

Torus Product Roadmap

Snapshot as of 02 August, 2024

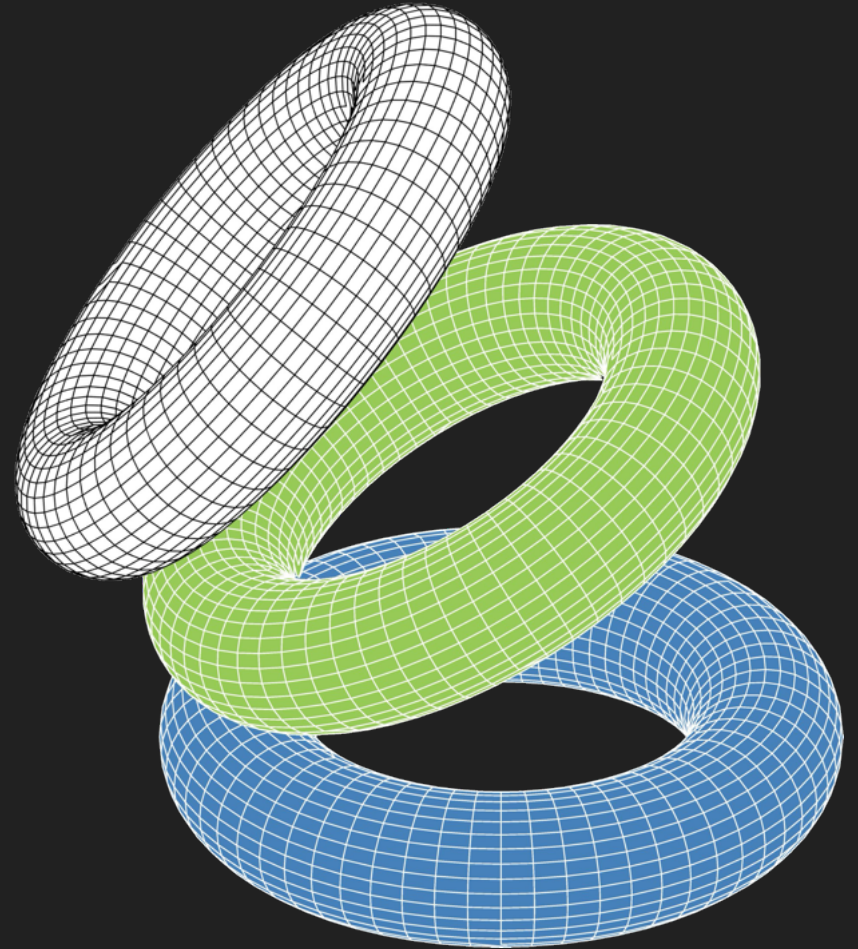


Open Learning Initiative

Transforming higher education through the science of learning.

Product Vision

Transforming higher education
through the science of learning



Torus Roadmap

Torus v29

Release: October 2, 2024

Authoring Analytics
Improvements

Account Type Navigation

Quiz Features

Post-NG-merge Roundup

Torus v30

Release: December 2024

General UX Improvements:
Instructor Interface

Scheduling Improvements

User Preview Improvements

Certificate Capabilities

Student Completion Details

Torus v31

Release: March 2025

General UX Improvements:
Admin Interface

LTI Activities

Product / Organization
Improvements

Advanced Pages
Improvements

Torus v32

Release: June 2025

General UX Improvements:
Student Interface

Student Reporting and
Visualizations

Mobile Responsiveness

Usage Analytics

Changes Since Last Roadmap Snapshot

- v32 added to the roadmap snapshot and v28 (which was released on July 29) has been removed
- “Student Completion Details” added to Torus v30
- Typo corrected on page 4: Torus v31 has a tentative release in March 2025, not March 2024
- Various status updates on release pages (pp7,9,11,13)
- A link to Torus v28 Release Notes has been added on p14; a link to the blog post will be posted in time for the Torus Community Meeting follow-up email next week



Possible statuses:

- Not started
- Research
- Design
- Ready for implementation
- Implementation

Torus v29 Features

Release: October 2, 2024

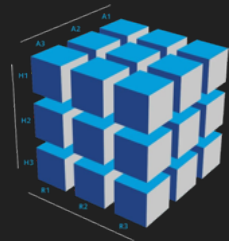
Code Freeze: September 13, 2024

Authoring Analytics Improvements

Status: Implementation

Interface: Author / Admin

Improve Torus' ability to export and analyze data. We will implement a basic data warehousing solution that will be expanded in future releases. For this release, two capabilities will be included: 1) exporting data from the authoring interface that can be imported into Datashop or elsewhere, 2) improved efficiency for authoring reports and visualizations within Torus.

