



## Sakai Educational Partnership Program Update

May 4, 2005

### SEPP Discussion Groups

#### SEPP Enterprise Discussion Group - Duffy Gillman

Our group has completed two teleconferences to better shape our direction. We have affirmed our commitment to shape and document the Sakai APIs for integrating institutional data into Sakai. Further we aim to document experiences and to provide a storehouse for designs and use cases for integration to aide the community as a whole.

Several documents have been contributed to the Enterprise DG Resources following these meetings. These include meeting minutes and agendas, and the first few documents outlining integration use cases and strategies. We invite members to contribute use cases to the discussion group as a basis for deriving requirements for future development and documentation.

Further teleconferences have been scheduled leading up to the SEPP conference in June. Please RSVP to <mailto:duffy@email.arizona.edu>duffy@email.arizona.edu if you plan to attend (we have to arrange for the proper number of phone connections). The next two meetings will be held at the times listed below.

#### Teleconference Schedule:

May 12, 2005, 9:45 am - 12:00 pm (Eastern Time - EDT)

May 26, 2005, 9:45 am - 12:00 pm (Eastern Time - EDT)

Phone: 734-615-6802

Password: 2311

Contact: <mailto:duffy@email.arizona.edu> duffy@email.arizona.edu

### Other Sakai News

#### Brian Behlendorf to Keynote Sakai Summer Conference

Apache Software Foundation co-founder and president Brian Behlendorf will share his experience in the open source software development community with Sakai Educational

Partners at the Summer Conference June 8-10, 2005 in Baltimore, Maryland. Behlendorf also founded CollabNet and served on the Board of Open Source Initiative.

Honoring him for his technical contributions, this month InfoWorld named Behlendorf to their list of top 25 CTOs. These are "the 25 most influential" chief technologies.

The Apache Software Foundation has 26 open source software projects-many with sub-projects. The Sakai Project uses software from Maven, Web Services, XML, Logging, and other Apache projects.

### Sakai Summer Conference - Hotel Registration Group Rate Cut-Off Date May 17, 2005

Please remember that you must register with the hotel in addition to registering for the conference. There is a link on the registration page that will take you directly to the hotel registration page, but a registration for the conference is not automatically a registration for the hotel. And remember, the cut-off date for the group rate of \$159 is May 17, 2005. After that date, the hotel will continue to accept reservations on a space and rate-available basis. The Baltimore Marriott Inner Harbor at Camden Yard's corporate rates for June of 2005 are \$279.00 for a single or a double.

### Sakai Open Source Initiative Most Recognized, Like to Succeed

"Sakai is the most recognized and most likely to succeed" of open source initiatives in higher education according to a preliminary survey released Monday by the Alliance for Higher Education Competitiveness.

Based on 79 returned surveys, Rob Abel cautions these observations should be considered "as preliminary and indicative of potential future research only." He commented "Impressively, over 75% of the respondents had heard of Sakai, well ahead of the other six initiatives." JA-SIG's uPortal was also highly recognized and expected to succeed in the marketplace. "uPortal came out on top from those respondents that rated their knowledge as excellent or expert."

"The relatively new open source CMS Moodle came in surprisingly strong in terms of expectation to succeed, especially among those who were least expert in their knowledge of open source. Moodle had a recognition level as high as uPortal, which was well ahead of the four remaining initiatives."

The survey listed Sakai, uPortal, OSPI Open Source Portfolio Initiative, Quali financial system, OKI Open Source Interface Definitions, and the Moodle learning system.

*From " Preliminary Analysis of the Open Source in Higher Education Survey Conducted from April 15, 2005 to May 1, 2005," Alliance for Higher Education Competitiveness, May 3, 2005*

## Calendar Update

### SEPP Summer 2005 Conference

The Summer Conference will take place during the Community Source Week in Baltimore, MD on June 8-14. The SEPP conference will start on Wednesday, June 8 with pre-conference DG planning sessions, tutorials, and an early evening welcome reception. Conference sessions continue on Thursday, June 9 and Friday, June 10, concluding at 12:30 p.m. The first draft of the conference agenda is on the website, but is subject to change.

DG/WG leaders have been asked to email John Norman or Chuck Powell with their desires for the conference.

Contacts: Chuck Powell, [charles.powell@yale.edu](mailto:charles.powell@yale.edu), John Norman, [john@caret.cam.ac.uk](mailto:john@caret.cam.ac.uk), and Jim Farmer, [jxf@immagic.com](mailto:jxf@immagic.com), and Mary Miles at [mmiles@umich.edu](mailto:mmiles@umich.edu).  
<<mailto:mmiles@umich.edu>> Please send with any comments or inquiries to these contacts, with a cc: to Mary Miles.

Online program registration and hotel registration are now available at:

[http://sakaiproject.org/cms/index.php?option=com\\_content](http://sakaiproject.org/cms/index.php?option=com_content)  
<[http://sakaiproject.org/cms/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=blogcategory&id=0&Itemid=405](http://sakaiproject.org/cms/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=0&Itemid=405)> &task=blogcategory&id=0&Itemid=405

### SEPP May Videoconference

The next SEPP Monthly Videoconference is scheduled for Wednesday, May 11 from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. EDT, or 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. GMT. An RSVP request and meeting reminder with connection information will be sent to the main SEPP DG.

Current agenda items include:

- SEPP Baltimore Conference Update and preview of coming attractions
- SEPP DG & WG News and Updates
- Version 2.0 Update
- Project Matchmaker Introduction
- Other Updates

The next SEPP Newsletter will be published on May 18, 2005. If you have items you would like included, please send them to Mary Miles ([mmiles@umich.edu](mailto:mmiles@umich.edu)).