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Stellar Next Generation

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Contents

- **Why:** Current state
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- **What:** Goals, success criteria, options
- **Who:** Team, collaborators, stakeholders

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Why: Pedagogical Needs Unmet by Stellar 2.x

Teaching Models

1. Single-section membership per student
2. No date-based views (e.g. sessions)
3. Inflexible groups model: no ad-hoc or hierarchical groups (sub-groups)
4. Administrators not 1st class citizens: reliant on site association
5. Siloed site model only context for users; content tied to course site
6. Cumbersome, form-based workflows constrained by backend architecture

User Experience

1. Unintegrated homework to gradebook workflow
2. Experience varies across 3rd-party apps: wikis, blogs, surveys, forum
3. Poor data exchange with other online apps (e.g. calendaring)
4. No systemwide search of Stellar sites
5. Poor support for post-semester access to and archiving of sites
6. Materials display tied to "kinds" MD scheme

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Why: Requirements reflect need

Sources:

1. Feedback from online surveys of faculty, administrators, students
2. Feedback from direct faculty interviews as part of the DOS project
3. Customer issues and feature requests from Stellar support tickets
4. Feedback from Help Desk, Training and departmental admins
5. Usability testing

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How: Process

1. Document and verify utility of key Stellar features
2. Engage with MIT community to validate needs/issues/requirements
3. Research and engage with Higher Ed community, service providers
4. Select candidates to evaluate based on functional criteria
5. Set up functional test instances to validate candidates
6. Specify detailed scenarios and associated implications
7. Work with MIT community to select the best option for the Institute

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What: Indicators

Goals

1. Provide a **feature-rich, sustainable and scalable platform** for supporting teaching and learning at MIT.
2. Enable **easy access to a broad range of content** and innovative tools.
3. Furnish a **standards-based platform for developers** of innovative web-based applications at MIT.
4. Integrate with **DSpace, OpenCourseWare** and other data and content providers and consumers across campus.

Success Criteria

1. Can be **scaled to and integrated within the current MIT infrastructure** reliably and securely.
2. Can be **integrated into the ecosystem of our existing LMS dependencies.**
3. Can **preserve key existing features and workflows** while satisfying core requirements that the current platform cannot.
4. Can be administered, supported, and maintained with a **reasonable investment in resources and effort.**

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What: Options

- Six products evaluated:
  Moodle 1.9, MoodleRms, Drupal 6, Sakai 2.x, Sakai 3 and BlackBoard 9
- Evaluations based on 55 operational and pedagogical criteria
- How does each product address these issues?

  https://wikis.mit.edu/confluence/display/STLRNG

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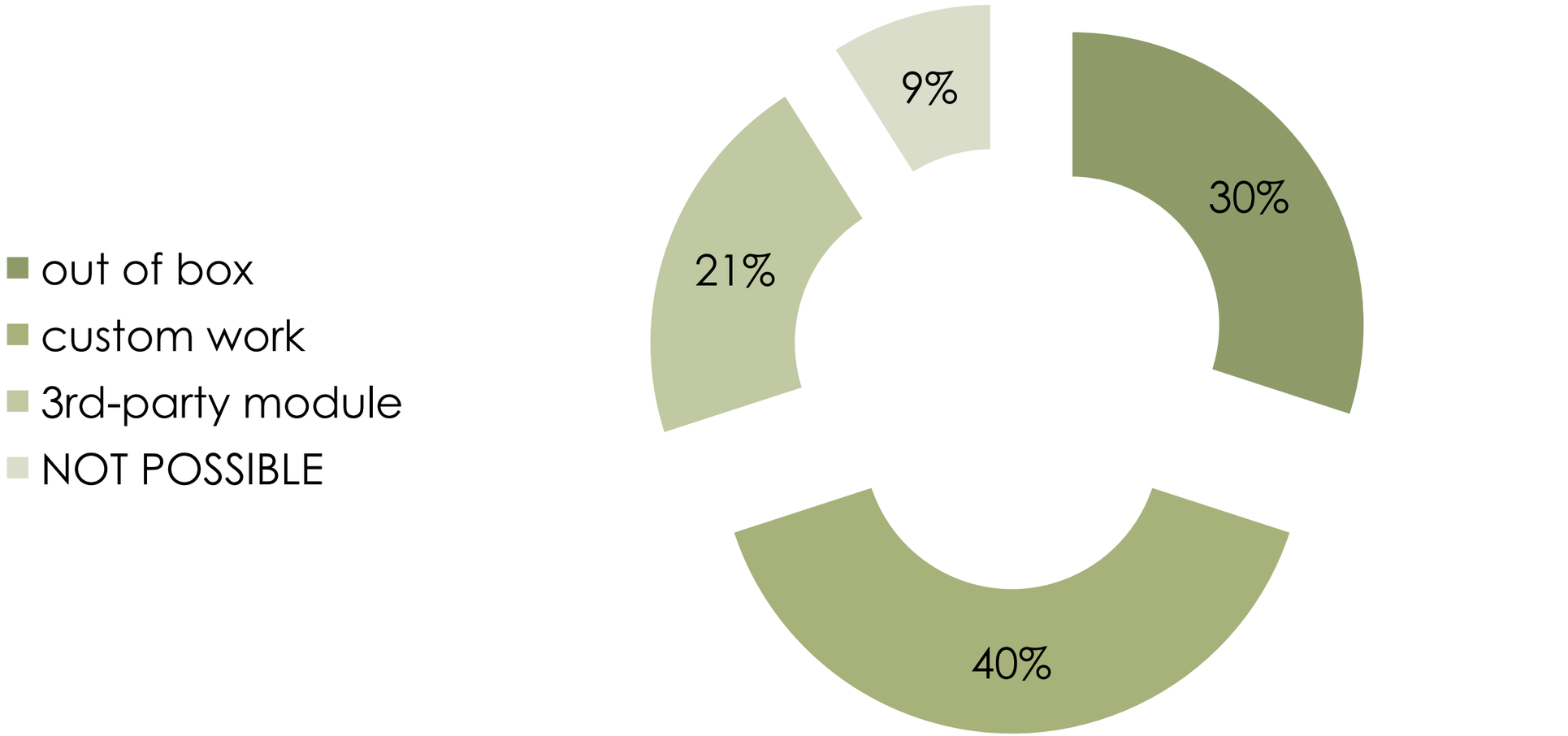
Extent of desired functionality met by Drupal 6



