



## Sakai Newsletter

January 12, 2006

### Call for Sakai CLE Requirements

From Mara Hancock: Mark your calendars, bring out the horns and tambourines! The entire Sakai Community now has an opportunity to help set the direction of our product development and contribute concretely to the Sakai Foundation efforts.

What does this mean? Starting today, we are asking that you add your organization's Sakai CLE needs into the new Sakai requirements form that is available on the Sakai Jira (instructions below). Requirements gathering will be ongoing and this form will always be available to you, but we want to kick-start this new practice so that we can direct the upcoming Spring development effort for the Sakai enterprise bundle release. This means that we all have to act now! We encourage you to post your requirements before the end of January.

#### Basic Requirements Practice (Pilot)

- 1) This information will be gathered and reviewed initially by a Requirements Review WG. This group will work in conjunction with you as the requirement owner, existing working groups, and the foundation technical staff to cluster and present these to the community in a way that it can easily rank and prioritize them.
- 2) The prioritized requirements will then be vetted to identify all available resources, schedule constraints, and technical feasibility.

#### Instructions

- 1) Go to Sakai Foundation Jira: <http://bugs.sakaiproject.org/>
- 2) Click the "Enter the Sakai Bug Management System" link.
- 3) Log in. (If you don't have an account, you can choose to create one from this page.)

- 4) Now, add new Requirements by clicking on Jira's "Create New Issue" link (near the top of the window just below the Jira banner).
- 5) Then select "Sakai Requirements" as the Project and "Requirement" as the Issue Type.
- 6) Click Next>> This will open the Requirements form.

IMPORTANT: You do not need to review what has already been submitted. The number of requirements submitted on an issue gives an indication to the Review WG regarding the urgency and importance of the requirement. If you see an existing requirement that you would like to contribute FTE toward, please indicate it in the comments field.

The Requirements Process Working Group has a more detailed process proposal on our Confluence site:

<http://bugs.sakaiproject.org/confluence/display/REQ/Proposed+Process+Working+Document>

The detailed proposal will be fine-tuned with the Sakai Community Practice working group as well as through our lessons learned with this first implementation.

Are you or do you know someone who could contribute to this review process? Someone with familiarity with one or more of the Sakai tools from a functional or technical perspective would be welcome.

## Help Shape Sakai: Comment on the Sakai Community Practice Work Group Charter

The Sakai Board is in the process of chartering the Sakai Community Practice (SCP) work group to help forge a "Sakai World View" and a set of community practices that maximize the effectiveness of our work as a community. Specifically, the SCP will serve the Sakai community by consulting, capturing, collating, and documenting for easy reference the processes by which the community decides to achieve its goals.

Since the SCP endeavors to conduct its work transparently with broad input from the Sakai community, we want your thoughts and comments on our draft charter. You can review the draft charter in the SCP Confluence space or go directly to <http://bugs.sakaiproject.org/confluence/x/GCo> and select the "Charter" link. Though you can comment in Confluence, we hope that you will share your thoughts widely via the

scp@collab.sakaiproject.org list which can be joined by anyone. Please comment by January 18th.

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### User Support discussion group changes

From Jonathan Bolte: The SEPP User Support discussion group has been renamed DG: User Support. Jonathan Bolte (Indiana University) has joined Pam Stefanuca (Johns Hopkins) as co-lead. In the coming weeks we will be collecting feedback that will be used to direct our efforts in the coming year. It is already clear that there is great interest in finding ways to share support materials. We will be sending out a short survey to DG: User Support members in the next few weeks, so if you are interested in user support please join this discussion group.

### Marist College to Implement Sakai 2.1 in IDCP Program

Marist College, located in Poughkeepsie, New York, is currently preparing for a production implementation of the Sakai Collaborative Learning Environment (branded locally at Marist College as "iLearn" - Innovative Learning Environment and Resource Network) during the Spring 2006 semester. Our implementation will involve a cohort of students who are currently involved in our Institute for Data Center Professionals (IDCP) program and will allow for a rigorous comparison between our current CMS and Sakai. This comparison will be assisted through the work of our graduate psychology students who will be developing survey instruments and conducting statistical analysis on the data that is collected. Anyone interested in getting a copy of this analysis can contact Josh Baron, director of Academic Technology and eLearning, at [Josh.Baron@Marist.edu](mailto:Josh.Baron@Marist.edu).

What is IDCP? IDCP is an independent vendor-neutral certifying body based at Marist College ([www.idcp.org](http://www.idcp.org)) and funded in part by the National Science Foundation through a Partnerships for Innovation grant. Data Center Associate Certifications are available in systems and software, networking, security, facilities management, operations and

process management, and product development and financial planning. Additional certifications in Open Source Software Development and z/OS are also available.

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