



Sakai Newsletter

October 29, 2009

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1. From the Executive Director

Greetings! I'm furiously preparing for the annual trip to Educause and the Sakai board meeting that precedes the conference. It should be fairly easy to find me as there are a number of Sakai-related events at this year's conference:

- I'm part of a Point/Counterpoint session entitled "Blackboard, Moodle and Sakai" [1]
- I have a Community Showcase session about Sakai 3. [2]
- Sakai is co-sponsoring the Open Source Reception on Wednesday evening. RSVP if you'd like to attend. [3]
- Josh Baron is part of a Sakai session entitled "Community-Source Evaluation Strategies: Is Sakai Right for Your Institution?" [4]

Pieter Hartsook, Sakai Communication Manager, will be attending with me and I expect he'll be using Twitter throughout the conference. You can follow SakaiProject on twitter to see what he's up to.

I hope to see many of you in Denver!

[1]

<http://www.educause.edu/E09+Hybrid/EDUCAUSE2009FacetoFaceConferen/BlackboardMoodleandSakai/175839>

[2]

<http://www.educause.edu/E09+Hybrid/EDUCAUSE2009FacetoFaceConferen/CreatingSakai3TheProductandthe/175883>

[3]

<http://sakai.pingg.com/EducauseOS2009>

[4]

<http://www.educause.edu/E09+Hybrid/EDUCAUSE2009FacetoFaceConferen/CommunitySourceEvaluationStrat/176106>

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2. Nominees for Sakai Board

As you know, we solicited nominations for the four Board seats that will be vacant on January 1, 2010. After verification of their willingness to serve, the nominees were asked to provide a photo, bio, and platform statement. These have been compiled in alphabetical order and can be viewed at: <http://sakaiproject.org/board-directors-candidates-elections-2009>.

Voting by the designated representatives will occur October 31 - November 13, with new board members officially taking their seat on January 1, 2010.

Mary Miles
Sakai Foundation
Administrative Coordinator
mmiles@umich.edu

3. Meeting III of Sakai Spanish Users

Hello,

Here at the UPNA (Public University of Navarra - Spain) we have scheduled a meeting between the Spanish users of Sakai (and everybody who wants to come) on the 19th and 20th of November. Is the third meeting of this kind to take place in Spain.

The URL for the event is <http://www.fundacion.unavarra.es/sakai/>

Best regards,

Daniel Merino

Universidad Publica de Navarra (Public University of Navarra) - Spain
daniel.merino@unavarra.es

4. Call for Proposals: Jasig 2010 -- Ten Years of Open Source Innovation

March 8 - 10, 2010

The Town and Country Resort, San Diego, California

Supplementary Seminars on March 7th and the afternoon of March 10th

Developer Workshops: March 11 - 12

Conference site: <http://www.ja-sig.org/conferences/10spring/index.html>

Deadline for submission of proposals for half or full day seminars: November 4, 2009

Deadline for submission of proposals for all other sessions: November 18, 2009

Dear Colleagues:

Help us celebrate Jasig's 10th anniversary in San Diego with outstanding speakers and special events.

The focus is on innovation this year. We'll be highlighting new and established work from higher education institutions: Projects you should know about; local projects in search of community; creative work by established communities of practice; projects that exist only as a gleam in the eye of a creative developer.

Come and see presentations and seminars on new technologies soon to impact higher education. We're seeking talks on topics such as Scala, Spring 3, deployment to the Cloud, Groovy, Grails, REST, Jersey, mobile applications, etc.

We invite you to propose talks, seminars, birds-of-a-feather sessions, demos, and poster session displays on new and current campus applications: Enterprise portlets, CAS, uPortal, Bedework Calendar, Identity & Access Management, Fluid, ESUP Helpdesk, OpenRegistry, Sakai, Quali, Internet2 Middleware Solutions, Fedora and DSpace, and others.

Talks will be presented in one of four tracks:

- **Designing & Developing** -- For developers, architects, UX designers, testers. Presentations for people who build applications.

- **Deploying & Integrating** -- For people who need to make applications work on campus: developers, content providers, team leaders, evangelists. In particular, we would like to highlight work that integrates open source projects within the enterprise infrastructure and with each other.

