Digital Learning Strategy:
A Framework for Future Practice

EDUCAUSE Webinar
Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Our session sponsor:
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Agenda

- DLS Research
- DLS Working Group
- Community Input – What are you doing well in implementing a DLS at your own institution?
- Next Steps
DLS Research

- EDUCAUSE QuickPoll conducted on August 15-16, 2022
- 139 complete responses
- What are institutions doing in DLS, and what are the challenges and opportunities?
Strategy Areas for DLS Implementation

- **Technological systems**: 3% Not part of our DLS, 29% Early to advanced stages of planning, 48% Early to advanced stages of being implemented, 19% Fully implemented.
- **A shared vision for digital learning for all students, faculty, staff, and administration**: 3% Not part of our DLS, 68% Early to advanced stages of planning, 22% Early to advanced stages of being implemented, 16% Fully implemented.
- **Flexible, equitable pathways to student success**: 3% Not part of our DLS, 47% Early to advanced stages of planning, 33% Early to advanced stages of being implemented, 13% Fully implemented.
- **Alignment of resources for all students, faculty, staff, and administration**: 3% Not part of our DLS, 55% Early to advanced stages of planning, 33% Early to advanced stages of being implemented, 12% Fully implemented.
- **Workforce development**: 3% Not part of our DLS, 22% Early to advanced stages of planning, 38% Early to advanced stages of being implemented, 41% Fully implemented.
- **Cultural changes**: 3% Not part of our DLS, 11% Early to advanced stages of planning, 51% Early to advanced stages of being implemented, 21% Fully implemented.

Areas for T&L Transformation

- **Evaluating the impact of technology on learning**: 76%.
- **Enhancing student recruitment, retention, and success using personalized support through technology-enhanced tutoring and advising**: 74%.
- **Integrating student support by supporting faculty with ways to make their courses fully accessible to students**: 74%.
- **Creating personalized learning paths based on individual needs and barriers**: 53%.
- **Integrating student support with multiple touch points using integrated data across offices**: 50%.
- **Offering opportunities for faculty and staff to engage with students early in the enrollment process and outside of class**: 32%.
Stakeholders in DLS Implementation

- Students: 94%
- Faculty: 91%
- Leadership and administration: 85%
- Staff: 68%
- Community partners: 38%

Percentage of Respondents

Staff Stakeholders in DLS Implementation

- Instructional designers: 95%
- Technology support: 95%
- Data analysts: 71%
- Information security specialists: 62%
- Project managers: 48%
- UX specialists: 43%
- Communication strategists: 38%
- Other: 14%

Percentage of Respondents
Common Challenges

▪ Colleges and universities must make DLS adoption the new norm.
▪ DLS efforts need to focus on the big picture.

Promising Practices

▪ Develop a plan that goes beyond technological systems.
▪ Align with digital transformation.
Audience Poll #1

- Who is attending the session right now, in terms of role type?
  - IT staff/leadership
  - Instructional design
  - Data analytics
  - Information security
  - Project management
  - UX
  - Communication
  - Other

Audience Poll #2

- Where is your institution currently in your DLS implementation?
  - Our institution has already or is currently implementing a DLS
  - Our institution is currently developing our DLS plans
  - Our institution does not have, and is not developing plans for, a DLS
  - I’m not sure/don’t know
DLS Working Group

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Creating Community Online

Welcome to EDUCAUSE Connect
Collaborate with peers to share strategic advice, solve challenges, and develop new approaches.
Get Help from Peers and Industry Experts

Real-Time Discussion

Friday, December 03 | 1:00PM-2:00PM ET | Online

Member QuickTalk | Digital Learning Strategy

We have all experienced the acceleration of digital transformation in higher education. As campuses consider the affordances of new and emerging technologies or just take stock of their approach to online or blended learning, we have an opportunity to intentionally set a vision and strategy for the way our institutions can nurture and sustain a rich portfolio of digital learning opportunities to drive quality and innovation in teaching and learning.

In this Member QuickTalk, participants will be invited to share ideas about

- Digital Learning Strategy Definition(s)
- The benefits and challenges in developing a digital learning strategy
- Components of current and ideal digital learning strategies
- Stakeholders to include in the development of a DLS

Join us to learn together!
Leveraging Resources

From then to now: Our process

- Feb-Mar 2022: reviewed literature
- Apr-Jul 2022: drafted definition, framework
- Aug 2022: QuickPoll, refined framework
- Sept-Dec 2022: draft framework document for external use
The “messy” beginning

Two steps forward, one step back
Coming to Terms: A Definition

A digital learning strategy (DLS) is a defined plan of technological systems, workforce development, and cultural changes that enable the institution’s digital learning initiatives. As a component of the institution’s digital transformation, the DLS transforms learning by ensuring flexible, equitable pathways to student success. It furthers the institutional mission by aligning resources and providing a shared vision for all students, faculty, staff, and administration.
Current Work: Tool Building

Framework Structure

Introduce
Investigate
Implement
Innovate
Community Discussion

What are you doing well at your institution in implementing your DLS?
Next Steps

- EDUCAUSE QuickTalk discussion tomorrow (Thursday the 15th) at 4pm ET
- Submit examples of your institution’s work to the EDUCAUSE DLS Working Group

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