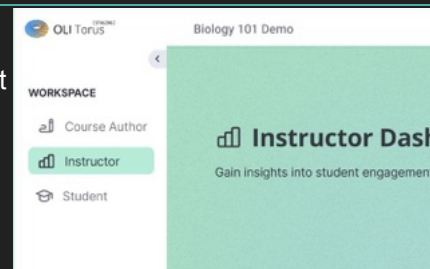


Account Type Navigation

Status: Implementation

Interface: Multiple

This design improves upon current Torus account navigation, introducing the concept of course author, instructor, and student workspaces. Users can easily sign in and link various authoring and instructor/student accounts as well as switch between the three interfaces seamlessly. The process of creating a course author and instructor/student accounts is also simplified through an updated sign in process.

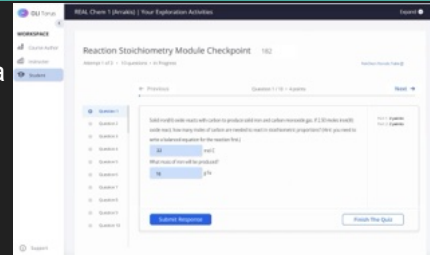


Quiz Improvements

Status: Implementation

Interface: Author / Student

This encompasses three main feature sets involving copying, banking, and presenting quiz questions: 1) Question copying - this feature is intended to address a number of requests from the Torus community members involving copying and duplicating questions within and across activity bank and curriculum pages. 2) Viewing controls for quizzes - meaning that authors can set quiz questions plus the feedback upon attempting them to appear one at a time or all at once. 3) Bulk import of quiz questions in the activity bank using a CSV file.



Post-NG-Merge Roundup

Status: Implementation

Interface: Student

Implementing the Next Generation (NG) student interface in v28 is a big change. We are reserving space in v29 either for planned work that didn't get done for v28 and/or to quickly react to community feedback.

Possible statuses:

- Not started
- Research
- Design
- Ready for implementation
- Implementation

Torus v30 Features

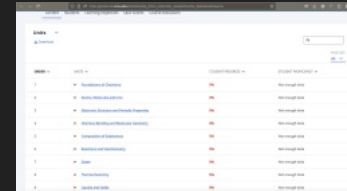
Release: December 2024

General UX Improvements: Instructor Interface

Status: Design

Interface: Instructor

Our UX Designers will take a holistic look at how instructors interact with Torus at present and want to interact with Torus in the future. Tickets previously submitted through the (now outdated) GitHub process or the (current) Torus Triage process will be considered, though fresh user experience research will be the primary guide of what is implemented in this release.



Scheduling Improvements

Status: Design

Interface: Student / Instructor

Improve the usability and robustness of course section scheduling in Torus. This includes hard (enforced) schedules and soft (recommended) schedules, pacing, assessment settings, gating, student exceptions, and other features that allow instructors to control or guide student access to course content.

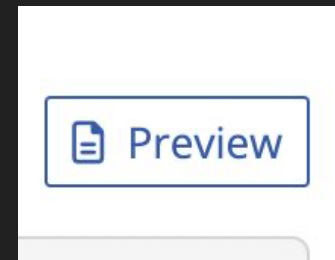


User Preview Improvements

Status: Design

Interface: Multiple

The capability to preview pages of a course as though logged in as a different type of user is key for course design, customer support, troubleshooting, and more. This feature will be overhauled to improve consistency and usability in every place that it appears in Torus.



Certificate Capabilities

Status: Design

Interface: Student / Author

Authors will be able to set achievement goals that will result in students receiving a certificate, delivered and tracked by Torus.

Student Completion Details

Status: Design

Interface: Student

Students will receive better insight into the source of their course completion percentage and what resources still require attention

Possible statuses:

- Not started
- Research
- Design
- Ready for implementation
- Implementation

Torus v31 Features

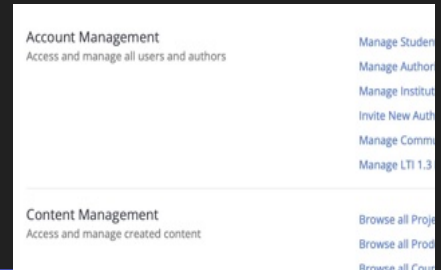
Release: March 2025

General UX Improvements: Admin Interface

Status: Not started

Interface: Author

Our Torus administrators work diligently to support all Torus users, but features to make their lives easier often fall off the radar because there are many fewer of this type of user than other user types. It's time to give our admins some love! Our UX Designers will take a holistic view of what improvements will be most helpful to our admins as they help you.

