Priorities for Development of Existing Ed Tech Enterprise Systems

The User Advisory Group identified at the start of AY 17-18 that improvements to existing enterprise systems (NYU-Classes, NYU-WP, and NYU-Stream) were a high priority for members. We subsequently developed a detailed list of individual tools and features that could benefit by the attention either of development teams at NYU or by the larger open source communities using the platforms. The list is divided into high, medium, and lower priorities; in addition, the UAG wanted to note continuing issues with the Single Sign-On system that force users who are already logged in to an NYU system (including Home) to log in again when accessing other platforms that are covered by SSO. It also wanted to note that it feels a major overhaul of the Tests & Quizzes function is needed (it understands there is considerable sentiment in the Sakai community around this).

Recommendations are given in brief and aim to identify desires and limitations, rather than to provide solutions; the UAG welcomes queries from the development teams if there is a need to articulate more granular preferences.

UAG members individually ranked each item as High Priority (=3), Medium Priority (=2), Low Priority (=1). Note that all items with the same average (e.g., 2.7) should be considered as equivalent; they are listed in no particular order.

High Priority (2.5-3.0)

- **NYU-Stream** (3.0): Make cutting/editing of videos easier/more intuitive.
- **NYU WP** (2.8): Bulk creation of sites from a template (e.g., for portfolio; currently, sites need to be created from a template one at a time).
- **NYU Classes** (2.7): Easier access to pilot tools from within a Classes site; e.g., via the add/edit tools menu.
- **NYU WP** (2.7): Allow Login from the top, rather than only the bottom, of the NYU-WP home page.
- **NYU Classes** (2.7): Streamline copying of individual resources from one class to another (e.g., from a past to a current semester); current process is confusing.
- **NYU Classes** (2.7): Stop pages from refreshing back to the top every time a folder is expanded in Resources (and in other instances when one navigates away from and then back to a page).
- **NYU Classes** (2.6): Ability to enter grades as letter grades, not points; automatic conversion of the letter grades to point values for gradebook calculations.
• **NYU Classes** (2.5): Make upload/download of gradebook easier; allow push from gradebook as well as pull from Albert (or at least a link in Classes to the pull page from Albert).

• **NYU-WP** (2.5): Enable private comments on NYU-WP (for portfolio work, etc.)

**Medium Priority (2.0-2.4)**

• **NYU-WP** (2.4): Facilitate process to request a copy of entire site, structure as well as content (including menus)

• **NYU-Stream** (2.4): Clarify “Publish” options; language for them should track more closely to that used for Google permission sets.

• **NYU Classes** (2.4): Drag & Drop reordering of items in left-hand nav; ability to rename items from left-hand nav (without having to open a separate menu).

• **NYU Classes** (2.4): Make it easier to copy all resources/assignments from one class to another (can be done now, but UI confusing).

• **NYU-Stream** (2.4): “Analytics” screen needs a back button to return user to the video on which they are viewing the analytic data.

• **NYU Classes** (2.2): Simplified process for add/edit tools

• **NYU-Stream** (2.2): Provide in-platform explanation of the difference between “playlists” and “channels.”

• **NYU-WP** (2.1): Clarify Site Visibility settings; language for them should track more closely to that used for Google permission sets.

• **NYU Classes** (2.1): Rubric-based grading

• **NYU Classes** (2.1): Scroll in center frame without left-hand nav items also scrolling (so that left hand nav is always visible; separate scroll for left-hand nav and center frame, in other words).

• **NYU Classes** (2.0): Audit workflow to minimize number of clicks to achieve tasks throughout Classes platform

• **NYU-WP** (2.0): Better guide to choosing themes; perhaps a default theme for a course blog

**Lower Priority (below 2.0)**

• **NYU-Stream** (1.9): Language on “upload media” function too technical (“For best results with video, we recommend preparing videos in 1280x720 pixels and using the H.264 video codec at about 4000 kb/s.”)

• **NYU-Classes** (1.9): Ability to enter comments at the same time as entering grades in New Gradebook. Now, it takes multiple clicks.

• **NYU-Classes** (1.9): Allow instructor preferences to serve as default settings for due and accept dates on assignments; an instructor, eg, might:
  - Make default due date 7 days from the date of creation
  - Make a default accept-until-date that is either 1 week from the due date or is the end of the semester. Update this when the due date changes
- Accept multiple submissions by default. Make multiple submissions due date the end of the semester or the same as the accept-until-date, and update automatically.

- **NYU-Courses** (1.7): Mail from Sent Box in Classes should also appear in Sent Box in NYU Google Mail.

- **NYU-Courses** (1.7): Syllabus tool that automatically makes a grid of dates when the class meets, and corresponds to the NYU calendar. Need ability to do this in the syllabus tool, and also to export it to Google Calendar or RTF or Word doc. Sysadmin should be able to enter all NYU holidays and semester start/end dates, and Classes should show this information to profs who are trying to make a schedule. Link class meeting dates to central calendar.

- **NYU-Courses** (1.7): More agility: ability to create sub-pages.

- **NYU-WP** (1.4): Have tags appear on previews of posts, instead of only appearing when you open the full post.