



Sakai Newsletter

October 21, 2010

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1. From the Executive Director

I am pleased to announce that the Foundation Board meeting of 19th October confirmed the Sakai Open Academic Environment (formerly Sakai 3) as an official Sakai Foundation Project. Further details of the Sakai Open Academic Environment Project, including goals, roadmap and project management materials can be found at:

<http://confluence.sakaiproject.org/display/SAKDEV/Sakai+3>

Please note that "Open Academic Environment" remains a working title, and that this will be reconsidered prior to the 1.0 release.

I'm sure you will join me in wishing the project every success. For further information on investing or participating in the Sakai Open Academic Environment Project, please contact:

Philip Uys
Charles Sturt University
puys@csu.edu.au
Project Steering Group Co-Chair

Ian Dolphin
iandolphin@sakaifoundation.org
Project Steering Group Co-Chair

Alan Marks
alanmarks@sakaifoundation.org
Project Director

Best,

Ian Dolphin
Executive Director, Sakai Foundation

2. 2010 Sakai Board Elections

We are rapidly approaching the election for two members to the Sakai Foundation Board of Directors. Photos, bios and platform statements for the candidates may be reviewed here:

<http://sakaiproject.org/2010-sakai-board-elections>

Voting by the designated representatives for each institution will take place Monday, November 1 through Friday, November 12. Directions for voting will be sent to them individually.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ian Dolphin (iandolphin@sakaifoundation.org) or Mary Miles (mmiles@sakaifoundation.org).

- David Goodrum - 2010 Board Nominee
- Josh Baron - 2010 Board Nominee
- Lucy Appert - 2010 Board Nominee
- Marc Zaldivar - 2010 Board Nominee
- Nate Angell - 2010 Board Nominee
- Seth Theriault - 2010 Board Nominee

3. Sakai to be Officially Adopted at the University of North Carolina

Hi all,

I just wanted to share the good news that the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has voted to adopt Sakai as its official LMS! The transition from Blackboard to Sakai will be made by 2014. To those of us who have been strong Sakai proponents on our campus this is very welcome news. The Sakai pilot is in its third year at UNC, running alongside Blackboard and gaining users and supporters for all of that time. We look forward to a time when we'll be "made honest"!

Here is the article about the decision from the UNC newspaper, The Daily Tar Heel:

http://www.dailytarheel.com/index.php/article/2010/10/its_votes_to_transition_from_blackboard_to_sakai_by_2014

Cheers,

Brian Moynihan, MSIS
Sakai Project Manager
UNC School of Medicine
moynihan@med.unc.edu
<http://sakaipilot.unc.edu>

4. 2010 Sakai Multi-Institutional Survey Initiative (MISI) Results Are Now Available!

Sakai's Multi-Institutional Survey Initiative (MISI) is an endeavor between institutions using Sakai to ask similar questions of instructors and students in order to be able to compare and contrast similarities and differences between institutions. In addition, this effort serves to provide feedback to improve future Sakai development.

A series of figures and graphs are now available online presenting selected results from the 2010 round of surveys conducted by 15 institutions. These figures can be viewed here: <http://confluence.sakaiproject.org/x/ZQFEB>

We also invite institutions to participate in the Spring 2011 MISI (online meetings beginning in early 2011) or later in the year, depending on the institution's calendar (e.g., southern hemisphere).

Steven Lonn
Sakai Fellow
University of Michigan
slonn@umich.edu

5. Update from Sakai 2 Technical Coordination Committee

This is another update for the community on the recent activities of the Sakai 2 Technical Coordination Committee (TCC).

As a reminder, the TCC conducts its business via a public mailing list, sakai2-tcc@collab.sakaiproject.org. List archives and other TCC documents are available at:

<http://collab.sakaiproject.org/mailman/listinfo/sakai2-tcc>
<http://confluence.sakaiproject.org/display/TCC/Home>

-- 2.6.3/2.7.1 releases

The TCC announced the release of Sakai 2.6.3 and 2.7.1 on 1 September 2010. These versions are maintenance releases that provide stability, performance, and security fixes.

For more information on these releases, please see:

<http://source.sakaiproject.org/release/2.6.3/>

<http://source.sakaiproject.org/release/2.7.1/>

-- 2.8

Significant technical work on 2.8 continues in conjunction with project leads and the Release Management and QA working groups. If you can help with testing, please send mail to sakai-qa@collab.sakaiproject.org.