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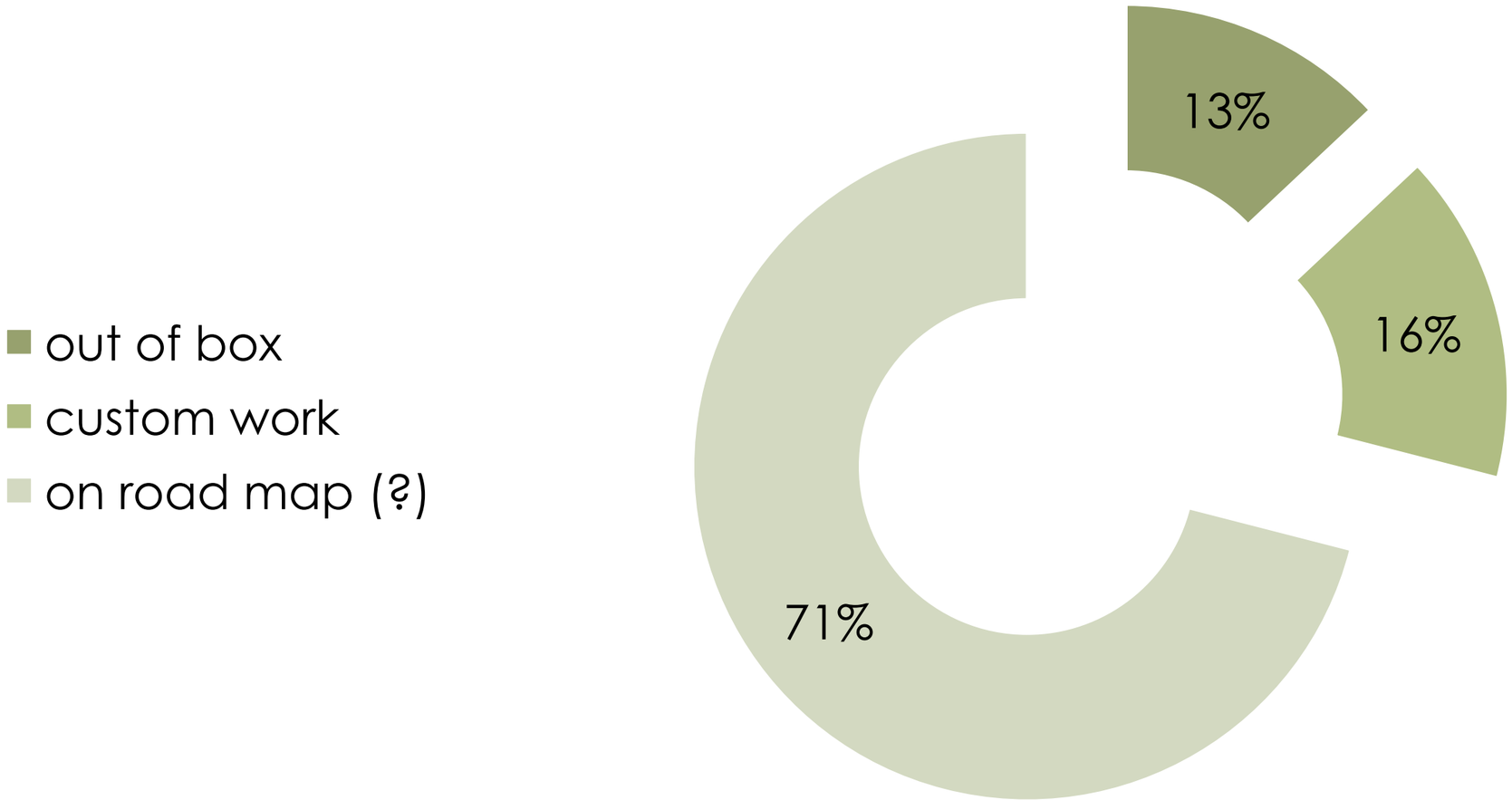
Extent of desired functionality met by Sakai 3



