Sakai Newsletter

November 23, 2010

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1. Sakai Foundation Board Election Results

I am pleased to announce that the successful candidates for the Sakai Foundation Board Elections are…

Josh Baron, Marist College
Nate Angell, rSmart

Sincere thanks to Lucy Appert, NYU, David Goodrum, Indiana, Seth Theriault, Columbia and Marc Zaldivar, Virginia Tech, for their willingness to stand.

Best

Ian Dolphin
Executive Director, Sakai Foundation
iandolphin@sakaifoundation.org

2. NYU Launches Pre-Release Pilot of Sakai OAE/SAKAI 3

New York University is pleased to announce the launch on November 5, 2010 of the first pre-release pilot of the Sakai Open Academic Environment (OAE) – a revolutionary platform for academic networking and collaboration. The NYU instance of Sakai OAE will be known as the ATLAS Network (Advanced Teaching, Learning, And Scholarship Network). The pilot will grow to include 5000 students and faculty from six different NYU schools.

See a screencast demonstration of the ATLAS Network here:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tQm03ZfTzCE

The NYU pilot focuses on two important areas of need. It provides a single NYU network for many diverse university communities to use. And it provides a flexible set of options for implementing portfolios. Features include searchable profiles, group spaces and uploaded content, and two portfolio implementations.

The pilot is being overseen by a cross-school, academic-led committee charged with oversight of the development and implementation of the Sakai OAE environment at NYU. Initial funding for Sakai at NYU was provided by a 2008 National Endowment for the Humanities Digital Humanities Start-Up grant.

For more information about the ATLAS Network, contact Lucy Appert (lucy.appert@nyu.edu) or James Bullen (jb@nyu.edu).

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3. Time to Apply - Teaching with Sakai Innovation Award

The entry process is now open for the 2011 Teaching with Sakai Innovation Award (TWSIA). The application and supporting materials are available at http://openedpractices.org/twsia.

The 2011 award seeks to expand the sharing of innovative teaching and collaboration practices to include:

- Higher education face-to-face courses
- Higher education distance education or hybrid courses
- Primary and secondary education courses
- Non-traditional, or non-course uses of Sakai

Select winners will have expenses paid to present their winning entries at the Sakai Conference in Berlin, Germany in June 2011. This is possible through the generous

sponsorship of IBM Global Education and the support of rSmart, and Wiley Higher Education. (Thank you.)

Please consider applying, and encourage others in your organization to apply.

If you have questions or require assistance to evaluate participation, the TWSIA committee is extremely helpful and responsive.

Thank you,

Kim Thanos
Communications Lead
kthanos@sakaifoundation.org

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4. Invitation to Join the Australasian Sakai User Group

We are pleased to invite you to join the Australasian Sakai User Group.

The Australasian Sakai User Group has been formed as an outcome of the AuSakai 2010 conference. The user group aims to provide the Sakai community in the Australasian region the opportunity to network and exchange knowledge and experiences.

As a participant you will be kept up-to-date on activities and news particularly relevant to the Sakai users within this region. This includes the annual AuSakai conference, which in 2011 will be hosted in Canberra by Australian National University (ANU).

You are encouraged to propose ideas, activities and topics that can be shared and discussed within the community.

The Australasian Sakai User Group will be jointly facilitated by Irene Ireland, TAFE NSW - Northern Sydney Institute (NSI), Steve Swinsburg, Australian National University (ANU) and Philip Uys, Charles Sturt University (CSU).

A Sakai site has been created by ANU which will be the meeting place for the user group. You can:

1. Register for an account - see below - for access to the site
https://alliance.anu.edu.au/portal/site/ausakai/

and

2. Add yourself to the mailing list at http://collab.sakaiproject.org/mailman/listinfo/sakai-au.

We look forward to your registration and contributions in helping to make this a vibrant and informative community.

To register:

Have an account on Alliance already?
If you already have an account on Alliance, visit https://alliance.anu.edu.au/autoreg/ausakai, and if prompted, login with your username and password that was created for you. You will be automatically added to the site. If you think you may have had an account in the past, you can reset it.

