



April 2006

Keeping You Informed of Current and Upcoming
Work inside IMS and the eLearning Community

PUBLIC DISPATCH


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Welcome to the monthly newsletter from IMS Global Learning Consortium, Inc. Our goal is to provide you with information about what is happening inside IMS and around the eLearning Community. We welcome your comments and feedback.

May Meeting

The second Quarterly Meeting of the year will be held in California, the 8-11 May. Monday-Wednesday, 8-10 May will be held at Stanford University at the Francis G. Arrillaga Alumni Center and Thursday the 10th, we will have an IMS Technical Board, Feedback, and Future Directions Discussion meeting at Sun Microsystems in Menlo Park.

Several new Special Interest Groups will be starting: Integrated Talent Management, Rich Media, and Enterprise. 

alt-*i*-lab 2006 and the Summit on Global Learning Industry Challenges

Mark your calendars. 19-21 June is this year's alt-*i*-lab and our new addition to the event, the Summit on Global Learning Industry Challenges. This year's event will focus on working sessions about:

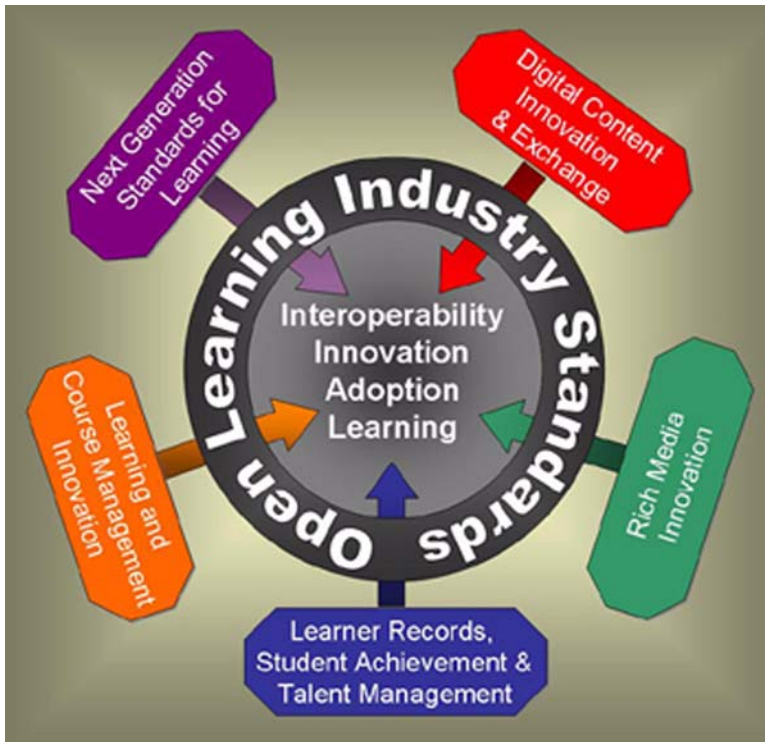
1. Real-time sharing of student information for assessment, learning applications, and beyond.

Explore the possibilities of next generation data exchange between learning management systems, assessment systems, and learner information systems. This working session will focus on discovering the real pain points and hurdles that are impeding wider adoption and true interoperability.

Chair:

Chris Vento, Senior Vice President - Technology & Product Development, Blackboard

2. Achieving true plug and play among learning applications and data sources - whether open source or not.



As digital repositories and adaptive learning applications become more pervasive, the industry must move beyond standards for integration to true plug and play. This working session will discuss how we can move beyond demonstrations and standards of integration to true plug and play.

Chair:

Bruno Van Haetsdaele, Co-founder and Chief Technology Officer, HorizonWimba

3. Rich media for educational content and learner control.

There is renewed interest in new media for learning applications. Connectivity, bandwidth, and personal digital devices are becoming pervasive. What should be the standards for enabling learner and instructor interaction via rich media that will impact student success? IMS/GLC is chartering a new working group to apply existing and new specifications to this challenge.

4. Introducing talent management.

Learning and human resource development have been occurring for years, but the tools available to human resource managers and learners have been primitive. Join this working session to explore a new IMS/GLC project that addresses standards for talent management - the integration of learning with human resource development.

Chair:

Robert Todd, Sr. Director, Product Management, Convergys

5. Providing more and better options for digital course content.

Options for digital course content are growing rapidly. But sharing has been limited due to differences in course management systems. In this session, we will look at the first step in moving toward write once, deliver everywhere backed by the major publishers.

