



Sakai Newsletter

February 23, 2012

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1. I Congreso Iberoamericano de Sakai

Me complace anunciar que el I Congreso Iberoamericano de Sakai tendrá lugar del 16 al 18 de Octubre en Río de Janeiro. Los detalles del eventos se encuentran en <http://sakai.ucam.edu/>

Este magnífico evento de la Comunidad Sakai no habría sido posible sin el esfuerzo de UCAM (Universidad Católica de San Antonio, Murcia) y del Instituto Brasileiro de Mercado de Capitais (IBMEC, Brazil), que ha trabajado codo con codo con la Sakai Foundation. También quiero agradecer a la Universitat Politècnica de València su soporte continuo y sus esfuerzos de coordinación.

¡Espero veros en Río en Octubre!

I am pleased to announce that the first Sakai Ibero-American Conference will take place between 16th and 18th October in Rio de Janeiro. Details of the event can be found at:

<http://sakai.ucam.edu/>

This exciting development for Sakai would not have been possible without the strong support of UCAM (Universidad Católica de San Antonio, Murcia) and Instituto Brasileiro de Mercado de Capitais (IBMEC, Brazil) working with the Sakai Foundation. I would also like to thank Universitat Politècnica de València for their continued support and coordination efforts.

Expect more news as the program develops -- and plan to be in Rio in October!

Ian Dolphin
Executive Director, Sakai Foundation
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2. Sakai Foundation Board Officers Election

I am pleased to announce the results of the Sakai Foundation Board of Directors officer elections. Maggie Lynch, of Thanos Partners, and formerly Vice-Chair of the Board, was elected Chair, and David Ackerman, Associate Vice President for .edu Services at New York University, elected Vice-Chair.

Thanks go to Josh Baron, outgoing Chair, for his commitment to serve the Foundation and community over the years, and to the incoming officers for their willingness to serve.

Ian Dolphin
Executive Director, Sakai Foundation
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3. Sakai OAE User Reference Group

Hi everyone,

I'm pleased to announce that the Sakai OAE roadmap, running up until April 2013, has now been published:

<https://oae-community.sakaiproject.org/content#p=ker9TYL5aa/Sakai%20OAE%20Roadmap>

This has been a collaborative effort between the OAE project team, the User Reference Group and the Technical Reference Group. It lists seven releases with different focuses, including teaching and learning support, improved collaboration support, mobile work, architectural improvements and much more.

This roadmap will be presented to the Steering Group as well.

Nicolaas Matthijs
nicolaas.matthijs@caret.cam.ac.uk

4. One Week Extension of TWSIA Application Deadline

Due to many requests and an admittedly late start to the Teaching with Sakai Innovation Award (TWSIA) competition, we have decided to extend the deadline one week. The new deadline is Friday, March 9, 2012. Please feel free to forward this message to all others you know who are interested in participating.

For all of you have already submitted your applications. Thank you! You also have until March 9th to do any updates if you wish. Confirmation of application receipt will be going out this week.

For more information, please go to <http://openedpractices.org/twsia/2012>

Maggie McVay Lynch, Ed.D.
Chair, TWSIA Committee
Thanos Partners, Inc.
Online Learning Specialist
maggie@thanospartners.com

5. TWSIA Award for Sakai Portfolio Implementations

Hello OSP Community,

Let's take advantage of the extension of the deadline for the Teaching with Sakai Innovation Award (TWSIA) Portfolio Award! We have until this coming Friday, March 9, to get applications in from as many OSP institutions as possible.

This is the first year that there is a specific category and accompanying rubric for PORTFOLIO implementations in the TWSIA competition. The award category for portfolios includes "portfolios created using OSP or by using other Sakai tools to create portfolios."

The closing date for entries is now Friday, March 9, 2012. Winners will be notified May 1, 2012, and may have their expenses paid to Atlanta, Georgia, to present their winning entries at the first joint Jasig/Sakai Conference, June 10-15, 2012.

You can find the application procedure and the rubric for judging portfolio entries on the OpenEd Practices website at <http://openedpractices.org/twsia>

You will need to log into (or register with) Open Ed Practices before accessing the application by clicking APPLY NOW on the left-hand navigation bar.

The application process has three steps, but don't let the length intimidate you. Less is better and more attractive for others to read! Focus your entry on what is innovative, rather than spending time describing portfolio features and processes we all know.