The code freeze happened on 21 September 2010 and a first alpha tag is being tested. The second alpha tag for testing is in preparation but was delayed in order for the TCC to complete its review of proposed feature additions:

<http://confluence.sakaiproject.org/display/TCC/List+of+Planned+2.8.0+Changes>

Final voting outcomes on the additions proposals are summarized here:

<http://confluence.sakaiproject.org/display/TCC/2.8.0+Inclusion+Voting+Tally+and+Comments>

The TCC still expects 2.8 to be released by 1 March 2011. The adopted schedule for this release can be found at:

<http://confluence.sakaiproject.org/display/REL/Sakai+2.8+Release+Schedule>

-- TCC Goals and Review

When the TCC was formed in July, its members stated their intention to review the new group's work in September and decide if the committee should continue or be disbanded. After some discussion, the TCC has decided continue its work and plans to conduct a more comprehensive review of its activities after the Sakai 2.8 release in March 2011.

Seth Theriault
slt@columbia.edu

6. Sakai and Me

Dear Sakai friends,

Early last month, I was invited to occupy a new career position at a health care institution which, after a difficult, careful and pondered analysis, I have decided to accept. That said, I will be leaving Universidade Fernando Pessoa (UFP) by the end of the month.

However, I am not abandoning Sakai. I will be contributing to the Sakai community as a volunteer and, possibly, providing external Sakai consulting to UFP. In the upcoming months, I will have a low participation level in the Sakai community, but, as time permits, I will gradually increase my participation (hopefully, happening during the first 2011 quarter).

As a special note, I would like to express my gratitude to all the Sakai community. During the past 5 years, I have had the pleasure to work and collaborate on Sakai, extend my knowledge, share thoughts, and meet some of you during the conferences! This was by far my best and enthusiastic professional experience so far, and that's just one of the reasons I want to keep collaborating with the community. Sakai was, and still being, part of my life :)

A big, big thank you... and see you soon ;)

Nuno Fernandes
nfgrilo@gmail.com

7.1 Job Opening: Sakai-Related Position at Columbia University

Hello,

Columbia University is hiring a systems programmer position in its Web Architecture group. It includes duties related to our current university-wide LMS and Sakai. This position is fully described at:

<http://jobs.columbia.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=118961>

Candidates must submit a resume and cover letter via the above link for formal consideration. Preliminary inquiries and questions are welcome and should be addressed to Carol Kassel, ckassel@columbia.edu.

Seth Theriault
slt@columbia.edu

7.2 Job Opening: Java Developer at The American Academy of Religion

The American Academy of Religion recently joined Sakai, and is now hiring a developer focused particularly on Sakai.

The American Academy of Religion (AAR) is recruiting a Java Developer who has an enterprise outlook. The AAR is a 10,000-member association promoting the academic study of religion. Based in Atlanta, we are affiliated with Emory University and are a Sakai Project partner. The AAR is taking a cutting edge role in incorporating social networking approaches into Sakai 3 for use by scholar associations and their members.

The AAR Java Developer will work closely with leading Sakai developers around the world in the further development of Sakai 3, help adapt its features and user interface for use by the AAR membership, and play a key role in the continuing development of the AAR's information technology infrastructure. For at least the first six months, it is anticipated that about half the developer's time will be devoted to Sakai development and adaptation, and half to the AAR's other technology systems. Because the AAR's scope of operations is relatively small compared to that of universities and large corporations, AAR staff find they can handle a relatively broad scope of responsibilities. The focus of the developer position will include systems integration; serving as the technical contact for a vendor redeveloping our website; and occasional database and web programming. We anticipate our IT environment will undergo a good deal of positive change over the next 12 months, making the AAR an exciting place for a developer to stretch his or her wings.

Preferred qualifications include experience as an enterprise technical lead in an open-source, distributed environment; extensive experience with Java and substantial experience working with relational databases, SQL, Javascript, XML, and HTML/CSS. Experience with Spring, JMS, Jackrabbit, Sakai, Kuali Rice, RESTful services, or service oriented architecture would be helpful.

The position is a long-term, full-time Emory University position that comes with generous benefits. Number of work hours expected will be reasonable as opposed to the exhausting hours common in corporate IT settings. The official job posting will soon be listed on the Emory University Employment website at <http://emory.hr.emory.edu/careers/index.html>. Preferred start time is December 2010 or earlier. Qualified candidates can feel free to email Steve Herrick, the AAR's IT coordinator, at sherrick@aarweb.org, for more information.

