

## LibGuides and Canvas Integration Options

Document prepared by PSEC Instruction Committee, LibGuides Sub-team:

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November 12, 2018

By request of Assistant University Librarian Dianne Mizzy, the LibGuides Subteam of the PSEC Instruction Committee investigated LibGuide integration in the Canvas LMS. We have confirmed that through Springshare's LibApps LTI tools, we can integrate LibGuides or any other content from the LibApps system into Canvas<sup>i</sup>. CUL already has access to LTI through our LibGuides CMS subscription, and no further payment or access is required. In order for the LTI tools to be integrated in Canvas, Canvas administrators must add the LTI consumer key and configure the Canvas administrator settings.

Auto-population of LibGuides ("Guides") content into Canvas pages can be achieved by enabling the LTI Automagic tool. Automagic matches existing Guides to course title in Canvas, based on defined Guide metadata. According to Springshare,

*"[t]he tool, once created in your LMS, matches LibGuides metadata against the parameter your LMS sends back. So you could have BIO432 match a specific Guide like invertebrate anatomy, while BIO333 might only match the general biology Guide you've created because there's no metadata match for BIO333, but there is a match for the general biology Guide's BIO metadata item. It is flexible based on the metadata you create in LibGuides."*

The Automagic feature would allow CUL to successfully match a specific Guide to semester course, with limited faculty or librarian intervention required. For example, a metadata match between an existing ILRLR 2010 Guide and current semester ILRLR 2010 section for the ILR School. Given that the relatively large number of course guides does not approach the much larger number of offered courses per semester, librarian effort could be targeted at prioritizing correct and relevant metadata for existing and regularly updated library-supported courses with custom Guides, or core/required classes with library research component. Librarians could then incorporate metadata creation into pre-semester planning by reviewing course roster, and highlighting Guide inclusion through communication with faculty.

When enabling the Automagic feature, CUL can configure the LibApps LTI builder to match to a default Guide, or a configurable LTI landing page, if there is not a good match between Guide and course metadata. This could be the default for courses without integrated library instruction, and might be preferable to an "incorrect" Guide match. Available options include setting up sub-groups within the LTI builder to more finely tune automatch (i.e. ILRLR 2050 course without a course metadata match would then be matched with the general Collective Bargaining Guide). Additional exploration and experimentation would be necessary to evaluate this option. Initial introduction of the feature might be best enabled with direct Guide-to-Course metadata matching, accompanied with a very basic library or school research Guide as a default. We may even want to consider that *no* default Guide be included, at the risk of a very general Guide being perceived by faculty as irrelevant or counter to course objectives.

We also compared opt-in and opt-out possibilities. An opt-in model is available to institutions, but appears complex and cumbersome. See [BGSU tutorial](#) for process descriptions and faculty outreach language. If enabling the Automagic feature, faculty will encounter an opt-out opportunity when

building their Canvas. When setting up the module, professors are able to edit course navigation to remove Guide or any other tab.

Concerns have been shared with CUL administration regarding past Guide/Blackboard integration experiences. Subteam members did reach out to unit staff for further information, but were unable to identify any instances of past automatic Guide/Blackboard integration, although a manual integration feature was available in Blackboard for a brief period, until 2011. However, staff across units have experiences of Guide links added to Blackboard by a faculty member as a result of instructional support or liaison outreach, and consider Guide access and findability greatly facilitated by this link inclusion.

The LibGuides Subteam concludes that ideal conditions for use of Automagic exist when:

1. Excellent metadata are attached to course Guides
2. Existing course Guides reflect the implementation of web accessibility guidelines
3. Existing course Guides reflect UX ([Guides best practices](#))
4. A current (regularly maintained) course Guide matches the offered course
5. Liaison outreach accompanies Guide auto-integration (acknowledgement in ongoing communication with faculty regarding course instruction)

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<sup>i</sup> Further information about the LibApps LTI tool is available from Springshare at <https://ask.springshare.com/a.php?gid=14&qid=656>