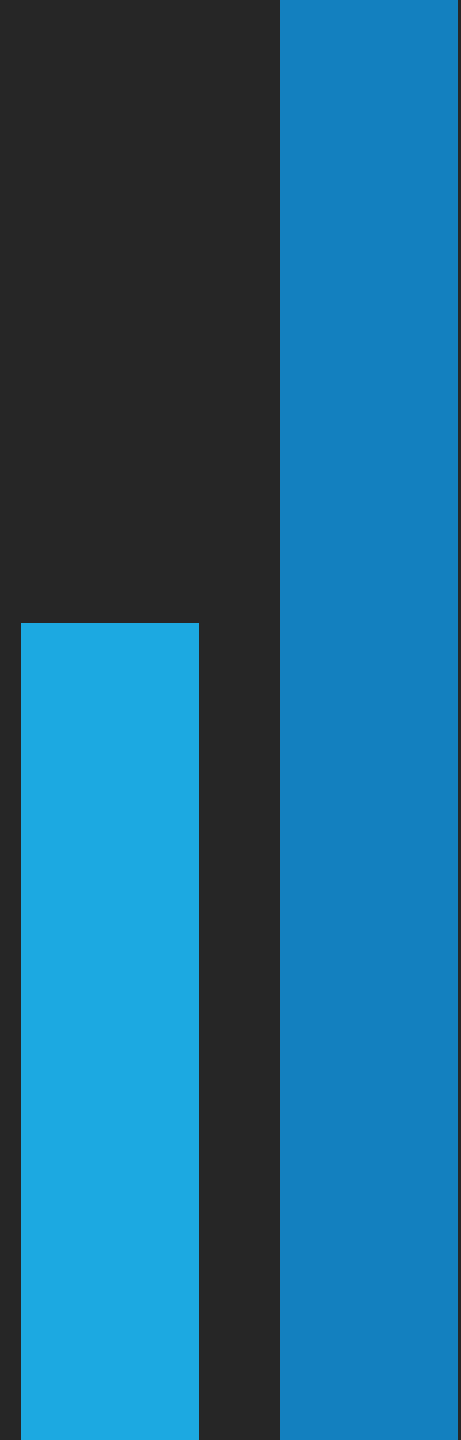




Office Hours

April 2023



Forward-Looking Statement

Statements regarding our product development initiatives, including new products and future product upgrades, updates or enhancements represent our current intentions, but may be modified, delayed or abandoned without prior notice and there is no assurance that such offering, upgrades, updates or functionality will become available unless and until they have been made generally available to our customers.

About Office Hours

- Office hours are facilitated by the Product managers and the wider team.
- Come and listen to the Anthology staff discuss in detail the latest feature releases, product developments and emerging current issues.
- You will have the opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions to the Ally Product Management team and other clients.
- The slide deck and recording will be shared after the meeting.

Agenda for Today (April 10, 2023)


Upcoming / Ongoing events

- FYCD

Q&A with Chris, Ivan, and the Ally team

- Roadmap questions around upcoming features
- General questions and chat

Discussion

- Product sentiment survey results
 - Moodle plugin repository migration
- 

Upcoming/Ongoing events

Ally activities

Fix Your Content Day



A 24-hour competition committed to creating accessible and more inclusive digital learning content across classrooms and institutions globally for [Global Accessibility Awareness Day \(GAAD\)](#).

Join us on



Are you up for the challenge?

[Register Now!](#)

Learn tips and strategies for mobilizing team members with our [Communications Pack](#).

International Ally User Group

April 27th, 2023

07:00 PDT / 10:00 EDT / 15:00 GMT / 16:00 CET /
19:00 GST

Sign up, submit questions in advance, and request a calendar appointment using this form.

<https://forms.office.com/e/v0wTMk9AHH>

Agenda

As the "International" Ally User Group it's important to consider the global perspective. We are lucky to be joined by panelists from six countries that span across eight time zones.

The roundtable will cover four themes

- Alternative formats and students
- Encouraging staff to create accessible content
- Institutional policy and challenges
- Celebrating success

Accessibility Beyond Borders

Global roundtable discussing the challenges and opportunities of digital accessibility in Higher Education



Sharon Austin

Academic
Technology
Accessibility
Specialist

University of
Tampa



Terry Greene

Senior
eLearning
Designer

Trent University



James
Northridge

Inclusive UCC
Project Manager

University
College Cork



Dr Tharindu
Liyanagunawardena

Digital Accessibility
Officer

University of
Reading



Esin Caglayan,
Ph.D.