Steve Herrick
Director of External Relations
American Academy of Religion
Tel: 434-202-8198
SHerrick@aarweb.org

7.3 Job Opening: University of Windsor

The University of Windsor is currently hiring for a position on its Enterprise Information Systems Services Team that includes duties related to our current LMS and Sakai. This position is fully described at:

<http://www.uwindsor.ca/units/hr/StaffForms.nsf/fd1e18edf4dcf53d85256e8c00523b39/62e535a4665fd6ca852577c2005b818b!OpenDocument>

Candidates must submit a resume, transcript and cover letter via the above link for formal consideration.

Purita Bristow
Purita.Bristow@uwindsor.ca

7.4 Job Opening: Sakai Position at the University of Hawaii

Folks,

Although we haven't listed it as specifically a "Sakai position", we have an opening in our group implementing our version of Sakai for the University of Hawaii system. The closing date for our position has been extended to 11/18/10. Some applicants have saked... unfortunately the selected candidate must move to Hawai'i (Oahu).

<http://www.pers.hawaii.edu/wuh/nadvert.aspx?rn=10850&si=651993&pn=1&sn=postdate&so=desc>

Kenrick Chan
kchan@hawaii.edu

7.5 Faculty Support Position at UC Santa Cruz

Job Opening: Faculty Support Position at University of California, Santa Cruz

We're in our first year of running Sakai in production and would love to have a new colleague with Sakai experience and enthusiasm join our team. Please pass along to others who may be interested in a University of California, Santa Cruz job.

Faculty Support Specialist
Information Technology Services (ITS); Learning Technologies

JOB #1002847

FULL TIME; CAREER

Starting Salary Range: \$54,500-\$76,300/annually. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

UCSC strives to embrace diversity in all its forms; it strives to be an inclusive community that fosters an open, enlightened & productive environment.

Summary Statement:

Involves providing a variety of IT services in a unit. Assignments may include applications programming development and maintenance, systems administration, desktop support, business systems analysis, web applications development and/or maintenance, or a combination of these and/or other IT functions.

Generic Scope:

Experienced professional who knows how to apply theory and put it into practice with in-depth understanding of the professional field; independently performs the full range of responsibilities within the function; possesses broad job knowledge; analyzes problems/issues of diverse scope and determines solutions.

Custom Scope:

Uses professional concepts; applies department policies and procedures to resolve a variety of complex problems. Applies knowledge of instructional design to provide analytical support for UCSC's enterprise collaborative learning environment (Sakai). Participates in the ongoing maintenance and support of the application, acting as an advocate for the user experience. Technical analyst with a high degree of knowledge in the overall field of instructional technology and recognized expertise in specific areas, including instructional and user interface design. Problem solving frequently requires analysis of unique issues / problems without precedent and / or structure. Assists instructors in addressing educational needs, translating their pedagogical goals into technical processes, and developing appropriate procedures in support of those goals.

Qualifications include:

- Thorough knowledge of adult learning theory, Universal Design, and instructional design

- Ability to explain and apply various concepts as required in a wide range of pedagogical situations

- Knowledge of applications programming technologies, tools, and protocols

- Experience creating training programs (workshop development and delivery)

- Thorough understanding of rich media production methods and equipment

Position is open until filled; Initial Review Date: 11-16-2010

APPLICANTS ARE REQUIRED TO USE THE UCSC ONLINE PROCESS

View full job description and access on-line application:

<https://jobs.ucsc.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=64680>

To ensure review of application materials by the hiring unit they must be submitted electronically via the Staff Employment Opportunities website (<http://jobs.ucsc.edu>) on or before the initial review date. The University of California, Santa Cruz is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Robin E. H. Ove, Sr. Manager
Information Technology Services
Instructional Support and Media Development
Faculty Instructional Technology Center
robino@ucsc.edu

7.6 Job Opening: Sakai Application Administrator Position at the University of Texas

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas is hiring an application administrator/support person with strong emphasis on Sakai administration and support. More details are available at <http://sh.webhire.com/servlet/av/jd?ai=700&ji=2492779&sn=I>

Please contact me if you have questions.

John Grossman
Director, Academic Technology Services
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
john.grossman@mdanderson.org
713-745-0305 (w)
832-771-8222 (m)

8. Recent Email Group Discussions

Anyone have Conditional Release up and running?

