system</p> <p>Increased opportunities to leverage shared services and reduce costs/workload at the campus level</p>	<p>Campuses retain campus branding and local administrative control for functionality that must be maintained at the campus level</p> <p>Greater cost savings with economies at scale for third-party tools</p> <p>Opportunities to easily deploy System-Wide Professional Development and Human Resource training</p> <p>More robust data and support for individual SUNY students across their lifelong learning experience</p> <p>Efficiencies in data integrations and reduction of campus effort for reporting data to System Administration</p>



Implementation Project Path & Structure



Digital Learning Environment Timeline/Activities

Fall 2018

Design of “LMS Essential Elements project” to get faculty input

Spring 2019

Survey of faculty / distance learning staff

- 838 teaching faculty
- 69 DL staff
- 57 campuses represented

Focus groups

Summer/Fall 2019

RFP teams formed

- 40 Members
- 15 Campuses – All Sectors
- Roles: Faculty, DL Leader, ID, PD, Accessibility, IT/CIO

Prior campus RFP docs reviewed

Summary report of faculty/staff input

Spring 2020

Creation of new DLE RFP requirements

- Technical
- Functional
- Pricing

Summer 2020 –

Summer 2021
RFP Process

Fall 2021

Selection of D2L Brightspace

www.suny.edu





Implementation Plan 4 Cohorts over 2 Years

	2022			2023		
	Jan. - Apr.	May - Aug.	Sep. - Dec.	Jan. - Apr.	May - Aug.	Sep. - Dec.
Cohort 1	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3			
Cohort 2		Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3		
Cohort 3			Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	
Cohort 4				Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3

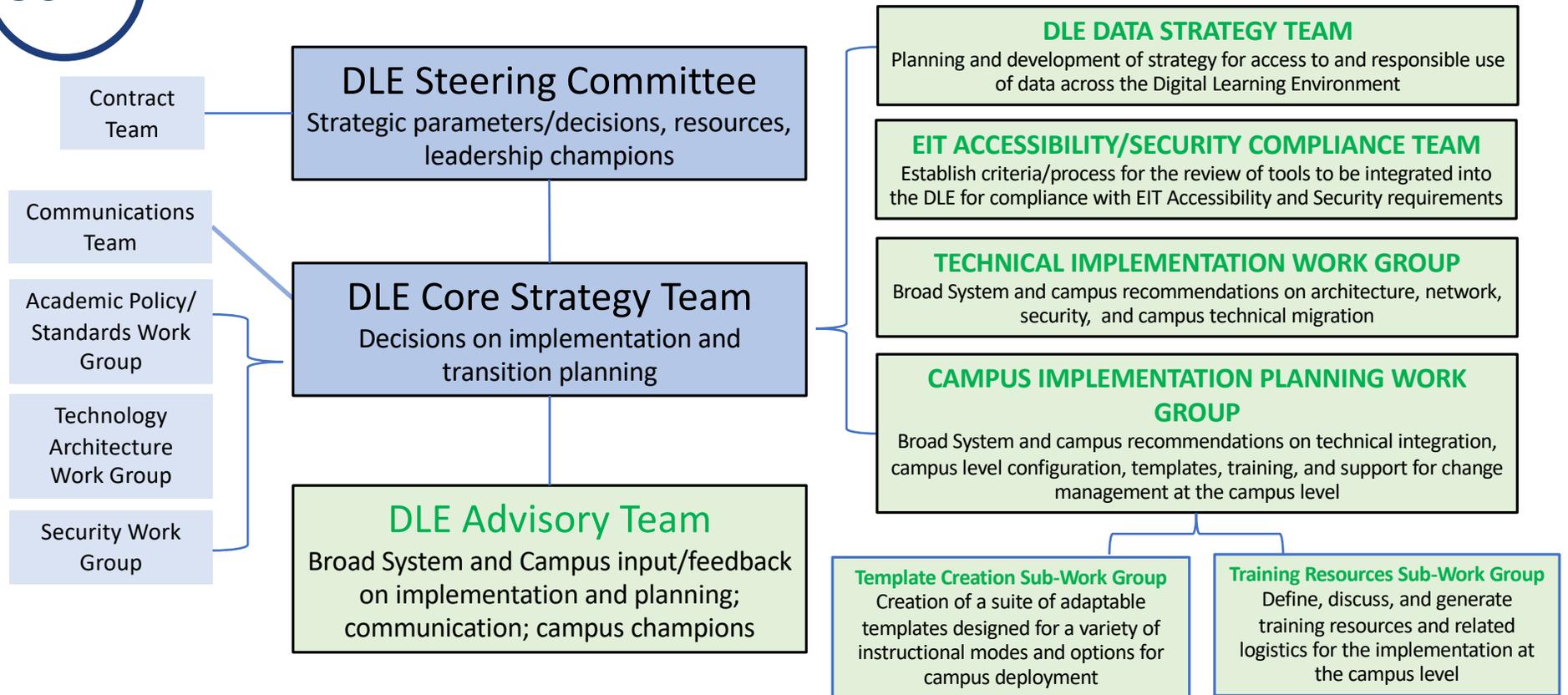
Phase 1 : Planning and IT/Academic Prep (Includes Initial Training)

