



## Sakai Newsletter

January 10, 2008

1. From the Executive Director
2. Universidade Fernando Pessoa Makes Sakai Portuguese Translation Available
3. Assignments Performance Test Results
4. Dave Melone Will Share Experiences Migrating from an Existing CMS to Sakai
5. Job Opening: Executive Director, Kualu Foundation
6. Job Opening: Marist Seeks Assistant Director for Academic Technology and eLearning
7. Unicon Adds Ten New uPortal Projects at Universities & Colleges in Q3/Q4 of 2007
8. Embanet and rSmart Partner to Offer Online Learning Support Solutions for Sakai
9. Recent Email Group Discussions
10. Events

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### 1. From the Executive Director

The entire Sakai community was deeply saddened this week by the unexpected and untimely death of Marc Brierley from Stanford University. Marc has been an active and important contributor to Sakai from the beginning. His enthusiasm, intelligence, kindness and infectious smile will be missed and remembered by all who worked with him. He is survived by his wife Amy, his parents, and many friends.

A memorial blog has been established by his friends at <http://marcbrierleymemorial.blogspot.com/>. This is a simple kind of "group blog." Anyone can make a post by sending an email to [landhuis.marcbrierleymemorial@blogger.com](mailto:landhuis.marcbrierleymemorial@blogger.com) and photos are especially appreciated.

We offer our condolences to his family and our friends at Stanford.

Michael Korcuska  
Executive Director, Sakai Foundation  
[mkorcuska@sakaifoundation.org](mailto:mkorcuska@sakaifoundation.org)

## 2. Universidade Fernando Pessoa has Made the Sakai Portuguese Translation Available

Universidade Fernando Pessoa (UFP) has made the Sakai Portuguese translation available to our users since the beginning of the year. We have a good set of tools already translated and have plans to translate the remaining. The Portuguese translation is available in the trunk and will be present in the upcoming 2.5 Sakai release.

Nuno Fernandes  
nuno@ufp.pt

The screenshot displays the Sakai user interface for Nuno Fernandes. The header includes the Universidade Fernando Pessoa logo and the user's name. The main content area is divided into three sections: a navigation menu on the left, a 'TO DO LIST' in the center, and a 'CALENDAR' on the right. The 'TO DO LIST' contains several tasks, with some marked as complete. The calendar shows the month of January 2008, with the 21st highlighted. A 'MESSAGE OF THE DAY' section provides information about a new tool for creating disciplines and projects, and a notice about the availability of the Portuguese translation.

Universidade VIRTUAL

Nuno Fernandes (nuno) | Sair

Área Pessoal | Test Site | DISC-0106-111.1 | UFPUV-DEMO.1

Home | UFPUV | Profile | Membership | Schedule | Resources | Announcements | Worksite Setup | Preferences | Search | To do List | Wiki | Task List | User Membership | Ajuda

Nuno Fernandes

**↑ TO DO LIST**

A fazer

Item:  Criar

Item	Status
<input type="checkbox"/> pt_PT: Sakai Translation	
<input type="checkbox"/> TASKLIST (hierarquical items)	
<input type="checkbox"/> UFPUV (automatic generated stats -> send by email)	
<input type="checkbox"/> UFPUV FAQ	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UMEM: implement external users search java interface	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITESTATS (quartz-job,disable visits if no presence)	

Marcar como (in)completo | Eliminar

**↑ CALENDAR**

Opções

Janeiro, 2008

Dom	Seg	Ter	Qua	Qui	Sex	Sáb
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

**MESSAGE OF THE DAY**

Opções

**Ano lectivo 2007/08: Atualização**

Está disponível uma nova ferramenta para assistir no processo de criação de áreas de disciplina e projecto, acessível em **My Workspace > UFPUV**. Para qualquer dúvida ou questão relacionada, por favor contacte o [Suporte UFPUV](#).

Os docentes que utilizaram a plataforma em anos anteriores são aconselhados a fechar o acesso às disciplinas que já não são utilizadas, para o que podem consultar [este documento](#).

**Disponível versão em Português**

Pode alterar em **My Workspace > Preferences > Language**.

Página principal | O Projecto Sakai | Universidade Fernando Pessoa | Blog UFPUV

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UFPUV - [2.4.x] - Sakai 2.4 - Server elearning-b

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### 3. Assignments Performance Test Results

Greetings,

U-M has posted results from our Assignments performance tests on the WG:Performance Confluence site:

<http://confluence.sakaiproject.org/confluence/display/PERF/Home>

As I reported in the Sakai 2.5 release meeting, assignments performance improved from a 1-9 second range to a 1-1.5 second range in the new code. Graphs and details are available on the site. My congratulations to Zhen for her tool improvements!