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Anyone-have-Conditional-Release-up-and-running-td5676642.html#a5676642>

Assignment resubmission

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Assignment-resubmission-td5687357.html#a5687357>

Cannot search Sites by UserId

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Using-Sakai-Cannot-search-Sites-by-UserId-td5674851.html#a5674851>

evals tool and MySQL

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-evals-tool-and-MySQL-td5684640.html#a5684640>

for equations in sakai course

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Using-Sakai-for-equations-in-sakai-courses-td5658865.html#a5658865>

Gradebook 2

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Gradebook-2-td5682429.html#a5682429>

Gradebook and SIS

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Gradebook-and-SIS-td5687962.html#a5687962>

gradebook2 v1.3.1 released

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-gradebook2-v1-3-1-released-td5652683.html#a5652683>

How student or instructor can view avg grade in all course

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-How-student-or-instructor-can-view-avg-grade-in-all-course-td5681637.html#a5681637>

How to read content of a file after upload in Sakai?

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-How-to-read-content-of-a-file-after-upload-in-Sakai-td5681175.html#a5681175>

installation of Kaltura CE on Sakai

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/installation-of-Kaltura-CE-on-Sakai-td5686918.html#a5686918>

math editor for fckeditor

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-math-editor-for-fckeditor-td5662969.html#a5662969>

Matrix Evidence Missing from Available Items

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Portfolio-Matrix-Evidence-Missing-from-Available-Items-td5654925.html#a5654925>

Message Order

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/DG-User-Experience-Message-Order-td5639592.html#a5639592>

nine Sakai OAE (Sakai 3) design goals and "refresh" of the managed project page

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/nine-Sakai-OAE-Sakai-3-design-goals-and-refresh-of-the-managed-project-page-td5668723.html#a5668723>

Portfolios generated by groups?

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Portfolio-Portfolios-generated-by-groups-td5662792.html#a5662792>

Possible Bug in Sakai 2.6.3 and 2.6.x

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Possible-Bug-in-Sakai-2-6-3-and-2-6-x-td5688399.html#a5688399>

Public announcements from Admin Workspace not possible?

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Re-Building-Sakai-Public-announcements-from-Admin-Workspace-not-possible-td5632687.html#a5636166>

REMINDER: Sakai 2.8 String Freeze and Documentation/Help updates due TUESDAY, 2 November 2010

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-REMINDER-Sakai-2-8-String-Freeze-and-Documentation-Help-updates-due-TUESDAY-2-Novembe0-td5683162.html#a5683162>

Removing extra translation from property bundles

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Removing-extra-translation-from-property-bundles-td5681551.html#a5681551>

Request for Sakai Demonstration

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Using-Sakai-Request-for-Sakai-Demonstration-td5675991.html#a5675991>

Rounding Error in GB?

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Rounding-Error-in-GB-td5682440.html#a5682440>

Sakai & Me

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Sakai-Me-td5679023.html#a5679023>

Sakai and plugjam

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Sakai-and-plugjam-td5687262.html#a5687262>

Sakai Open Academic Environment confirmed as official Sakai Foundation project

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Sakai-Open-Academic-Environment-confirmed-as-official-Sakai-Foundation-project-td5681936.html#a5681936>

Sakai UK user group meeting - 10 December 2010 in Oxford

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Sakai-UK-user-group-meeting-10-December-2010-in-Oxford-td5647266.html#a5647266>

Samigo attachment downloads as 0b file size

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Using-Sakai-Samigo-attachment-downloads-as-0b-file-size-td5670834.html#a5670834>

Samigo Random Groups of Questions

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Samigo-Random-Groups-of-Questions-td5684794.html#a5684794>

still struggling with indexer errors

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-still-struggling-with-indexer-errors-td5684379.html#a5684379>

Unknown behavior in Forums

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Unknown-behavior-in-Forums-td5687172.html#a5688379>

Using Sakai List - Tests & Quizzes - How do instructors change their assessment grading after students have finished?

<http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Using-Sakai-Using-Sakai-List-Tests-Quizzes-How-do-instructors-change-their-assessment-grading-after--td5664304.html#a5664304>

9. Events

Sakai 2011 Conference

June 14 - 16, 2011

Ramada Hotel Berlin -- Alexanderplatz

Berlin, Germany