SIS UX Team

User Experience for Faculty

- BearFacts' Retirement
- Field Work and Interviews
- Experience Map
- Recommendations







Berkeley Student Information Systems Project

March 7, 2016

SIS UX Team: Faculty

UX

Happy Trails, Old Friend!

Bear Facts

The SIS will pick up where you leave off ... Fall 2016!



Student Information Systems Project

March 7, 2016

CONTEXT

- **Overall goal:** Feature parity with BearFacts
- First semester to require faculty features: Fall 2016
- Examples of features:
 - Enrollment: Add, Drop, Waitlist, Pre-requisites
 - **Roster:** Photos, name, email
 - Concurrent Students: Background, approval, seat count, other institutions
 - **Others:** GSIs, delegation
 - Grades: Mid point, curves, provisional, validation, approval

POPULATIONS

Target Population:

Instructors

- Faculty
- Lecturers
- Post-Docs
- GSIs



Not Explicitly Included:

- Department Scheduler/ Enrollment Managers
 - They will use
 Campus Solutions.



SIS SPEC

Spec ID SISRP-2266: External File Load of Grades **SIS Team:** Student Records Lasted edited: August 12, 2015

- Self-service Grade Roster: Add the ability to upload a CSV from an external source.
- This requirement needs to be reviewed again in Spring of 2016:
 - Grading page may be provided by **Oracle** in Fluid.
 - Fit-gap needed
 - Assumption: new Fluid grading page would need updating.

FIELDWORK

SIS UX team conducted **24 individual interviews** with **instructors**

- 12 ladder faculty
- 3 lecturers
- 1 post doc
- 8 GSIs
- And 1 scheduler 🔬

Topics included the tools, processes and people used to accomplish typical semester tasks such as roster management, midpoint grades, final grades, etc.

COLLEGES

College / Dept	Faculty	Lecturers	Post Docs	GSIs	Schedulers
CED	1				
Chemistry		1			
CNR	2				
Engineering	4				1
English		1			
Information	1		1	8	
Law	1				
L&S: Economics	1				
L&S: IB/MCB		1			
L&S: Rhetoric	1				
L&S: Sociology	1				
Total	12	3	1	8	1

Some faculty are part of one department / college but teach in another.

QUOTES: bCourses



Most instructors use bCourses. Most had very positive comments.

- "I use bCourses for every class. I love it."
- "I've asked the bCourses team for help a couple of times.
 They are GOOD!"
- "Canvas has made active learning **possible**."
- "bCourses works really well much better than the primitive systems we used to have."
- "The #1 great thing about bCourses is SpeedGrader."

QUOTES: BearFacts

Instructors like BearFacts' simplicity and reliability

- "I love BearFacts ... At the start and end of the semester, I am on BearFacts 20 minutes a day. It's always worked. It's very simple."
- "I only use BearFacts once a semester, to submit grades. As long as it is secure and **easy to use**, that's fine."
- "I trust the information ... in BearFacts."
- "BearFacts is frustrating because when students drop or are let in on the waitlist, I am not informed. When I look at the lists, I also don't know if it's updated. It would be great to be notified when students are dropped from class."



QUOTES: CalCentral



"I had a colleague who told me about CalCentral so that's when I started using it. So I go to CalCentral and I click on the course [to get to my bCourses site]."

This is as expected, because at this point there are no essential features for faculty.

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QUOTES: Other Tech

Instructors had mixed views of campus technology.

- "Electronic tools at Berkeley could be very good, but when they are not it's an expensive use of faculty's time. Things are on the right track and the tools are getting better."
- "The goals of simplifying and unify are good but the results are not always good. ... bCourses. That one I like. We want something that is **simple and easy**."
- "I hate the current [add/drop] system. The department admin knows if there is space and I don't. It takes up a lot of time and energy on my part and my GSIs. They do not have real time information. It gets really frustrating for them."



Some Good News

Some features requested by instructors are already in progress or in place.

CalCentral

- **Roster:** CalCentral already has rosters with photos.
- Sections: The rosters are broken into sections.

SIS

- **Real-time data:** The SIS will deliver real-time enrollment data.
- Department Schedulers: Will be associated with classes.

bMail and groups

• New features may be ready in time for integration.