Phase 2: Pilot - Early Adopter Faculty (Includes continued Training and aligned with the start of a semester)

Phase 3: Production Cutover "Go Live" - All Courses/Faculty (Aligned with the start of a semester)



SUNY DLE Project Structure - Implementation



<https://dle.suny.edu/meet-the-teams/>



SUNY's Brightspace Ecosystem

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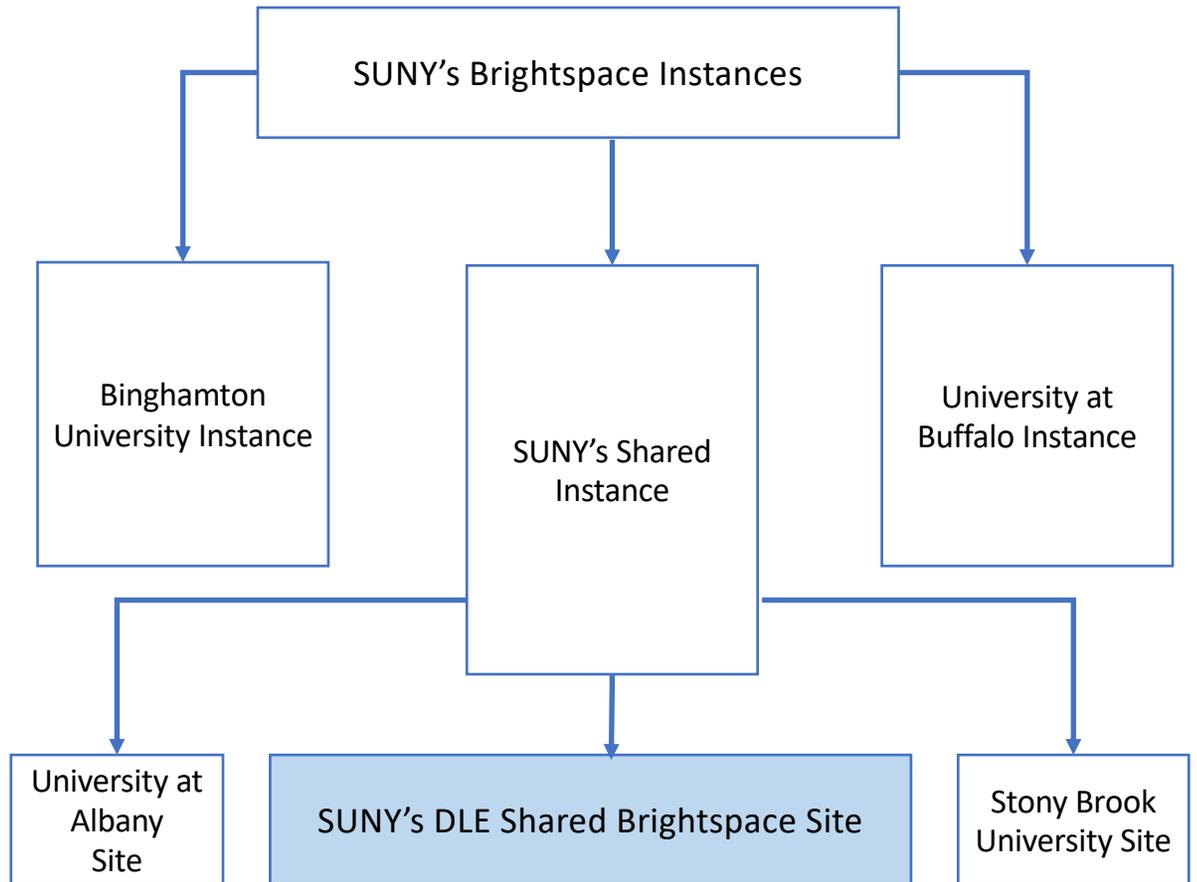


The Learning Management System Challenge

- Create a multi-tenant LMS environment that delivers:
 - Where students can use existing campus credentials
 - Offers a consistent experience for students
 - Recognizes courses delivered are from the respective campuses
 - Delivers a rich yet non-redundant tool set
 - Offers centralized technical support
 - A standard way to get data from campuses