Director of
Teaching and
Learning
Center

Izmir University
of Economics



Sarah
Whittaker

Senior
Manager
Teaching with
Technology

United Arab
Emirates



Office Hours Q&A

Roadmap questions, issues, general questions and chat

Question 1

Is there any update around math equations in Microsoft Word being included in the Alternative Format downloads for Ally?

Answer: We have two goals as part of our current roadmap for STEM Content:

- Better detection and handling of images that include STEM content
 - Better conversion of math equations within Alternative Formats
- 

A Deeper Look at D2L HTML Guidance

There are 3 levels to D2L HTML content that determine how Ally can best apply guidance:

Brightspace Content Areas and
New Experiences

Uploaded HTML vs WYSIWYG
(How Brightspace handles this)

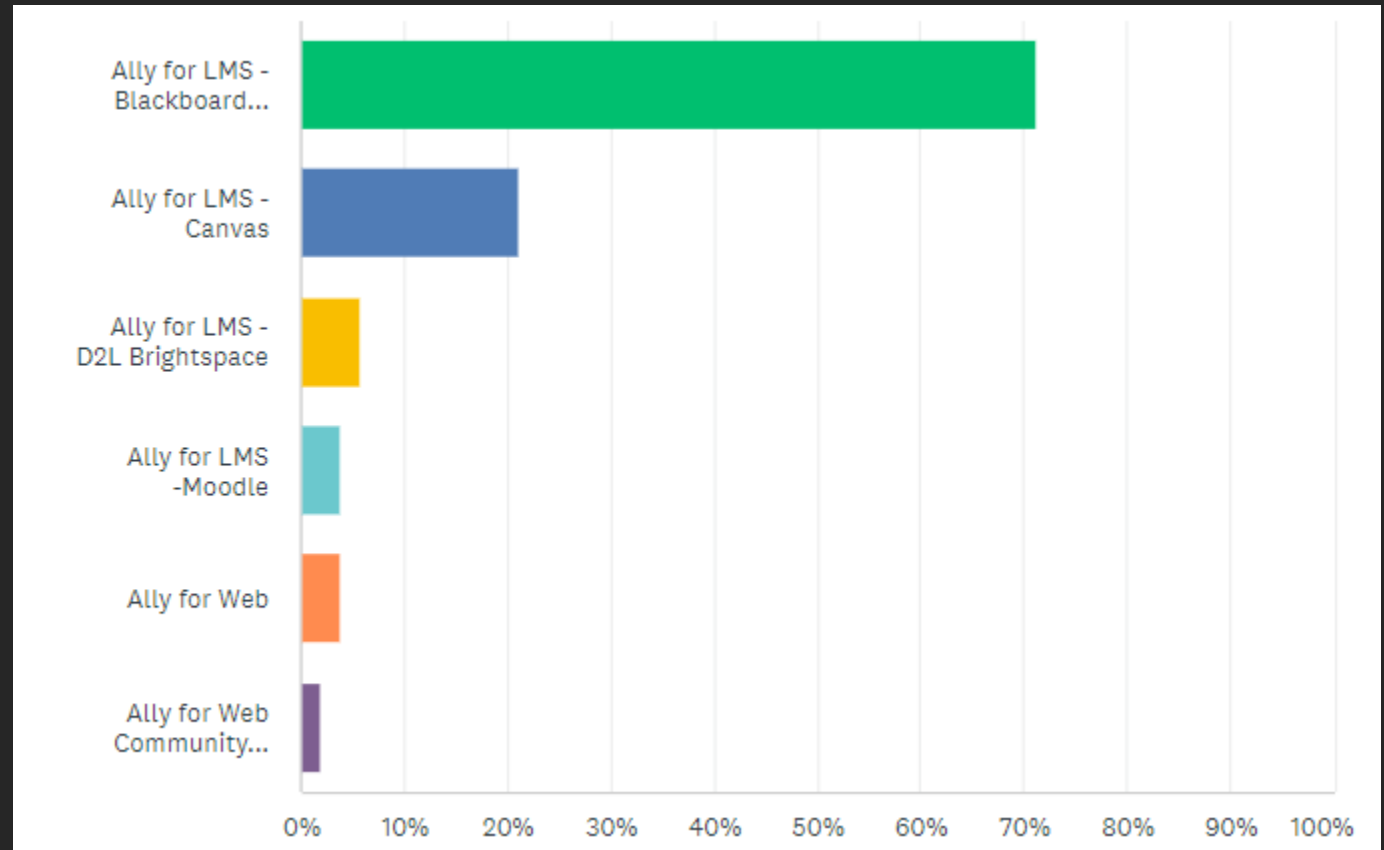
"Guidance Not Yet Available"
missing guidance in Ally