More Good News

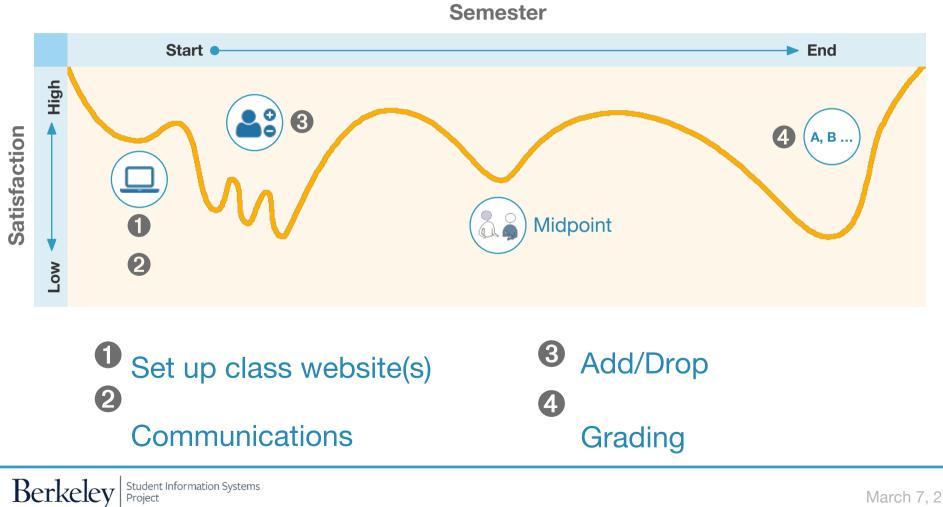
Several features requested by instructors will be easy to implement as part of bringing enrollment to CalCentral.

Example

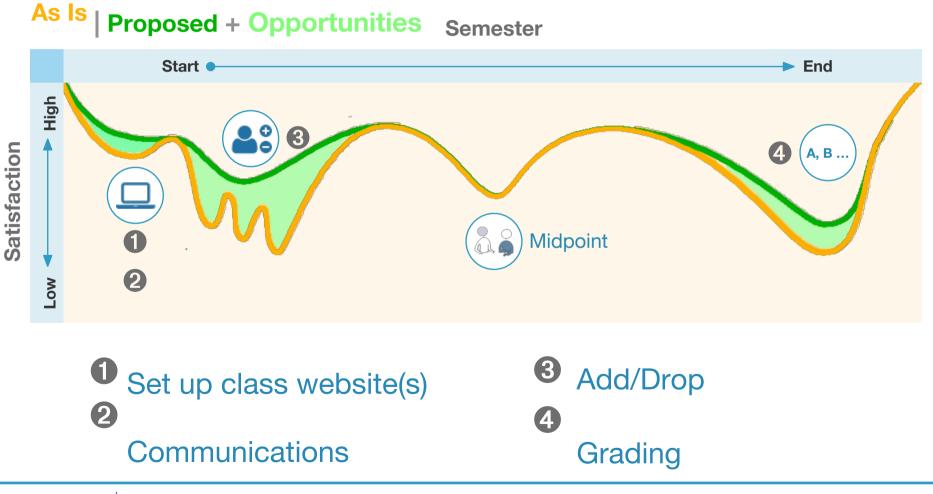
• Email addresses, majors and level are already used in CalCentral.

EXPERIENCE MAP

As Is



O P P O ITIES R T U N



Berkeley

🔺 DISCLAIMER 🔺

Opportunities on the following slides have **not been assessed for technical feasibility**, policy adherence, or other sensible concerns. Please discuss and give constructive feedback.

1: Set Up Class Websites

As Is

- Instructors manually set up one or more class websites, including bCourses, independent informational sites, etc.
- Instructors somehow inform students of the class site(s).
 Students who add the class later may not have an easy way to find these links.

1: Set Up Class Websites

Opportunity

Short term

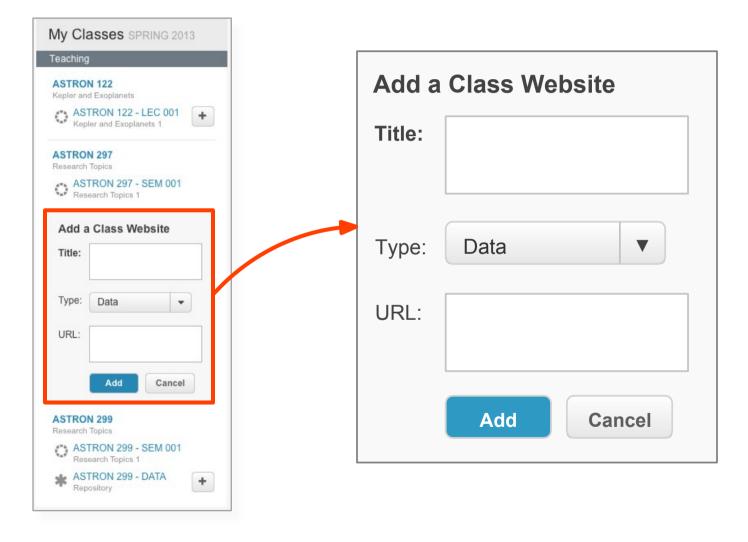
 Instructors add website names and URLs to class page in CalCentral. Students can refer to and use these links at any time.

Long term

 Auto-provision a bCourses site for each class based on a template defined by instructor.