- Profile your institution. Give the name of your institution and *a few* sentences about your institutional or programmatic focus on portfolios. Select the choices you are aware of for institutional LMS and Portfolio systems.

- Profile your teaching and learning practice: Select the choices that relate to your entry and give a *brief* description of your portfolio implementation's impact on teaching and learning.

- Download the portfolio entry form, review the portfolio rubric for the award and complete *only* the portions of the entry form that relate to your portfolio implementation. Save the entry form as a PDF file and upload it.

- Give your entry a title that describes its innovation. Preview and save your entry.

Your colleagues in the OSP community encourage you to *apply*!

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6. Google Summer of Code 2012

Greetings,

Google has recently announced[1] the Summer of Code program for 2012[2]. We have participated in this over the last few years and we'll be applying to participate again this year. While students can propose projects themselves, it is helpful for members of our community to propose projects. I would like to ask that everyone give some thought to what kind of projects we would like to see students work on this year.

For reference of previous ideas suggested and completed, please take a look at our GSoC blog[3] and Confluence page[4]. Our project has grown to encompass much new functionality since last year and provides lots of opportunities for students to get involved. There are no restrictions on projects except that they be completable in the given time frame (~3 months).

Even if you don't have project ideas, we also need mentors and community support to help the students be successful. I look forward to the discussion of ideas!

1. <http://code.google.com/soc/>
2. <http://www.google-melange.com/gsoc/homepage/google/gsoc2012>
3. <http://sakaigsoc2010.blogspot.com/>
4. <https://confluence.sakaiproject.org/display/MGT/Google+Summer+of+Code+2011+ideas+list>

Carl Hall
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7. Sakai - JaSIG Atlanta Conference

Hi everyone,

As most of you will know, this year's conference will be taking place from June 10-15 in Atlanta, Georgia. The event will be organized jointly with Jasig, and the Jasig projects. The conference is also longer, so we have a little more elbowroom than we had last year.

We've started thinking about developer-related events, and we wanted to reach out to find out what people would like to see and what they would like to organize themselves. We're also looking for ideas from lurkers on this list as well as to what they would like to see. Some of the ideas that have been floated already:

* Pre-conference events

- UI Bootcamp
- Nakamura Bootcamp

There was a suggestion to make at least part of this a shared bootcamp

* Competition

- Widget Idea contest with a prize for best idea

* Technical workshop

- How does search work

* Sessions

- Widget SDK and Library
- Roadmap
- General demo (perhaps a lunchtime event like last year)
- Nakamura Architecture
- Instrumenting OAE
- Deploying OAE
- Understanding OSGi

* OAE Lightning Talks: a number of 10-minute talks on various subjects

Looking forward to seeing all of your ideas.

Kind regards,

Nicolaas Matthijs

nicolaas.matthijs@caret.cam.ac.uk

8. Sakai Documentation Review Underway -- Please Pitch In!

Dear Sakai Community,

Do you have 20 minutes to spare between March 5th and March 16th? Would you like to help improve the accuracy and usability of the help pages within Sakai? If so, we need your help!

We're looking for people who can review the Sakai Documentation working group's initial revisions of the help pages for five core Sakai tools:

- Announcements
- Forums
- Gradebook 1.0

- Roster
- Schedule

If you even have time to read a single page, that would be very helpful.

If you would like to pitch in, please contact Rebecca Darling (rdarling@wellesley.edu) or Alan Regan (alan.regan@pepperdine.edu).

Review the project page for meeting and other information:
<https://confluence.sakaiproject.org/display/ESUP/Help+Files+2.9+Content+Project>

Sign up for the documentation working group listserv:
<http://collab.sakaiproject.org/mailman/listinfo/documentation>

Thank you in advance for helping us improve the Sakai help pages!

Sincerely,

Rebecca and Alan

9. Events

Middle East Regional Sakai Meeting
April 4 & 5, 2012
HCT Abu Dhabi Women's College
Abu Dhabi (UAE)

Jasig/Sakai Annual Conference
Sunday, June 10 - Friday, June 15, 2012
Supplementary half-day Jasig and Sakai Seminars on Sunday, June 10
Westin Peachtree Plaza
Atlanta, Georgia

I Congreso Iberoamericano de Sakai
16th and 18th October, 2012
Rio de Janeiro