The summit will be a series of Panel Sessions covering topics such as:

The Big Picture: Focusing on a Vision of What Constitutes A Better Higher Education: Taking the Non-profit/For-profit Debate in a More Productive Direction

What is the next generation of high quality education? How can we accelerate our industry focus on building capacity, career and life impact, development of learning skills, reinvestment to improve the delivery of learning, improving attainment, dealing with the accelerating growth of knowledge, and improved

admissions processes? Join our panel members who have a passion for improving the quality of education beyond currently accepted practices for an exciting discussion about the future.

Improving Institutional Performance via Learning Technology

Technology might be the only means to improve quality, reduce costs, and increase the scale of education. Given the accelerating accumulation of knowledge and the need to achieve higher levels of education among the world's populace, we must meet the challenge of applying technology toward improved access and better learning outcomes. Join our panel of experts who have researched and practiced the effective use of learning technology to improve performance of learning institutions.

Open Source: Win-Lose, Win-Win, or Lose-Lose for the Learning Industry?

New open source applications in the learning market have been explored with great interest as a potential way to provide the education industry with the customization, control, and stability. Hear about new research on the adoption of open source in higher education and join the debate on what business issues open source addresses and whether it is a positive or negative influence on the learning industry.

Can New Media Impact Student Success and Will It?

It seems that every student wants an iPod. Some institutions are conducting experiments in the use of iPods for learning. But, do we really expect these high profile efforts to bear any fruit in new or pervasive ways to enhance learning? Join our expert panel on new media and a new generation of learning products that use media to create new learning environments to debate the potential impact.

Current sponsors of the event include: **Blackboard, ADL, HarvestRoad, GIUNTI Labs, CSU, and Cisco Systems.** If you are interested in sponsoring the event, please contact Lisa Mattson at lisa@imglobal.org



Make sure you register to attend before the early registration deadline May 5 at

<https://www.concentra-cms.com/register/start.action?confId=10> 

Common Cartridge and IMS/GLC Intellectual Property Rights Policy

The IMS Common Cartridge Project Group has voted and elected to continue their work under the Intellectual Property Rights Policy approved by the IMS Board of Directors in November 2005. This means that access to the working group forum and meetings will be limited to Contributing Members who agree to be bound by the policy and fill out Intellectual Property Rights Election form (Appendix B of the IPR Policy) at the Public Draft stage.

Once participants agree to be part of the Common Cartridge Project Group they will be responsible for completing the Intellectual Property Rights Election form even if they cease to participate at some future stage.

If a Member Organization that has not already elected to participate, wishes to participate in the group, they should contact Lisa Mattson at lmattson@msglobal.org for access to the Project Group. Access to the Common Cartridge forum will be limited to participants as of 10 April.



New Special Interest Groups: Talent Management, Rich Media

Two new Special Interest Groups (SIGs) will be launching at the May Meeting: Integrated Talent Management and Rich Media. These meetings are for Contributing Members and invited guests. If you are interested in attending, contact Lisa Mattson at lmattson@msglobal.org

Integrated Talent Management, led by Robert Todd of Convergys, will meet on:

Monday May 8th, 2006, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Stanford University Alumni Center
326 GALVEZ ST
Stanford, CA 94305
Phone: 650.723.2021
McDowell Room

Many corporate executives have identified Talent Management - the strategic management of human capital - as a top issue for 2006 and beyond. Implementing enterprise wide talent management today requires the integration of new and existing processes, content and technology.

Almost ten years ago IMS was formed to provide technical expertise and a neutral gathering point to participants in the e-learning market. Working together IMS members succeeded in developing a set of common technology specifications that have lowered the cost and improved the outcomes of technology-based learning solutions across global training and education segments.

Integrated Talent Management (ITM) is an approach to managing corporate investments in people - human capital - that integrates previously disconnected HR processes such as learning, recruiting, performance management, and compensation to improve company performance.

Join leaders in Learning and HR to discuss the evolving opportunity for Integrated Talent Management. We will evaluate the opportunity of developing an open architecture and sharing best practices for global talent management solutions.

Agenda

- What is Integrated Talent Management (definitions and examples)?
- What is the market opportunity for Talent Management solutions (data and projections)?
- Challenges in implementing global talent management.
- Existing source material for the development of an open talent management architecture.