Discussion

Product Sentiment Survey

52 Respondents

267 Open
answers



Product Sentiment Survey

Feedback

- How to keep track of roadmap items.
- Avoid losing visibility of what planned items

Ally Initiative Idea Exchange

The screenshot displays the Anthology Idea Exchange interface. The top navigation bar includes links for IDEAS, YOU INSPIRE US, FAQ, and INTERNAL FAQ. A search bar is located on the right. The main content area is titled "Ally" and features a list of ideas. On the left, a sidebar shows "My ideas" (11), "My votes" (11/1), "My proxy votes" (0), and "Pinned ideas" (0). Below this, a "FILTER BY PRODUCT & CATEGORY" section lists various categories, with "Ally" selected. The main list of ideas includes:

- Blackboard Ally Accessibility Report Notifications And Making It More Visible And Easier To Find** (5 votes, 0 votes left). Description: "We recommend that Blackboard routinely provide automatic message notifications to users when accessibility scores in order to warn them of inaccessible items that are not useful to have a course accessibility score..."
- Add Ally WYSIWYG checker functionality to UBN announcement tool** (5 votes, 0 votes left). Description: "When creating UBN based announcements, the Ally WYSIWYG checker is used to ensure that announcements are accessible. It's important they are as accessible as possible. Please add this functionality for Ally users on UBN."
- Ally alternate format handling with Ultra "View only" file** (13 votes, 0 votes left). Description: "In Blackboard Learn Ultra, instructors can set a file so that it can be 'View only' in the inline viewer. This is handy for documents such as exam solutions or other materials that the instructor does not want distributed. However, students can still download the file..."
- Add 'download original file' in** (31 votes, 0 votes left). Description: "In Bb Ultra, the Ally downloads icon is very up front and center vs download original file in the ... menu. We have engaged with students who had no idea that they were downloading alternative formats. This..."

A "FILTER BY STATUS" dropdown menu is open on the right, showing the following options:

FILTER BY STATUS	
Future consideration	23
Researching	6
Planning to implement	3
Already exists	2
Unlikely to implement	6
Released (hidden by default)	1

Roadmap in the Idea Exchange

- Planning to implement: Items being developed
- Future consideration: Items planned for mid and long terms.
- Researching: Assessing if these items can be part of the roadmap.
- Unlikely to implement: Not planned for research or as part of the roadmap. There is a chance that could be included as long-term items.



Product Sentiment Survey

Feedback

Guidance not available

Ally Initiative

Two additional guidance released in the last month

How to change text with insufficient contrast

Step 2: Change color using an HTML editor

1. **Open** the editable HTML file using an HTML editor.
2. **Locate** the text element with the contrast issue in the code.

Types of contrast issues

Colors are indicated with a [HEX or RGB value](#). It's often enough to change the font color but the background can change if needed.

An example of a paragraph with black text on a white background:

```
p {
  color: #000000;
  background-color: #FFFFFF;
}
```

How to update missing link text

Step 2: Change link text using an HTML editor

1. **Open** the editable HTML file using an HTML editor.
2. **Locate** the link with the issue in the code.

A link element may vary but a good link looks similar to:

```
<a href="https://ally.ac">
  Anthology Ally
</a>
```

Link issues occur when the descriptive text for the link is missing or set as hidden.

Types of links

Discussion: Moodle plugin repository migration

OpenLMS

- Available via:
 - OpenLMS plugin matrix

Moodle Core

- Available via:
 - Moodle plugins page

URL GitHub repository change



MIGRATION TO BE COMPLETED IN THE UPCOMING WEEKS. We will make announcements on all the Ally channels:

- User Group
- Support platform
- Release notes

Discussion: Moodle plugin repository migration

Current Moodle clients

Existing Ally for Moodle clients are NOT affected by this migration and the current version (v4.0.5) of the Ally plugins will continue working normally as expected.



