

Rutgers Accelerates the Transition to a New LMS Platform Using Scaffold Migration

OVERVIEW

As the eighth-oldest college in the U.S., Rutgers
University has established itself as a leading research
institution. With three locations throughout New Jersey,
Rutgers is headquartered in New Brunswick with a total
student population of over 50,000 and almost 9,000
faculty members.

Supporting a widespread educational network, Rutgers was operating with multiple learning management systems, including Blackboard Learn and Sakai, that intersected across departments and colleges. After assembling an internal committee focused on improving the student experience, Rutgers ultimately decided that a consolidated migration to Canvas was needed.

CHALLENGE

Stakeholder Buy-In

With so many departments and colleges, Rutgers struggled to get widespread approval of a consolidated LMS migration.

Departmental Requirements & Expectations

Being siloed in different LMS platforms, the school's migration had to meet hefty requirements and expectations for all schools, faculty, and departments involved.

Faculty Expectation & Intructional Design Support

While some faculty had access to instructional design experts, many had to design and build their own courses.

Because of this, Rutgers had to consider the staff members they were tasking to learn a new tool.



SOLUTION

As a large institution with many staff and faculty members, Rutgers decided to forego a complete, one-time migration—opting instead to take a step-by-step approach.

Rutgers involved numerous faculty members throughout the collaboration process to ensure they met and achieved all expectation and objectives.

Customized Tool Development

K16 Solutions optimized its automated Scaffold Migration service to support seamless, accurate migration with Sakai and Blackboard Learn.

Transparent Committee Involvement & Collaboration

Knowing that students and faculty would be most impacted, Rutgers was dependent on consistent collaboration and overheard approval from its internally appointed committee.

Batched Course Migration

With so many institutional complexities, K16 Solutions and Rutgers developed a migration timeline that supported the school's need for a batched approach.

RESULTS

Driven by the need to reduce faculty workload and simplify the student experience, Rutgers and K16 Solutions created an overarching gameplan to successfully migrate a few courses at a time. Today, K16 Solutions is able to migrate courses at an automated rate of 1,000 courses per day.

With consistent touchpoints, Rutgers and K16 Solutions continue to remain well aligned throughout the process, ensuring courses continue to meet all faculty and departmental expectations.

ONGOING SUPPORT

Moving forward, Rutgers and K16 Solutions continue to migrate courses alongside a batched timline. With a pre-determined completion date, the project is a full semester ahead of schedule.

- Continued collaboration to support faculty and departmental requirements
- Batched timeline to support an ongoing migration
- Accurate automated migration that requires little-to-no content revision from faculty
- Automated processes that accelerated an initial timeline of multiple years to a few months.