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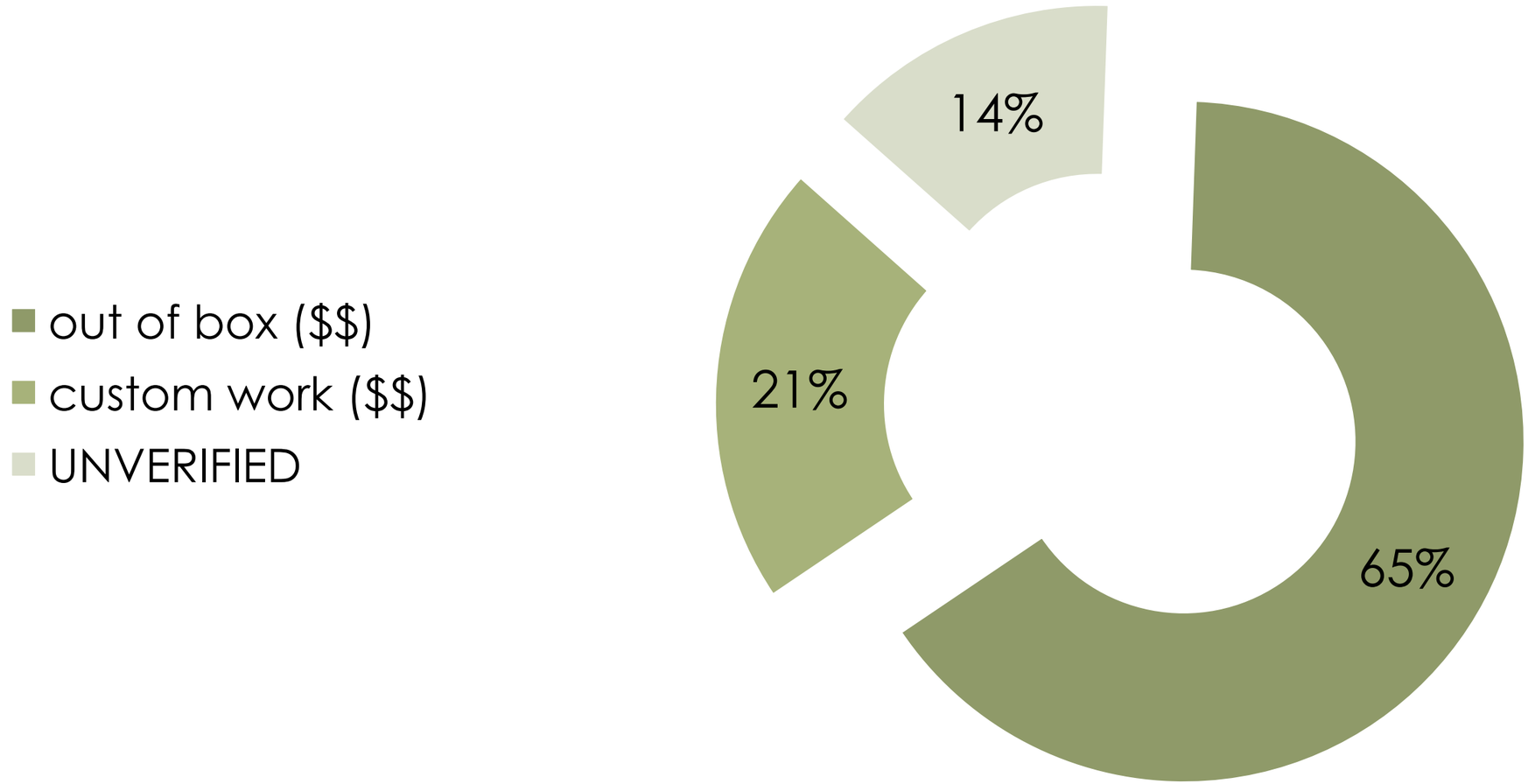
Extent of desired functionality met by Blackboard 9



What: Scenarios

- **Build**: Drupal 6
- **Wait**: Sakai 3
- **Buy**: BlackBoard 9

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Who

Collaborators

- Departmental and faculty reps
- DCAD Usability, ATIC Lab
- CSS Service Desk
- SAIS (Online Grading)
- OEIT/OFS (WTW)

Stakeholders

- DOS Project: OCW, Libraries
- Faculty Advisory Committee
- MITCET
- Registrar
- DUE
- 18,000 Stellar Users

Team : IS&T / ISDA / CCS

- Justin Anderson
- Ajay Bhandari
- Janet Riley Bowker
- Joe Calzaretta
- Jeanne Chiang
- Robin Colodzin
- Qing Dong
- Alexis Ellwood
- Joanna Proulx
- Laura Watts
- Derek Jaeger

Thank you

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