LibreOffice

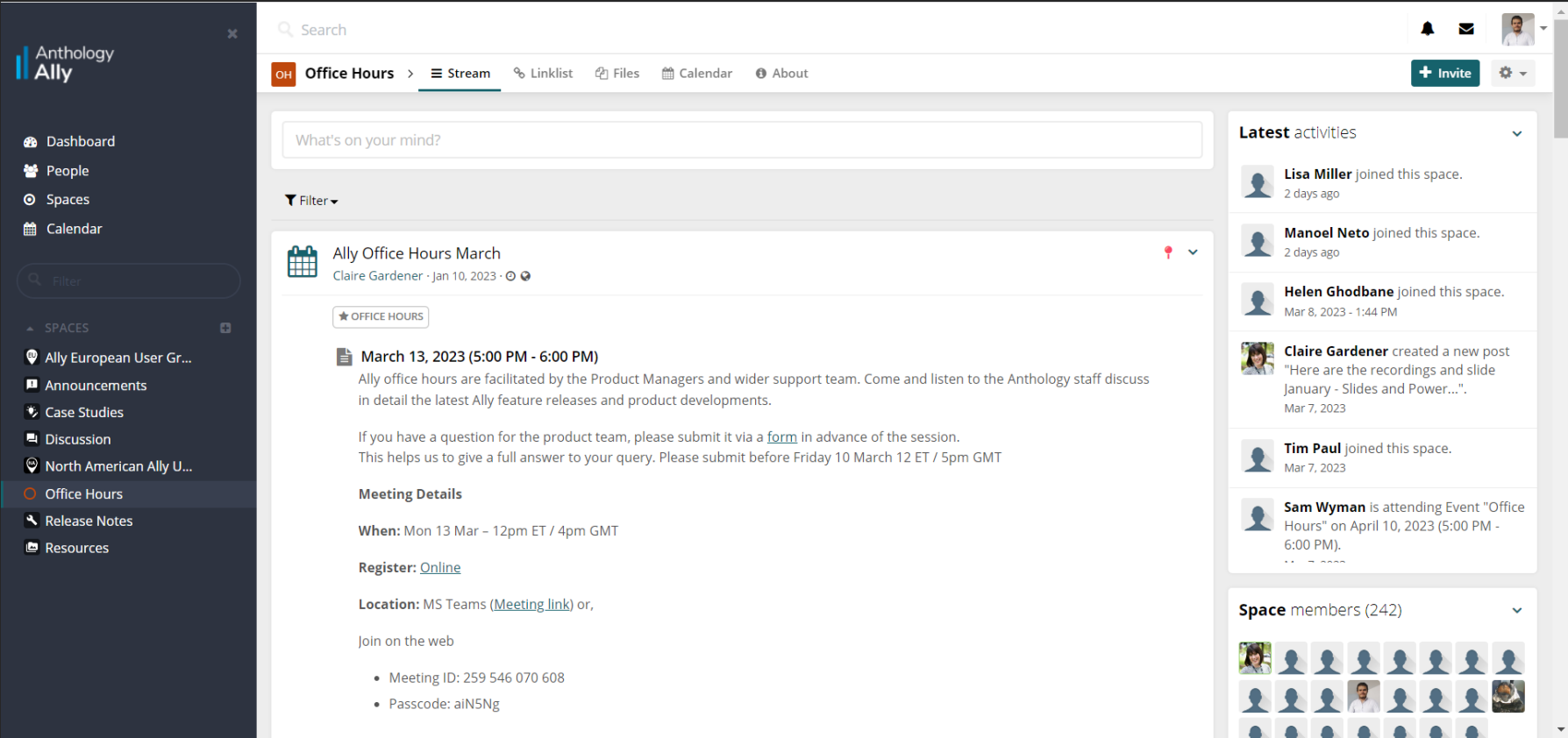
Why does Ally consider using an open-source like LibreOffice?

- Balance between stability and functionality
- Ally reports bugs and keeps track of them
- We have plans to update LibreOffice to the most recent still branch



General Questions?

Ally Office Hours



<https://usergroup.ally.ac/s/office-hours/>

Next Office Hours – Mon 8 May

Please submit your questions via Microsoft Form

<https://forms.office.com/r/2dLEMaSM3z>

Office Hours will be every 2nd Monday of the month.