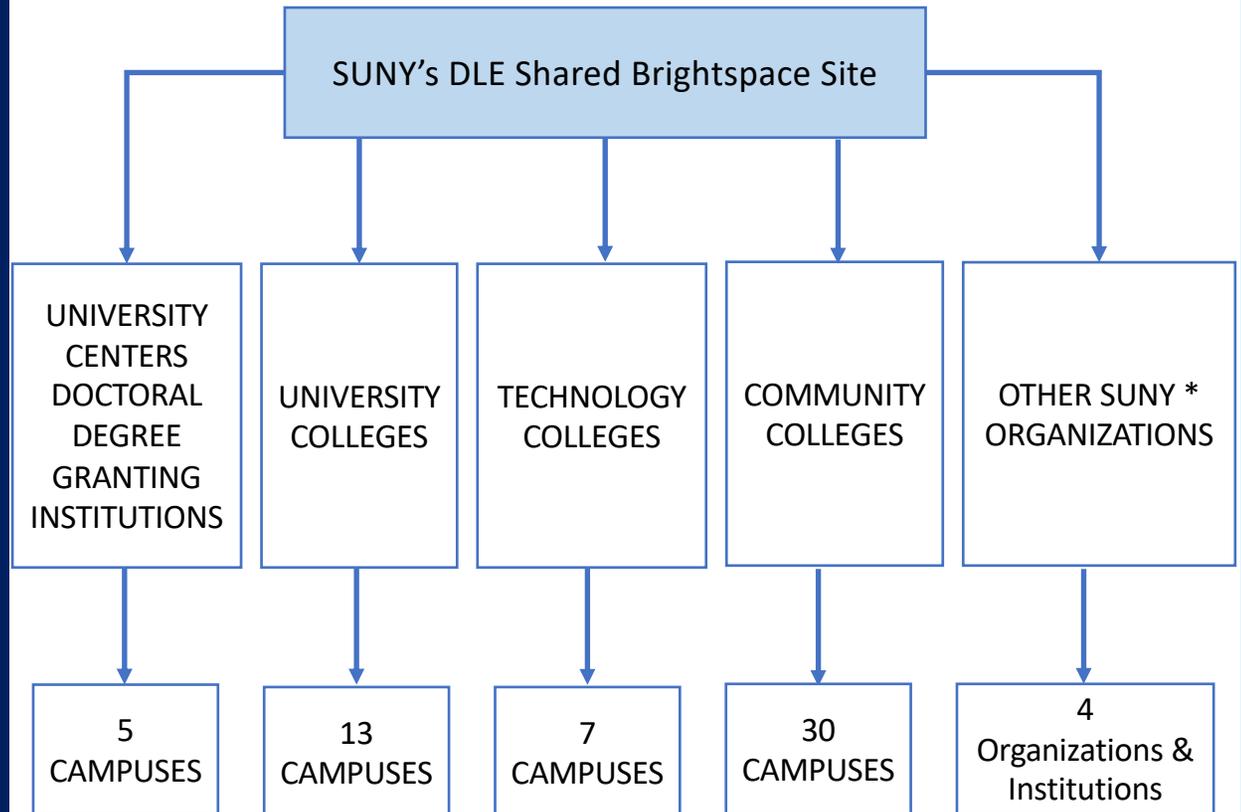


SUNY's Brightspace Ecosystem





SUNY DLE – Shared Brightspace Structure



* NOTE * Other SUNY Organizations include University-Wide programs like Student Conduct Institute, UCAWD EOCs, CPD, and SUNY Online.

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SUNY DLE – Shared Brightspace Environment

SIS Data

Campus Ownership of SIS System and Source Data

SUNY Support with SICAS, OIT, and SUNY Online

- Primary API Transmission of SIS Data to SUNY Data Hub -> Transmission to Brightspace.

Authentication

Campus Ownership of Active Directory System & Multifactor Authentication

SUNY Support with OIT and SUNY Online

- Federated Authentication utilizing Global ID.
- Global ID set as an Active Directory attribute. This makes single accounts for students and faculty possible.

LMS / DLE Core

Campus Admins, 3rd Party Tool Contracts, Expanded Accessibility/Security

SUNY Support with SUNY Online and OIT

- Administration: Campus/SUNY Configuration
- 3rd Party Tools: Campus purchase and request of implementation by SUNY, Brightspace EIT Accessibility/Security by SUNY, Extended EIT Accessibility/Security/Accommodation by Campus
- Technical Faculty/Student Support: Internal Campus Support, SUNY Online Helpdesk/ SUNY Online Application Services
- Suite of Templates: Campus/SUNY Collaboration
- Training / Resources: Campus/SUNY Collaboration



Global Configuration



Announcements

There are no announcements to display.