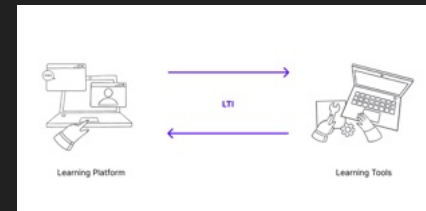


Integrate LTI Activities

Status: Research

Interface: Author

The LTI (Learning Tools Interoperability) standard allows educational technologies to interact with each other. Torus already supports integration with any Learning Management System that supports LTI, such as Canvas and Blackboard, allowing Torus to “talk” with the other system. This feature will allow authors to place LTI-compliant activities directly onto Torus pages, instantly giving authors access to thousands of activities from third parties such as Pearson or McGraw-Hill as well as the ability to design custom activities.

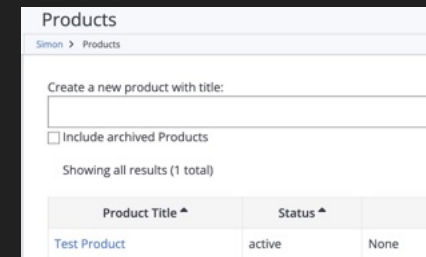


Product / Organization Improvements

Status: Not Started

Interface: Author

The feature that allows authors to remix parts of courses, or tailor different versions of a course for different venues or audiences, is known as “Products” in Torus and was known as “Organizations” in the OLI Legacy System. This feature will be redesigned to improve the user experience and enhanced to include in-demand capabilities.



Advanced Pages Improvements

Status: Not started

Interface: Author

The scope of research for this feature set will include both requests from current authors of advanced pages and a design effort to reduce the barrier of entry for advanced pages by increasing usability. In particular, we will focus on a smoother and more robust integration of advanced and basic pages.

Possible statuses:

- Not started
- Research
- Design
- Ready for implementation
- Implementation
- Final testing and prep

Torus v32 Features

Release: June, 2025

General UX Improvements: Student Interface

Status: Not started

Interface: Student

Our UX Designers will take a holistic look at how students interact with Torus at present and want to interact with Torus in the future. Tickets previously submitted through the (now outdated) GitHub process or the (current) Torus Triage process will be considered, though fresh user experience research will be the primary guide of what is implemented in this release.

Student Reporting and Visualizations

Status: Not started

Interface: Student

We will look at how students receive information about their current state in a course section, including how they can understand that state in terms of learning proficiency, metacognition, effort, completeness, and scoring. Improvements will focus on directing students on how and where they can learn and improve.

Mobile Responsiveness

Status: Ready for implementation

Interface: Student

The designs for our new (NG) student interface, introduced in Torus v28, included designs for mobile responsiveness. This means the ability of the interface to gracefully display on different screen sizes and configurations, include phones and tablets. This is a large enough effort that it could not be included in Torus v28 and has been scheduled for a later release.

Usage Analytics

Status: Not started

Interface: None

Usage analytics provide quantitative data to Torus's design and implementation teams about how users interact with Torus. This is a great supplement to the qualitative and quantitative data that we gather through user research efforts. Improvements to our usage analytics will help us to better support our users.

Demos and Documentation for Previous Versions

Torus Version	Blog Post	Demo Video	Release Notes
v27	https://oli.cmu.edu/torus-v-27-brings-many-new-authoring-updates/	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMilhLFifjc&t=549s	https://github.com/Simon-Initiative/oli-torus/releases/tag/v0.27.0
v28	https://oli.cmu.edu/torus-v28/	https://youtu.be/qbfSEd6K5YY	https://github.com/Simon-Initiative/oli-torus/releases/tag/v0.28.0

Older versions: See posts on the Torus pages of the OLI web site: <https://oli.cmu.edu/torus/>

Do you have questions about the Torus
roadmap? Do you want to discuss it in more
detail?

Contact Amanda Buddemeyer at [amandab](mailto:amandab@andrew.cmu.edu) at
[andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:amandab@andrew.cmu.edu)

