



Sakai Newsletter

May 28, 2009

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1. From the Executive Director

I will be holding a series of webinars to provide a high-level overview of Sakai 3 and a description of how you can participate in this important development for the Sakai community. I'll be describing the concepts behind Sakai 3 and showing a brief demonstration. Most importantly, I'll be talking about the development projects that are already underway and providing an outline of the other functional areas where we need community participation.

The webinars will be held at the following dates/times and will last approximately 1 hour:

- Session 1: Monday June 1, 2009 at 9:00 Eastern Daylight Time (US) GMT -4
- Session 2: Monday June 1, 2009 at 12:00 Eastern Daylight Time (US) GMT -4
- Session 3: Tuesday June 9, 2009 at 13:00 Eastern Daylight Time (US) GMT -4

Please sign up for one now by adding your name to the wiki page for the appropriate session at:

<http://confluence.sakaiproject.org/confluence/x/EINDAw>

I know these times may not be convenient for those outside the Americas and Europe. If they are not convenient (for whatever reason), I can set up a separate session that better fits with your schedule. We will be recording at least one of the sessions and I'll be providing slides and other supporting materials as well.

Sakai 3 is an important effort for the Sakai project and I encourage you (or someone at your organization) to attend one of the sessions. See you soon...

Best regards,

Michael Korcuska
Executive Director, Sakai Foundation
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2. 10th Sakai Conference Updates

DEADLINE REMINDER --

This is a quick reminder that the early registration and hotel discount rate deadlines are fast approaching. June 5 is the last day to get the group rate at the hotel and the \$50 registration discount. (Note that Sakai now accepts American Express cards as a method of payment.) If you're planning to come it's definitely time to register for the conference and book your hotel room at:

<https://educonference.com/sakai/boston/index.php>

DRAFT SCHEDULE IS AVAILABLE --

We're pleased to announce that a DRAFT schedule for the 10th Sakai Conference in Boston has been published. You will find it at the conference website:

<https://educonference.com/sakai/boston/index.php>

This is a draft and there may be changes over the next few days and weeks as we try to accommodate requests from speakers for different time slots. If you are presenting at the conference please understand that we have hundreds of sessions and it is impossible to

meet everyone's desires. The program committee and track leads are all volunteers who have put in a lot of thought and work into the scheduling process. So please understand if we can't move your session.

REGISTRATION NUMBERS ARE STRONG --

Despite the current challenges with travel budgets at many organizations, conference registrations are actually slightly ahead of the pace of the previous U.S.-based conference in Newport Beach. So we can expect another dynamic, informative and fun event. We hope to see you there!

3. Sakai Fellows for 2009 Announced!

The Sakai Fellows Selection Committee is pleased to announce the 2009 Sakai Fellows!

Ian Boston, University of Cambridge
Jean-François Lévêque, Université Pierre et Marie Curie
Nicolaas Matthijs, University of Cambridge
Mathieu Plourde, University of Delaware
Janice Smith, Three Canoes Consulting
Steve Swinsburg, Lancaster University

The Sakai Fellows program seeks to foster community leadership and participation in all aspects of community activity through the recognition and support of exceptional contributors. This year's Fellows were selected from an outstanding group of nominees, the largest pool we have had yet. Thanks to those of you who took the time to nominate your fellow community members for recognition.

For more information on the Sakai Fellows program:

<http://confluence.sakaiproject.org/confluence/x/cS0>

Congratulations to all of this year's Sakai Fellow nominees and, especially, to this year's awardees!

Best regards,

The 2009 Sakai Fellows Committee

Clay Fenlason
David Haines
Peter Knoop
Michael Korcuska

Seth Theriault
Anthony Whyte
Beth Kirschner
Stephen Marquard
Randy Newbrough

4. Infusion 1.0 Has Been Released!

World, meet Infusion 1.0.

The Fluid community shipped Infusion 1.0 a couple of weeks ago. Before making a splash with announcements about the release, we wanted to take some time to revisit our documentation and sample code to be sure they are really useful and comprehensive. Recognizing that it's not enough just to ship a bundle of code, we try to provide a whole package of resources for developers and designers who are using Infusion. That means comprehensive API pages, tutorials to get you started, and concepts documentation to give you insights into the philosophy and design patterns we've built into Infusion. With this new documentation in place, now's the time to share the news of Infusion 1.0's release more widely.