1: Set Up Class Websites





As Is

- BearFacts: Group email via BCC to enrolled students.
- BearFacts or CalCentral: Export a CSV file of email addresses of enrolled students.
- bCourses: Internal communications tools to all "people" associated with a class.
- @lists.berkeley.edu: Create a list from a bCourses site.
- **Photo Challenge:** Students often change their appearance, yet their official campus photos stay the same. This can make it hard for instructors to recognize students.

Opportunity

Short term

- Auto-provision a list serve with archive for each class.
- Make sure **GSIs** are in CalCentral roster.
- Add email addresses, majors and level to CalCentral roster.

Opportunity

Long term

- Separate list serves: Everyone, GSIs, individual sections, etc.
- Photos: Allow students to upload current photos to roster. Allow instructor to choose from these photos.
- **ADA information:** Instructor should not know ADA status. Should only be shown to whoever assigns and administrates examination.



Overview

Some instructors spend inordinate amounts of time managing rosters. This displaces time for teaching, and can **prevent students from enrolling** in needed classes, possibly extending their time at Berkeley. This further **affects the overall availability** of classes to all students.

Factors for instructors include:

- 1. Lack of real-time roster data
- 2. Lack of easy Add/Drop process
- 3. Lack of automatic screening for prerequisites
- 4. Cumbersome process for concurrent enrollment.

As Is

- During the Add/Drop period, instructors spend time each day assessing attendance rolls, available seats, Add requests, and student fit (prior classes, pre-reqs, year in school, etc.)
- Instructors send Add/Drop requests to enrollment manager.
- When external students* are added, available seats are not updated, resulting in inaccurate student expectations.
 Instructors mitigate this by requesting an adjustment to the enrollment cap.
- * Students from Extension (Concurrent Enrollment), GTU, other UC's, etc.

Opportunity

Short term

Provide instructors more information and support in adding and dropping students, GSIs, guests, etc.

- Provide real-time enrollment data to instructors and students.
- Show **external students** alongside the waitlist. Make it easy to see their documentation.
- Add email addresses, majors and level to waitlist.
- Have availability reflect external students.

Opportunity

Short term (cont'd)

- Allow instructors of record to grant delegate privileges to lecturers, GSIs, etc for their sections.
- Add instructor-facing functionality that send requests to enrollment manager:
 - Change to the waitlist (add/promote/demote/add to class)
 - Optional custom note such as request to increase or decrease enrollment cap.
- Keep instructor view as simple as possible.

Opportunity

Long term

- Enforce pre-requisites.
 - Allow instructor override.
- Standardized "fool proof" attendance tool to support auto-drop as needed.

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Actionable lists of

- External students
- Wait List
- Current enrollment
- Dropped students

Selecting students sends email request to department scheduler.

4: Grading

As Is

 Instructors export grades to a CSV file, and adjust curves there before either uploading to or manually entering in BearFacts.

4: Grading

Opportunity

Short term

- Explore ways of exporting grading information from the roster in CalCentral. Include preferred names.
- Create a CSV uploader and validator in CalCentral for grades that provides real-time feedback, possibly with some kind of summary.

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More Information Needed

- Class options: For options such as wait list-only enrollment vs. open add, is this best handled by a discussion between the enrollment manager and the instructor?
- Course Entry Codes: Can be handed out by instructors to allow specific students to add a class. Will they still be used?
 If so, how can the use of CEC be as efficient as possible?
- Grading windows: BearFacts has windows defined for submitting both midpoint and final grades. There are also Add/Drop windows. Will these change with the SIS? These will need to be defined for CalCentral.
- Other unknown unknowns.

Partner Opportunities

- iClickers: Add iClickers to textbooks request, so that they appear in textbook list in CalCentral, with link to iClickers registration.
- Web service: Work with Law on a web service for grading:
 - Receive CCN + scores.
 - Evaluate fit to curve assigned to that class
 - Return text: OK | Not OK | Next steps
 - Link for requesting exceptions.
 - Law's grading window is different from campus.
- Incomplete grades: Convert to electronic process.
- FERPA: Consider increased emphasis in training.

Training and Communications

Opportunity

- Faculty are highly unlikely to attend training sessions or view training materials.
- Consider targeting faculty "influencers" such as lecturers, GSIs, department schedulers. Develop materials with them in mind.

Risks

Concerns

- Grades are among the most **charged** aspect of teaching.
- Faculty are **likely to wait** until close to deadlines to enter grades.

Preparation

- Test well in advance.
- Put messages and smart links in systems being retired, where faculty will expect retiring functionality.
- Increase **support staff** before and during grading periods.

Next Steps

- Faculty focus groups: Review field work results and identify any remaining gaps.
- Usability: Investigate project relevance, technical feasibility, and policy concerns. Create UX sketches.
 Perform usability testing with instructors.
- Other Teams: Identify systems being retired. Design interventions in those systems. Work with other teams to implement.