My Courses



Oswego Course - DLE
NOTERM-SON-PRACTICE-134275 • Demo Semester 1



Broome Course - DLE
NOTERM-BRM-PRACTICE-134275

Calendar

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

Upcoming events

There are no events to display.



Current Digital Learning Environment Metrics



Metrics – Almost March 2024

Area	Almost March 2024 Detail	Difference from March 2023
Tenants in Production	54 Campuses 4 Institutions	N/A
Production Courses	495,218 Total Courses (Includes delivered and non-delivered courses) * 96,000+ Course Converted in Bulk	+220,218 Total Courses +26,000 Converted Courses
Production Accounts	406,939 Accounts with Login * 631,544 Total Accounts * 558,000+ Student Accounts 58,000+ Faculty Accounts	+206,939 Accounts with Logins +281,544 Total Accounts +278,000 Student Accounts +13,000 Faculty Accounts
3 rd Party Tools	214 Unique Tools * 1,143 Individual Tool Integration Requests (Active integration or in progress) * 1,198 Total Integration Requests (Include active, inactive, & not implemented) *	+34 Unique Tools +343 Individual Tool Integration Requests

* Stats current as of 02/27/2024



Campus Associations – Almost March 2024

Area	Detail
Faculty that are associated with multiple campuses	At Least 2 – 1,811 At Least 3 – 142 At Least 4 – 10 At Least 5 - 3
Students that are associated with multiple campuses	At Least 2 – 37,829 At Least 3 – 2,947 At Least 4 – 413 At Least 5 – 107 At Least 6 – 32 At Least 7 – 9 At Least 8 - 4

* Stats current as of 02/27/2024



**So ... We are almost done with the
project, right?!**



SUNY DLE Implementation Status – Feb. 2024

	Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3	Cohort 4
Tenants	30 Campuses	8 Campuses	11 campuses plus Student Conduct Institute	7 Campuses plus UCAWD (EOCs)
Production Courses	Transitioned to operational support	All campuses offering courses in Brightspace.	All campuses offering courses in Brightspace.	All campuses offering courses in Brightspace.
3 rd Party Tools	Most Tools Integrated	Most Tools Integrated	Most Tools Integrated	Most Tools Integrated
Insights Reports	Available	Available	Available	Available
Templates	Available	Available	Available	Available
Training	Admin/Faculty	Admin/Faculty	Admin/Faculty	Admin/Faculty
Support	Transitioned to Operational Support	Transitioned to Operational Support	Ongoing Implementation Support for some campuses with most transitioned to Operational Support	Ongoing Implementation Support for some campuses with most transitioned to Operational Support
Surveys of student and faculty feedback	Fall 2022 (Planned: Fall 2023)	Fall 2022/Spring 2023 (Planned: Fall 2023)	Spring 2023 (Planned: Fall 2023)	(Planned: Fall 2023)



DLE Post-Implementation Governance Structure:

Two Groups



**SUNY DLE
Campus
Representatives**

Charge

- Surface issues and needs
- Provide input and feedback
- Communication to/from campuses
- Campus representation and advocacy

*All Campuses
Represented*



**SUNY DLE
Council**

Charge

- Prioritize requests from campuses
- Identify and prioritize items for SUNY DLE and Brightspace enhancement
- Recommend new procurements/new product implementation
- Recommend timing for updates/upgrades

*Campus Reps and
Leadership Roles*



But wait, there IS more!

Area	Detail
Learning Object Repositories (LORs)	FACT2 working on rolling this out
Custom Reports	D2L Transitioning from DOMO to QuickSites
User Attributes	Expanding use for Discover Tool and other custom needs
Training	Continuous Improvement Opportunities
Documentation	Multi-campus efforts for reusable content
Custom Development	Gradebook Customization, Co-Development for Distributed Administration
More Feature Opportunities	Creator+, Course Merchant, Manager Dashboard, ...
Tool Consolidation Opportunities	Group purchases, RFPs, ...
EIT Accessibility & Security	Expanded processes and opportunities for access and safeguarding
Communications	Bulletins / Newsletters, Announcements, Webinars, Knowledge Base, Ticketing System, Communities of Practice, Conferences
Public Web Presence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://online.suny.edu/ - SUNY Online• https://dle.suny.edu/ - SUNY Digital Learning Environment• https://explore.suny.edu/ SUNY Online Program and Courses Catalog• https://online.suny.edu/studentssuccess/ - Supporting Online Student Success



Questions?