To read the complete announcement, please visit:

<http://fluidproject.org/blog/2009/05/26/infusion-10-has-been-released/>

Colin Clark
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5. From rSmart: New Case Studies and Upcoming Webinars

CASE STUDIES

rSmart has recently completed two new case studies:

- Cerritos College -- Doing More With Less
- Marist College -- Innovation. Supported.

The Marist College case study is an updated version reflecting their full adoption of Sakai. You can view both of these case studies, along with others, on our website:
<http://www.rsmart.com/cases>

UPCOMING WEBINAR

The rSmart Sakai CLE v. 2.6 -- What's New With the Latest Release

Join us for a webinar June 4, 2009 at 11:00 AM PDT GMT -7!

Wondering how to best take advantage of the latest rSmart Sakai Collaboration and Learning Environment (CLE)? Let a functional consultant guide you through its new tools and features, such as the Evaluation System tool, Live Virtual Classroom tool, the ability to grade student participation in Discussion Forums, and more. Topics to be covered:

- Brief introduction to rSmart
- Discussion on how rSmart packages and improves on the community version of Sakai
- Overview of the enhancements within the rSmart Sakai CLE v2.6
- Short demonstration of the new tools and functionality in the rSmart Sakai CLE v2.6
- Brief discussion on rSmart's support and service packages for the rSmart Sakai CLE
- Q&A

To register, please visit: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/962511833>

UPCOMING WEBINAR

ePortfolios -- The Impact on Learning and Assessment

Join us for a webinar June 18, 2009 at 11:00 AM PDT GMT -7!

How can your institution start using open source portfolio software? Come join rSmart and Serensoft, two experts in ePortfolios, to learn about using Sakai's open source portfolio capabilities for your ePortfolio project. The rSmart / Serensoft ePortfolio solution combines rSmart's expert Sakai support and maintenance program with Serensoft's leading ePortfolio expertise. Together, we can jumpstart any ePortfolio project quickly and efficiently, and cost-effectively support it for the long term. Topics to be covered:

- Brief overview of research compiled in "The Impact of Open Source Portfolio on Learning and Assessment" article published in MERLOT Journal
- Introduction to Sakai's powerful ePortfolio capabilities
- Demonstration of the three types of portfolios commonly used by campuses, including personal representation, teaching and learning, and assessment and accreditation
- Recommendations for how to get started with Sakai for portfolios

- How rSmart and Serensoft are working together to make ePortfolios easy

To register, please go to: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/297525385>

Megan Perrone
Marketing Representative
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6. rSmart and Wassenaar Consulting Enter Into a Partnership

As of May 1, 2009, rSmart and Wassenaar Consulting Ltd. have entered into a partnership to enable rSmart to provide better service in Europe. Wassenaar Consulting will focus on support of the rSmart portfolio, including the rSmart Sakai CLE and the Quali software. Starting in the UK, Ireland and the Netherlands, both companies will support educational institutions that see the advantages of the open source software made by and for higher education. Wassenaar Consulting is a consulting firm with more than 25 years of experience in higher education, including the implementation of administrative software at universities and colleges. For more information visit our websites : www.rsmart.com or www.wassenaarconsulting.com.

Mike Zackrison
VP of Marketing and Strategy
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7. Two Job Openings at Johns Hopkins University

Johns Hopkins University - Engineering for Professionals has immediate openings in their Distance Education Department. Job postings for an Instructional Designer (requisition # 39436) and a Training and Delivery Specialist (requisition #39303) can be found at the following location:

https://hrnt.jhu.edu/jhujobs/job_search.cfm

For more information and to apply, please visit the website and search for the requisition numbers above.

8. Recent Email Group Discussions

[Building Sakai] New User Role

<http://n2.nabble.com/-Building-Sakai--New-User-Role-td2992232.html#a2992232>

[Building Sakai] How do I setup my sakai instance with xsl-portal?

<http://n2.nabble.com/-Building-Sakai--How-do-I-setup-my-instance-with-xsl-portal-td2954832.html#a2954832>

[Building Sakai] Site advisor vs Observer?

