

11-07-14 - 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM

Turnitin Demo - Bondurant Hall Auditorium

After reviewing the Requests for Information (RFI) that were received as part to the Learning Management System Evaluation, the Instructional Technology Standing Committee selected two vendors to come to campus and present demonstrations of their LMS software: Blackboard Learn and Instructure Canvas. Blackboard includes a plagiarism detection tool called SafeAssign. Because Canvas does not provide a plagiarism detection tool, our committee invited Turnitin to demo their product, which can be integrated into both Canvas and Blackboard. The first demo was held at 10:00 a.m. A second demo was held at 1:00 p.m. Both demos covered the same information. Ten people were in attendance including several members of the Instructional Technology Standing Committee. Highlights from the demo sessions are included in this report.

- Turnitin's grading tool provides quick markup features, an automatic feedback tool for grammar, and the ability to add voice comments (3 minute limit).
- Turnitin also provides a peer review tool which allows students to add comments to other students papers.
- Their Originality tool (which is similar to Blackboard's SafeAssign) accepts PPT, PDF, DOC, DOCX, WPD, TXT, and XLS files. It does not accept Open Office files or Pages files.
- They have an iPad app which allow instructors to grade assignments from the iPad.
- Students can download the graded assignment, with comments, as a PDF file.
- It is not possible to continue to use our campus repository of SafeAssign student papers if we switch to Turnitin. This means that we would no longer be able to check papers for plagiarism against the SafeAssign database of all of the student papers that have been submitted over the past 10+ years.