Need a new account?
If you are not a member of ANU you will need an account: join the list at http://collab.sakaiproject.org/mailman/listinfo/sakai-au and send a request for a new account to the List at sakai-au@collab.sakaiproject.org. You will be added to the Sakai site and your account details will be emailed to you.

Looking forward to working with you,

Irene Ireland
Philip Uys
Steve Swinsburg

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5. New publication: "Free and Open Source Software for E-Learning: Issues, Successes and Challenges"

This publication reviews free and open source software (FOSS) used in e-learning, examines the pedagogy behind FOSS and how it is applied to e-learning, and discusses the best practices for FOSS through real world examples, providing guidelines for e-learning designers and instructors who use FOSS.

The publication contains a chapter by Janet Buchan on Charles Sturt University's move to Sakai. "Developing a Dynamic and Responsive Online Learning Environment: A Case Study of a Large Australian University."

http://www.igi-global.com/Bookstore/Chapter.aspx?TitleId=46309

Free and Open Source Software for E-Learning: Issues, Successes and Challenges was edited by Betul Özkan Czerkawski, University of Arizona South, USA.

Anyone interested in purchasing a print or e-copy of this book can contact Janet Buchan (jbuchan@csu.edu.au) for a 40% Discount Offer form for ordering a personal copy of this publication. IGI Global will honor this discount level for colleagues/peers.

http://www.igi-global.com/Bookstore/TitleDetails.aspx?TitleId=41741

The paper is also published in the International Journal of Open Source Software & Processes. Vol.29(1):pp.32-48.

Regards

Janet Buchan
Manager Educational Design & Media team, Faculty of Education
jbuchan@csu.edu.au

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6. Sakai Open Academic Environment (OAE) Q1 Pre-Release

The steering group and project team are pleased to announce that the Sakai Open Academic Environment (OAE) Q1 Pre-Release is now available.

This pre-release in particular emphasizes the functionality for academic networking and collaboration. It is intended for review and to support the development goals of the project and not for use in production.

This pre-release is:
 - a significant milestone release of a new emerging product of the Sakai community
 - useful for OAE developers as a platform for development
 - intended as a means for the public to get a real world taste of the OAE experience and technology,
 - useful as a platform to run a pilot with your faculty and students

This pre-release is NOT:
 - intended for production use
 - a scalable platform for course management in most colleges or universities

Future releases may:
 - include changes that preclude migration of data from the Q1 release
 - incorporate significant changes to UI and content layout based upon further testing and feedback

For those interested in downloading and installing the release, information is included below.

For additional information about the project and release, please review the following:

Sakai OAE product page (http://sakaiproject.org/sakai-oae)
Sakai OAE managed project structure (http://bit.ly/anq2Xq)
Sakai OAE nine design goals (http://bit.ly/9MFtGp)
OAE product roadmap (http://bit.ly/9DoUk6)
Brief demo of the Q1 release functionality (http://bit.ly/cPqZau)

While the steering group and project team are already moving ahead with the Q2 development, it is an important time to acknowledge and appreciate the contributions of all of those who have made this release possible. While the list is too long to acknowledge individually, thank you to each of you for your hard work.

Version
Sakai Open Academic Environment Q1 Pre-Release

Availability
- OAE Binary Package (contains both the Nakamura Kernel and 3akai front end)
---- Tarball (.tar.gz) - asc - md5
---- Zip (.zip) - asc - md5
- Nakamura Kernel Source Code
---- Tarball (.tar.gz) - asc - md5
---- Zip (.zip) - asc - md5
- 3akai (OAE front end) Source Code
---- Tarball (.tar.gz) - asc - md5
---- Zip (.zip) - asc - md5

Released Nov 18, 2010
- 3akai Release notes
- Nakamura Release Notes

License
Sakai OAE is released under the Educational Community License Version 2.0
http://sakaiproject.org/license

Alan Marks
alanmarks@sakaifoundation.org

7. Mailsender 1.6.2 Released!

Hot on the heels of 1.6.1, a new version of Mailsender has been released!