<http://n2.nabble.com/-Building-Sakai--Site-advisor-vs-Observer--td2994244.html#a2994244>

[Building Sakai] Agora Functionality

<http://n2.nabble.com/-Building-Sakai--Agora-Functionality-td2992909.html#a2992909>

[Building Sakai] display ids in forums

<http://n2.nabble.com/-Building-Sakai--display-ids-in-forums-td2988868.html#a2988868>

[Building Sakai] Site Management Patch

<http://n2.nabble.com/-Building-Sakai--Site-Management-Patch-td2973911.html#a2973911>

[Building Sakai] Sitebrowser description

<http://n2.nabble.com/-Building-Sakai--Sitebrowser-description-td2986288.html#a2986288>

[Portfolio] FCK editor freeform portfolio item plugin

<http://n2.nabble.com/-Portfolio--FCK-editor-freeform-portfolio-item-plugin-td2982252.html#a2982252>

[Portfolio] Portfolio tool in My Workspace

<http://n2.nabble.com/-Portfolio--Portfolio-tool-in-My-Workspace-td2953320.html#a2953320>

[Portfolio] Portfolio tool QA scripts

<http://n2.nabble.com/-Portfolio--Portfolio-tool-QA-scripts-td2946282.html#a2946282>

[DG: Teaching & Learning] Students taking on academic networking

<http://n2.nabble.com/-DG%3A-User-Experience--Students-taking-on-academic-networking-td2978274.html#a2978274>

[Building Sakai] [DG: Teaching & Learning] Interface Mock-Ups In Sakai
<http://n2.nabble.com/Re%3A--Building-Sakai--Interface-Mock-Ups-In-Sakai-td2953462.html#a2953462>

[Using Sakai] Import from Site
<http://n2.nabble.com/-Using-Sakai--Import-from-Site-td2990364.html#a2990364>

[Using Sakai] Poll -- Sakai & SCORM... successes? failures?
<http://n2.nabble.com/-Using-Sakai--Poll----Sakai---SCORM...-successes--failures--td2985307.html#a2985307>

[Using Sakai] randomizing the question ordering from tests&quizzes?
<http://n2.nabble.com/-Using-Sakai--randomizing-the-question-ordering-from-tests-quizzes--td2979245.html#a2979367>

[Building Sakai] [Using Sakai] Mailtool for 2.6
<http://n2.nabble.com/-Building-Sakai--Mailtool-for-2.6-td2956391.html#a2957075>

[Using Sakai] Configuring Section Info tool -- creating categories?
<http://n2.nabble.com/-Using-Sakai--Configuring-Section-Info-tool----creating-categories--td2953930.html#a2953975>

[DG: User Experience] Dev server gets an update
<http://n2.nabble.com/-DG%3A-User-Experience--Dev-server-gets-an-update-td2995279.html#a2995279>

9. Events

2009 MoodleMoot San Francisco and 2nd Sloan-C Symposium on Emerging Technology in Online Learning

June 17-19, 2009

Hyatt Regency San Francisco

San Francisco, California

<http://moodlemoot.org/course/view.php?id=9>

<http://www.emergingonlinelearningtechnology.org/>

Advanced CAMP: Identity Services Summit for Higher Ed Open/Community-Source Projects

June 18-19, 2009

Radisson Plaza-Warwick Hotel Philadelphia

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

http://net.educause.edu/content.asp?Section_ID=434&bhcp=1

10th Sakai Conference in Boston
July 8-10, 2009
Cambridge Hyatt
Cambridge, Massachusetts
<https://educonference.com/sakai/boston/index.php>

AuSakai '09
September 17-18, 2009
Charles Sturt University Bathurst Campus
Bathurst NSW, Australia
<http://www.csu.edu.au/division/landt/ausakai09/ausakai09.htm>

Assessment Institute in Indianapolis
October 25-27, 2009
The Westin Indianapolis
Indianapolis, Indiana
<http://www.planning.iupui.edu/institute>

Online Educa Berlin 2009
December 2-4, 2009
Hotel InterContinental Berlin
Berlin, Germany
<http://www.online-educa.com/the-conference>