Linda Place  
lmp@umich.edu

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### 4. Guest Speaker Dave Melone of The Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising Will Share Lessons Learned and Experiences in Migrating from an Existing CMS to Sakai

CampusEAI Consortium (CEAI), a global not-for-profit information technology solutions, services and consulting provider, has announced that David Melone, eLearning Supervisor at FIDM/The Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising, is the guest speaker for a CampusEAI hosted iSeminar series on Sakai that will run from January through March. Additional guest speakers will include Michael Korcuska, Executive Director of the Sakai Foundation and Anjali Jain, Executive Director of the CampusEAI Consortium. FIDM launched its Sakai-based eLearning program for 6,700 students on October 10, 2007, just 5 months after initiating the project with CEAI. In addition to implementing Sakai, CEAI, hosts and manages the solution at its Tier-1 datacenter in Cleveland. Melone will take questions from iSeminar attendees. The iSeminars will be held from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm EST on the following dates. To register, go to:

<http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=178505>

Wednesday, January 23rd, 2008

Wednesday, February 6th, 2008

Wednesday, February 20th, 2008

Wednesday, March 5th, 2008

Wednesday, March 19th, 2008

To receive more information on CEAI's eLearning solutions and services, contact [info@campuseai.org](mailto:info@campuseai.org)

About FIDM/The Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising:

With campuses in Las Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego and Orange County, FIDM is a co-educational, specialized, private college dedicated to educating students for the Fashion, Graphics, Interior Design and Entertainment industries. It has 6,700 current students and more than 35,000 alumni. FIDM has a large population of students earning a variety of Associates of Arts (AA) degrees, including the Professional Designation in Merchandise Marketing AA. The college recently added a Bachelor of Science in Business Management (BSBM) degree program, with students and faculty that will benefit from the powerful Sakai tools. FIDM is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD). For more information, visit [www.fidm.edu](http://www.fidm.edu).

About CEAI:

CEAI is a global not-for-profit information technology services and consulting provider focused on helping its members implement enterprise e-business solutions cost-effectively and timely. More than 200 members belong to CEAI, including Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), the City of Cleveland, Portland Public Schools, McGill University, AmTrust Bank, The University of Exeter, Washington State University, the University of Montana, The Hong Kong Institute of Education, Foothill-De Anza Community College District and The University of Melbourne. For more information, visit [www.campuseai.org](http://www.campuseai.org).

Joann Rasmussen, APR

[joann\\_rasmussen@campuseai.org](mailto:joann_rasmussen@campuseai.org)

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## 5. Job Opening: Kualii Foundation Seeks Executive Director

The Kualii Foundation has commenced a search for its first executive director. Kualii is now engaged in five community source projects (Financial System, Endowment, Research Admin, Student, and Rice Middleware Services) representing millions of dollars of pooled investment. Full details of the position and the Kualii community are posted at [www.kualii.org](http://www.kualii.org).

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## 6. Job Opening: Marist Seeks Assistant Director for Academic Technology and eLearning

Marist College is seeking applicants for the full-time position of Assistant Director of Academic Technology and eLearning, which reports to the Director of Academic Technology and eLearning. This position will play a leadership role in helping the College achieve new strategic goals associated with distance learning as well as maintain its position as a technology leader.

The ideal candidate will possess strong management skills and have a proven track record as a thought leader and innovator within the field of instructional technology and distance learning. Qualified candidates will have experience working directly with faculty and students in a higher education setting and be comfortable with transformative change. Specific responsibilities will include: (1) managing and oversight of office personnel and strategic initiatives, (2) keeping abreast of emerging multimedia and instructional technologies as they relate to the College's mission, (3) supervising faculty professional development programs and support services, and (4) developing and implementing innovative instructional technology and distance learning initiatives that take advantage of the extensive technology infrastructure found at Marist College.

Learn more and apply at: <http://jobs.marist.edu>

Joshua Baron Director, Academic Technology and eLearning Marist College  
Josh.Baron@marist.edu (845) 575-3623 (work)

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## 7. Unicon Adds Ten New uPortal Projects at Universities & Colleges in Q3/Q4 of 2007

Unicon, Inc., the leading provider of open source enterprise portals, applications, and professional services for academic institutions, has announced that it has added ten new colleges and universities as uPortal customers during the second half of 2007. These institutions contracted with Unicon for a variety of services including deployment, accelerated development, application and system integration, administration training, consulting, and support through Unicon's Cooperative Support Program. Since 1999, Unicon's consulting group has provided over 150 colleges and universities with uPortal as well as related services and support for their online campus deployments. Unicon has also made significant development, technology, and feature contributions to the uPortal platform and community.

"Unicon has been a key JA-SIG partner for years. Their in-depth knowledge and experience with uPortal makes them particularly well-qualified to offer expert support to colleges and universities," said Jonathan Markow, JA-SIG Board Chair.

