



Sakai Newsletter

March 18, 2010

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1. From the Executive Director

The JA-Sakai conference met last week in Kumamoto, Japan, and I had the opportunity to attend the meeting, meet our colleagues there, and learn more about the use of Sakai in Japan. Japan has an active group of Sakai schools with both production and pilot instances in use throughout the country's universities. This year's conference, attended by approximately 100 people, was convened by Dr. Matsuba Ryuichi of Kumamoto University, and featured presenters from six different universities in Japan: Kumamoto, Nagoya, Hosei, Kansai, Meiji, Kyoto, as well as Lance Speelmon and me from the Sakai Foundation. Two themes emerged at the conference. First, Sakai is well regarded by the schools that run it in production, and several more are beginning evaluation of the software for courses and portfolios. There is traction for Sakai and the potential for even wider adoption. Second, the participants are keenly interested in the Sakai 3 development because of the fresh approach to learning, research and collaboration support. This development resonates with their plans for advancement in education.

The conference host, Kumamoto University, has an active practice in using portfolios to support their innovative education approach and uses Sakai to support this work. The

team has developed integration between their WebCT course management system and Sakai to keep data in synch. It's quite a nice piece of technical work, and will be presented at the conference in Denver. See <http://www.gsis.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/en/gp/index.html> for more information about Kumamoto University's portfolio practice.

Lois Brooks
Executive Director
Sakai Foundation
lbrooks@stanford.edu

2. Conference Call Codes Have Changed

Hi everyone,

Make a note that the conference call codes you've been using will no longer as of March 26. You will have to use the new codes for your scheduled meetings. Please let your attendees know of the change.

We've been notified that the bridges we use for conference calls (provided graciously by Indiana U., with great appreciation by the Sakai community) will have the "conference room" codes changed on March 27.

The dial-in number remains the same, but you will need to prefix the session code with "22". For example the Sakai001 bridge will change from "348#" to "22348#)

Details are on the wiki at:

<http://bit.ly/chAzMJ>

Sincerely,

Pieter Hartsook
Sakai Foundation Communications Manager
hartsook@sakaifoundation.org

3. Sakai Executive Director Position Search

Dear Sakai Community,

I am writing to let you know that the Sakai Board of Directors has opened a position search for a new Sakai Foundation Executive Director. As you probably know, Michael Korcuska recently left the Sakai Foundation to pursue another opportunity, and I have stepped into the leadership role for the interim until this position is filled. We are now beginning this search.

The Board seeks a visionary leader to serve as Executive Director. With nearly 100 academic and corporate members, and over 200 institutional deployments on six continents, the Sakai community is robust, global and growing. The Sakai community is marked by active development projects, a deeply engaged teaching and learning constituency, and well established communities of practice, all contributing significantly to the development of the Sakai software. The Executive Director manages the Foundation activities and staff, leads the community, and engages with agencies and organizations on behalf of the Foundation. Because the Sakai community is global, and the staff spread across the US and Europe, there is no location requirement for the position. We welcome applications from all locations.

A job description for the Executive Director position may be found at:

<http://sakaiproject.org/sakai-foundation-executive-director-search>

Interested candidates should submit a letter of interest and resume/cv to Mary Miles, mmiles@sakaifoundation.org. Resumes will be accepted through April 20, 2010. Confidential inquiries may be directed to me at lbrooks@sakaifoundation.org

Sincerely,

Lois Brooks
Executive Director
Sakai Foundation
lbrooks@sakaifoundation.org

4. Announcing a Spanish QA server

Hi all,

I am happy to announce a new QA server in our midst running under a Spanish translation: qa1-es.sakaiproject.org. The server is being run by the SIGMA corporation

(<http://www.gestionuniversitariasisigma.com/en/about-us.html>). Having a non English QA server will enhance the community's ability to support Internationalization.

Alan Berg
QA Director
Sakai Foundation
<http://home.uva.nl/a.m.berg>

5. University of Capetown Sakai 3 Plans

Hi all,

University of Capetown (UCT) is firming up a strategy for our Sakai 3 deployment, which is:

- To deploy Sakai 3 as an independent parallel system to our Sakai 2 instance (Vula) by December 2010, primarily aimed at early adopters who wish to explore functionality not well addressed in Sakai 2.
- If all goes well, to migrate Vula to Sakai 3 (probably running in hybrid mode with Sakai 2 for some tools) in December 2011 in time for the 2012 academic year.

For our medium-term work on Sakai 3, we plan to identify and explore several aspects of functionality. On the table so far we have:

1. Using Sakai to support freeform portfolios (with our first use case being a postgrad course taught in our department)
2. Exploring integration with cloud apps (relevant as UCT is exploring a move to cloud-hosted email, which could also entail apps suites such as Google Apps or Microsoft Live)

We will share more details of how we aim to do this and contribute to the Sakai 3 projects as plans evolve. So far we anticipate our involvement being more on the design and UX side than on the kernel development side.

