Sakai Educational Partnership Program Update

June 9, 2004

Sakai Beta Release
The Sakai beta release, originally scheduled for June 15th, will be released on June 23rd as part of the SEPP Conference in Denver.

Work is progressing on the new beta release. Changes are being made to the package and directory structures to better organize legacy vs. new services and tools. Work has begun on the Sakai API definitions and implementations. A new tool registration capability will allow new tools to be easily added to the system.

Tools Team Update
The Sakai Tools Team is preparing a number of documents for release to core Sakai and SEPP. These will include information on User Interfaces and Style Guides, a Sakai Glossary, and Feature Set/Gap Analysis. The Tools Team has begun discussions with the SEPP Requirements Group to better coordinate mutual activities going forward.

SEPP Development Group - Mark Norton
A tip on using Maven to deploy new Sakai tools was posted to the Discussion Forum.

SEPP UI Group - Malcom Brown
Malcom Brown of Dartmouth University has agreed to be the group leader of the SEPP UI Group.

Open Source Portfolio Initiative User Conference
You are encouraged to attend the Open Source Portfolio User Conference on 16-17 July in San Francisco. Participation is limited to 100 attendees and discount conference/hotel rates are available until 17 June. Conference program and registration details are at www.theospi.org/conf/. The conference precedes the Syllabus and Alt-i-Lab Conferences in San Francisco.

SEPP Conference Reminder
Everything is almost ready for the SEPP Conference being held in Denver Colorado next week on June 23-25 at the Westin Tabor Center. Reservations are no longer being taken by the Tabor Center. Attendees may wish to investigate nearby alternatives, such as the Denver Hyatt. Denver is running a major celebration this week, so you should make your hotel reservations as soon as possible. If you have not registered for the conference at this time, you should do so as soon as possible, reservations after 5 pm EDT, Friday June 18, 2004

will only be accepted on a case-by-case basis. If you need to make a reservation after this time, please contact Brian Diveley at bdiveley@umich.edu as soon as possible.

Participating in the online SEPP Community
The SEPP community site (http://chefproject.org/chef/portal/) is an on-line forum where topics of interest to SEPP members are being discussed. Official releases of Sakai documents and code are made through this site. Please take the time to register and express your views on Sakai and SEPP.

To join this site (which is restricted to SEPP and Sakai members), go to http://chefproject.org/chef/portal/ Use the "Create Account" button to enter your identity, then send email to Brian Diveley (bdiveley@umich.edu) to activate the account.

To join any of the SEPP discussion groups, you need to have an account on the SEPP Community Site , see above. Then, send a message to Brian Diveley (bdiveley@umich.edu) to join the Functional Requirements Group, the Cross Language Support Group, the Migration Strategy Group, or the UI Group.