"We've noticed an increased interest in uPortal over the past couple of quarters from academic institutions wanting to deploy it as their campus-wide enterprise portal," said John C. Blakley, CEO of Unicon, Inc. "There are a number of solid reasons for this growth. uPortal technology is robust and stable. It has a large and active community of users for support. And, it benefits from having a strong organization that provides leadership for the present and direction for the future."

Unicon Q3/Q4 uPortal Customers Include:

- BCcampus, British Columbia
- Brooklyn College
- California State University, Chico
- Johns Hopkins University
- Pearson Education
- Sacramento State University
- Teachers College at Columbia University
- Sault College
- University of Colorado
- Yale University

#### About Unicon's uPortal Cooperative Support Program

Participation in the program enables institutions to access the support services and also funds a dedicated support and development team. Support issues are managed on a priority basis with an escalation mechanism available for high priority issues. All development work performed by the team will be undertaken in direct participation uPortal open source Web portal initiative. The uPortal Cooperative Support Program is a strong complement to Unicon's professional services for uPortal, which include various bundled services comprised of implementation, project planning, installation, configuration, branding, and training components.

Joe Waldygo President  
TopSpin Communications, Inc.  
joe@topspincommunications.com

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## 8. Embanet and rSmart Partner to Offer Comprehensive Online Learning Support Solutions for Sakai

The rSmart Group has announced a new partnership with Embanet, the full service provider of online program design, development, marketing and enrollment and technology support services for postsecondary educational institutions. Together, the two companies will provide a full suite of support options for institutions wishing to power their online learning programs with Sakai, the premier open source course management and collaboration system for higher education. The rSmart/Embanet alliance combines the strengths of these two leading organizations, both of which are committed to providing comprehensive online learning systems via the most powerful open technologies available.

To read the story in full, click here:

<http://www.rsmart.com/news/embanet-and-rsmart-partner-to-offer-comprehensive-online-learning-support-solutions-for-sakais>

Megan Perrone  
Marketing Representative  
[mperrone@rsmart.com](mailto:mperrone@rsmart.com)

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## 9. Recent Email Group Discussions

Here are some topics that have been discussed in the last couple of weeks in Sakai email groups. Most of these discussions can be found at these Nabble URLs:

- Sakai-dev - <http://www.nabble.com/Sakai---Development-f18040.html> (DEV)
- Sakai Portfolio - <http://www.nabble.com/Sakai---Portfolio-f18155.html> (PORT)
- Sakai Pedagogy - <http://www.nabble.com/Sakai---Pedagogy-f24248.html> (PED)
- Sakai UI - <http://www.nabble.com/Sakai---User-Interaction-f25634.html> (UI)
- Sakai Migration - <http://www.nabble.com/Sakai-Migration-Group-f27621.html> (MIG)
- Sakai Announcements - <http://www.nabble.com/Sakai---Announce-f28489.html> (ANN)

To join an email group, go to <http://www.collab.sakaiproject.org>. While you are in your workspace, click the "Membership" link in the left-hand menu and then click the "Joinable Sites" link. Click "Join" next to any of the groups.

Discussions:

- 2.5 Release Meeting Notes DEV QA
- Assignment ownership USER
- Creating an importer for ePortfolio PORT DEV
- Customizing a site id, or making an alias... DEV
- Design Pattern Ideas on the wiki... UI
- Examples collection PED UI
- Internationalization & Localization change in util: SAK-12548 DEV
- linking LDAP Groups to sakai DEV
- Membership of Large Numbers of Sites DEV
- No Subversion Commits in Jira DEV
- Proposal: Massively inclusive Subversion DEV
- Provisional Tools Un-Stealthed in Trunk DEV
- qa2-osp is back PORT QA
- QTI authoring tool USER
- Questions on Melete DEV
- Recent Activity tool; "My Sakai" widgets for Facebook, iGoogle, GoogleDesktop, Mac,

Vista USER DEV

- SAK-12402 Portal support for minimized navigation / frameset mode DEV UI
  - Skinning OSP Portal PORT
  - SQL Revision Question (Was: Re: chat bug 2.4x ? ) DEV
  - User integration question and LDAP providers help UI
  - User list Question DEV
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## 10. Events

e-Learning 2008 February 16-19, 2008 St. Petersburg, Florida, USA  
<http://www.itcnetwork.org/elearning2008.htm>

Sakai China March 1, 2008  
HuaZhong Normal University  
Wuhan, China.

JA-SIG Spring 2008 Conference  
April 27 - 30, 2008  
St. Paul, Minnesota

eLearning Africa 2008 May 28 - 30, 2008 Accra International Conference Centre Accra,  
Ghana <http://www.elearning-africa.com>

Portal 2008 "Measurement & Assessment" Conference Gettysburg College  
June 3-6, 2008 Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, USA  
<http://biz.gettysburg.edu/it/portal08/index.cfm>