Regards,

Stephen Marquard
stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za

6. Advance CAMP: The Second Identity Services Summit

Register now for the Advance CAMP (Campus Architecture and Middleware Planning) workshop, "The Second Identity Services Summit," June 23-25, 2010, in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Are you a developer or architect from an open-source or other software or framework project? Want to collaborate on identity and access management approaches to ensure that your delivered software is more secure, easy to integrate and usable?

Attend the Advance CAMP: The Second Identity Services Summit to discuss identity-related implementations and alignment across projects.

Attendees will:

- Engage in solving identity-related challenges of importance to you
- Hear about who's doing what and how to participate in or leverage their activities
- Consider technologies such as Facebook, OAuth, OpenID, SAML, Kuali KIM, OpenSocial, Spring, and Django, among others
- Look at possible integration solutions and develop common next steps

Architects, developers, and deployers of open source, and commercial-sponsored software, services, and frameworks will find participation most useful.

REGISTER BY MAY 10 to save money with low early-bird rates.

CAMP: EXPLORING AND SUPPORTING FEDERATED IDENTITY MANAGEMENT will be held just prior to Advance CAMP. Information can be found on the CAMP landing page.

ADVANCE CAMP is sponsored by the InCommon Federation in cooperation with Internet2, Jasig, and Kuali.

For more information and to register: www.incommon.org/camp

Jonathan Markow
jmarkow@gmail.com

7. ePortfolio Position Announcement, Virginia Tech

All,

I am very excited to announce that we are hiring a second Assistant Director (AD) in the ePortfolio Initiatives office at Virginia Tech. This AD will be focused on technological enhancement and will work closely with the Sakai community on OSP development. A full position description is attached to this email.

Assistant Director, ePortfolio Development
Position to begin: ~July 10, 2010

For a description of the position and to apply, go to <http://jobs.vt.edu/> and search for position #090234.

And, just FYI, another position will be announced soon, this one working in our Online Course Support office for more general support and faculty development with Sakai on our campus. Look for that posting coming soon!

Marc Zaldivar
Director, Virginia Tech Electronic Portfolio Initiatives
marcz@vt.edu

8. Recent Discussion Group Items

[Building Sakai] **Need help on sakai.properties setting for Search Tool**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Need-help-on-sakai-properties-setting-for-Search-Tool-td4798045.html#a4798045>

[Building Sakai] **What is the project type of JForum ?**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-What-is-the-project-type-of-JForum-td4798036.html#a4798123>

[Building Sakai] **Oracle LONG to CLOB**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Oracle-LONG-to-CLOB-td4797887.html#a4797887>

[Building Sakai] **Additional Translations for: sam and profile2**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Additional-Translations-for-sam-and-profile2-td4797497.html#a4797497>

[Building Sakai] **Bug: ToolException: Cannot find bean in any scope**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Bug-ToolException-Cannot-find-bean-in-any-scope-td4797406.html#a4797406>

[Building Sakai] **Sakai Nakamura 0.4 Release**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Sakai-Nakamura-0-4-Release-td4797322.html#a4797322>

[Building Sakai] **media players**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-media-players-td4797167.html#a4797167>

[Building Sakai] **Forums, Blog Wow and Wiki uselessly slow**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Forums-Blog-Wow-and-Wiki-uselessly-slow-td4795713.html#a4795713>

[Building Sakai] [Management] **Deprecation summary page**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Deprecation-summary-page-td4786985.html#a4791049>

[Building Sakai] **SAK-13345 SQL change and Sakai 2.5**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-SAK-13345-SQL-change-and-Sakai-2-5-td4793426.html#a4793426>

[Building Sakai] **Fwd: help: How to know used technologies in a tool**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-help-How-to-know-used-technologies-in-a-tool-td4788860.html#a4788860>

[Building Sakai] **More on Covers - From Twitter**
<http://n2.nabble.com/forum/Search.jtp?tpl=search-page&node=1343168&query=More+on+Covers+-+From+Twitter&days=0>

[Building Sakai] **Chinese Character**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Chinese-Character-td4788845.html#a4788845>

[Building Sakai] **unit test and Eclipse**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-unit-test-and-Eclipse-td4787374.html#a4787374>

[Building Sakai] **SharePoint Sakai Web Part?**
<http://n2.nabble.com/SharePoint-Sakai-Web-Part-td1675697.html#a1675697>

[Using Sakai] **Learning Object Repositories and Sakai**
<http://n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Learning-Object-Repositories-and-Sakai-td4778178.html#a4778178>

9. Events

2nd Annual Etudes Users' Summit

May 13 & May 14, 2010

Burlingame / San Francisco, California

Crowne Plaza San Francisco International

<http://etudes.org/summit/>

2010 Sakai Annual Conference

Tuesday - Thursday, June 15-17, 2010

Pre-conference sessions: Monday, June 14, 2010

Hyatt Regency Tech Center

Denver, Colorado

<http://sakaiproject.org/news/2010-sakai-conference-website-goes-live-call-proposals-now-open>

Advance CAMP (Campus Architecture and Middleware Planning) Workshop

"The Second Identity Services Summit"

June 23-25, 2010

Raleigh, North Carolina

www.incommon.org/camp