- **Managing & Governing** -- What are best practices for managing community source projects or their deployments on campus? For encouraging adoption? For gaining acceptance and campus buy-in? For engaging your community in the processes? Presentations for managers, team leaders, executives, planners and strategists.

- **Looking Ahead** -- What are the technologies that will impact higher education in the coming years? What project work, prototypes, plans, and local campus applications would you like to share with a community of your peers?

Submit your proposal directly at http://www.ja-sig.org/jasigconf/call-form.jsp?conf_id=jasig17 or from the conference home page, where you can find all the details: <http://www.ja-sig.org/conferences/10spring/index.html> (Click the Call for Proposals link on the left).

We look forward to seeing you at **Ten Years of Open Source Innovation!**

-- The Jasig 2010 Spring Conference Planning Committee

5. New NSF Scholarships Available at Marist for Fall 2010 Freshmen

Thanks to a substantial grant from the National Science Foundation, Marist College is able to offer full 4-year tuition, room and board scholarships to selected incoming freshmen in September 2010. To be considered for a scholarship, a student must be a Computer Science or Information Technology and Systems major, academically talented and financially needy. Details on eligibility criteria and instructions on how to apply can be found at <http://www.marist.edu/admission/nsfgrant/>.

The purpose of the grant is to contribute to the development of IT specialists who will be well prepared to meet the overwhelming demand expected in the field.

Additional benefits to the scholarship winners include:

- State-of-the-art PC laptop with cutting-edge processor and graphic accelerator for maximum horsepower
- Opportunity to participate in high-level internships and applied research with Fortune 500 companies such as IBM, Aetna, Pepsi, and Verizon
- Special advising from the dean and key faculty in the School of Computer Science and Mathematics
- Leaders from IBM, Verizon, Aetna, and Pepsi will serve as individual mentors to these students throughout their four years
- A two-semester course in game development and design
- An exclusive summer orientation to familiarize them with campus services and resources, introduce them to faculty and their academic program, and cultivate camaraderie with fellow scholarship recipients

Applications are being accepted now. To learn more, students can go directly to the website above, or call the Marist Admissions Office at 845-575-3226 to speak with an Admission Counselor and mention "NSF Scholarships."

Dr. Roger L. Norton
Dean School of Computer Science & Mathematics
Marist College
(845) 575-3610
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6. Sash 0.1.3 Released

Sash 0.1.3, a set of shell and development tools for Sakai, is now available. 0.1.3 primarily adds vi support (beta) as well as a few minor cosmetic fixes. This has been tested on Sakai 2.6.x, but the build artifacts should be binary compatible with Sakai 2.4.x, 2.5.x, and trunk.

Download:

<https://source.sakaiproject.org/contrib/sakaiscript/sash/tags/sash-0.1.3/>

Demo screencast:
<http://blip.tv/file/2763785>

Cheers,

Steven Githens
swgithen@mtu.edu

7. Call for Award Committee Members

The Sakai Teaching and Learning Group is forming the 2010 Award Committee to oversee this year's Teaching with Sakai Innovation Award. Each of the past two years we've had a strong applicant pool and selected two outstanding finalists. If you missed the winners' 2009 presentations in Boston, you can watch Andrea Crampton at <http://www.vimeo.com/5610058> and Edith Sheffer at <http://www.vimeo.com/5623121>.

If you would like to view last year's entries, they are available on the OpenEdPractices.org website, <http://openedpractices.org/courses>. The evaluation rubric used for the award is located at http://openedpractices.org/files/TWSIA_Rubric.pdf.

We hope to continue the success of 2008 and 2009 and are looking for committee members that represent many different groups within our community, so please don't hesitate to sign up even if you don't have a teaching and learning background. Please contact Kate Ellis (kdellis@indiana.edu) or Susan Roig (susan.roig@cgu.edu) if you are interested in working with us.

Thank you for your support.

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8. SoftChalk and Sakai Integration -- Beta Available

Be first to review SoftChalk v5 and Sakai Integration.

The SoftChalk /Sakai integration is nearing the official release date and SoftChalk invites you to be the first to gain access to the new and exciting features.

Soon you will be able to easily create engaging, interactive content for your Sakai Course with SoftChalk!