Version:
Mailsender 1.6.2

Description:
Mailsender is a drop-in replacement for Mailtool but with a slightly different approach. While general functionality is the same, some items have been removed to help with source maintenance and to enhance the user experience. Permissions and tool ID from mailtool are preserved in Mailsender to help as a drop-in replacement.

Works with:
Sakai 2.5, 2.6, 2.7, 2.8

Database upgrade:
There is no database upgrade required that is specific to this release.

Availability:
SVN: https://source.sakaiproject.org/contrib/mailsender/tags/1.6.2/
Binaries: Coming soon!

Highlights:
1.6.2 is a maintenance release for a heinous blocker found along with some other minor changes.

Fix Stats:
3 bugs, 1 feature request
1 blocker, 1 critical, 2 major

For full details of the features and fixes in this release, see:
http://jira.sakaiproject.org/browse/MSND/fixforversion/12139

For full installation and configuration instructions, see:
http://confluence.sakaiproject.org/display/MAILTOOL/Mailsender

Known issues:
See JIRA - http://jira.sakaiproject.org/browse/MSND

Acknowledgements:
Thanks to the following Sakai community members (in no particular order) for their involvement in this release:

Thanks to the following Sakai community members (in no particular order) for their involvement in this release:

1.6.0, 1.6.2
Seth Theriault (Columbia University)

1.6.1
Dave Haines (University of Michigan)
Nuno Fernandez (formerly of Universidade Fernando Pessoa)

License:
Mailsender is released under the Educational Community License Version 2.0

Carl Hall
carl@hallwaytech.com

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8. Recent Email Group Discussions

Site Archiving
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Deploying-Sakai-Site-Archiving-td5774333.html

Nakamura port and IP
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Nakamura-port-and-IP-td5774031.html#a5774165

FW: Sakai Open Academic Environment (OAE) Q1 Pre-Release
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Sakai-Open-Academic-Environment-OAE-Q1-Pre-Release-td5768280.html#a5772282

Kaltura integration question
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Kaltura-integration-question-td5764335.html

New l10nstats version
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-New-l10nstats-version-td5766483.html

rustici scorm support in 2.7
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-rustici-scorm-support-in-2-7-td5764840.html

IMS CC export
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-IMS-CC-export-td5742852.html

Google Meets Sakai
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Google-Meets-Sakai-td5607655.html

LikeService
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-LikeService-td5762677.html#a5762685

Sakai and Exchange / Outlook calendars
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Sakai-and-Exchange-Outlook-calendars-td5762404.html

formal assessment using Tests & Quizzes
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/DG-User-Experience-formal-assessment-using-Tests-amp-Quizzes-td5679095.html

libgateway and 2.7
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-libgateway-and-2-7-td5762401.html

Big Blue Button Integration
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Big-Blue-Button-Intergration-td5761728.html#a5769275

i18n open issues fixing process
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-i18n-open-issues-fixing-process-td5746754.html

Locks on SAKAI_EVENT table
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Building-Sakai-Locks-on-SAKAI-EVENT-table-td5748877.html

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-quot-refresh-quot-of-the-managed-project-page-td5668723.html

Displaying the new portfolio -- all I get is XML
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Portfolio-Displaying-the-new-portfolio-all-I-get-is-XML-td5753904.html

Portfolio for K12
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Portfolio-Portfolio-for-K12-td5725698.html

Looking for a very basic ePortfolio tutorial
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Portfolio-Looking-for-a-very-basic-ePortfolio-tutorial-td5742275.html

Classifying students by programmes
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Using-Sakai-Classifying-students-by-programmes-td5769306.html

Authorized users for Site Stats tool?
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Using-Sakai-Authorized-users-for-Site-Stats-tool-td5764605.html

recover the ability to grade an assessment with Samigo
http://sakai-project-mail-list-archives.1343168.n2.nabble.com/Using-Sakai-recover-the-ability-to-grade-an-assessment-with-Samigo-td5756554.html

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9. Events

Sakai 2011 Conference
June 14 - 16, 2011
Ramada Hotel Berlin -- Alexanderplatz
Berlin, Germany