- Configure SoftChalk and publish your SoftChalk lessons directly into Sakai
- Easily publish your lesson content to more than one site
- Re-open, edit and save changes to lessons previously published to Sakai

To participate in the Beta Test and review, send an email request to:
shelia@softchalk.com

9. Recent Email Group Discussions

[Building Sakai] **joining a site from within the site itself**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-joining-a-site-from-within-the-site-itself-td3910941.html#a3912990>

[Building Sakai] **manage group with the new role problem in siteinfo (sakai 2.6)**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-manage-group-with-the-new-role-problem-in-siteinfo-sakai-2-6-td3906420.html#a3906420>

[Building Sakai] **Site Stats Install**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Site-Stats-Install-td3905926.html#a3905926>

[Building Sakai] **Proposal: Include virus scanning in Sakai kernel**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Proposal-Include-virus-scanning-in-Sakai-kernel-td3907199.html#a3910591>

[Building Sakai] **Development enviroment setup**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Development-enviroment-setup-td3900098.html#a3900098>

[Building Sakai] **Subversion upgrade - downtime needed**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Re-Subversion-upgrade-downtime-needed-td3868522.html#a3868522>

[Building Sakai] **Sakai 3 Capabilities**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Sakai-3-Capabilities-td3904393.html#a3904393>

[Building Sakai] **Can a map property be set in sakai.properties?**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Can-a-map-property-be-set-in-sakai-properties-td3902340.html#a3902340>

[Building Sakai] **Nightly2: trunk experimental now available**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Nightly2-trunk-experimental-now-available-td3901842.html#a3901842>

[Building Sakai] **Assignment+Gradebook integration: "Save" grade**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Assignment-Gradebook-integration-Save-grade-td3894659.html#a3894659>

[Building Sakai] **Preferences -> Language**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Preferences-Language-td3897497.html#a3897497>

[Building Sakai] [Deploying Sakai] **2.6.0-2.6.1 mysql conversion**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Deploying-Sakai-2-6-0-2-6-1-mysql-conversion-td3892481.html#a3892481>

[Building Sakai] **How to create and define tools custom roles**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-How-to-create-and-define-tools-custom-roles-td3869454.html#a3869623>

[Announcements] **Sash 0.1.3 Released**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Sash-0-1-3-Released-td3887891.html#a3887891>

[Portfolio] **Portfolios for school/college accreditation?**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Portfolio-Portfolios-for-school-college-accreditation-td3858760.html#a3858760>

[Portfolio] [Management] **A manifesto for Grading and Rating in Sakai**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Portfolio-A-manifesto-for-Grading-and-Rating-in-Sakai-td3834665.html#a3834665>

[DG: User Experience] [Using Sakai] **Some thoughts on group functionality**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Re-DG-User-Experience-Using-Sakai-Some-thoughts-on-group-functionality-td3892976.html#a3893819>

[DG: User Experience] **Coding Styles, specifically JS > Re: [sakai-kernel] Re: Small changes**

<http://n2.nabble.com/DG-User-Experience-Coding-Styles-specifically-JS-Re-sakai-kernel-Re-Small-changes-td3906551.html#a3906551>

[DG: User Experience] **easy way to turnoff chat in Sakai for debugging?**

<http://n2.nabble.com/DG-User-Experience-easy-way-to-turnoff-chat-in-Sakai-for-debugging-td3881782.html#a3881782>

[Using Sakai] **Tools that are timezone-aware?**

<http://n2.nabble.com/Using-Sakai-Tools-that-are-timezone-aware-td3908088.html#a3908088>

[Using Sakai] **SoftChalk and Sakai integration - beta available**

<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-SoftChalk-and-Sakai-integration-beta-available-td3906524.html#a3906524>

[Building Sakai] **Are you Waving? (via Google)**

<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Are-you-Waving-via-Google-td3867277.html#a3867277>

[Building Sakai] **Development enviroment setup**

<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Development-enviroment-setup-td3900098.html#a3900098>

10. Events

III Reunión de usuarios de Sakai en España

19 - 20 de noviembre, 2010

Universidad Pública de Navarra

<http://www.fundacion.unavarra.es/sakai/>

Online Educa Berlin 2009

December 2-4, 2009

Hotel InterContinental Berlin

Berlin, Germany

<http://www.online-educa.com/the-conference>

Jasig 2010 Ten Years of Open Source Innovation

March 8-10, 2009

The Town and Country Resort

San Diego, California

<http://www.ja-sig.org/conferences/10spring/index.html>