The Rich Media SIG will be led by Tegrity, and will meet:

Tuesday May 8th, 2006, 9am - 5:00 pm
Stanford University Alumni Center
326 GALVEZ ST
Stanford, CA 94305
Phone: 650.723.2021

Phase: Discussing Industry Challenges and Working Group Objectives Prior to Chartering the Working Group

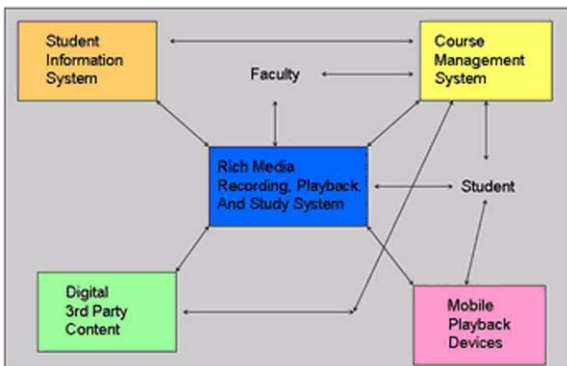
Problem Statement:

With the explosion in the availability and usage of portable media devices by students, the increased availability of network bandwidth, and the emergence of a new category of rich media recording systems for the classroom there is great hype about the use of mobile media devices for learning.

- How can the learning industry and learning institutions take advantage of this trend and accelerate the availability of innovative learning solutions for faculty and students?
- What is needed in mobile devices and elsewhere to facilitate the achievement of learning and not just playback?

Potential Working Group Emphasis:

This working group could address a number of areas.



First, the technical specifications needed for enterprise rich media learning systems as a convergence point of classroom recorded and 3rd party digital content.

Second, the specifications needed to ensure appropriate feedback from mobile devices to enterprise learning systems in order to provide useful information to faculty and administrators.

Third, what do student and faculty evaluations and other research indicate are best practices and guidelines for the use of rich media in learning?

Potential Working Group Objectives:

- Support and enable the growth of the enterprise Rich Media System category of products and services by formalizing the standard interfaces with:
 - Course Management Systems
 - Student Information Systems
 - Publisher Digital Content
 - Service Oriented Architectures.
- Enable viability of Rich Media for effective learning by creating standards for control of playback, faculty-student interaction and faculty monitoring of student progress.
- Enable viability of Rich Media for effective learning by creating standards for measuring the effectiveness of Rich Media learning and guidelines/best practices for implementing Rich Media learning.



A-HEC White Papers Available to Members

White papers and best practices reports, provided regularly to members of the Alliance for Higher Education Competitiveness (A-HEC), are now available to IMS/GLC Contributing Members and LILF (Learning Industry Leaders Forum) Members through the IMS Member Website.

To learn more about LILF or to become a member, visit:

<http://www.imsglobal.org/lilf/>

(LILF membership is included in the IMS/GLC Contributing Member benefits.)



Member News

Two current IMS contributing members, HorizonWimba and Brownstone Research Group, recently announced that they will be merging. Details of the announcement are available in a press release on the HorizonWimba website here: http://www.horizonwimba.com/about/press_detail.php?id=93

Have some news to share with other IMS Members about your involvement with IMS?

Send your news to lisa@imsglobal.org



Workplan

Want to know what's happening in IMS?

Description	
QTI Assessment Project Group	The QTI Assessment Project Group has completed QTI v2.1 Public Draft specification (now available on the IMS website) and is working on a candidate for Final specification that will be released in May to encourage additional implementation prior to Final Specification.
Packaging Project Group	The Packaging Project Group has completed the v1.2 Public Draft specification and is working on a rev. 2 version Public Draft that will give implementers a longer than normal adoption period before the spec becomes Final in early 2007.
Common Cartridge Project Group	The Common Cartridge Project Group is working on the Base Document specification.
Enterprise Services Special Interest Group	The Query Services work will be folded into a new release and update of the Enterprise Services specification. The group is gathering use cases and preparing a charter for approval.
Rich Media Special Interest Group	This SIG will meet for the first time in May and begin collecting use cases to inform future work.
Integrated Talent Management Special Interest Group	This SIG will meet for the first time in May and begin collecting use cases to inform future work.



Workshops and Presentations

- ⊙ 26-28 April 2006 - Digital Learning Asia 2006 - Centre for Science, Development and Media Studies - Bangkok, Thailand
- ⊙ 8 June 2006 - TELCERT Workshop: 'Facing the New Challenges of Globalization in e-Learning' - Palermo, Sicily
- ⊙ 9 June 2006 - TELCERT Workshop: 'Web Services - Modelling and Testing' - Palermo, Sicily
- ⊙ 19-21 June - alt-*i*-lab 2006, IMS Annual Meeting, IMS Technical Board Meeting - Indianapolis, Indiana, USA <http://www.imsglobal.org/altilab2006/>
- ⊙ 10-13 October 2006 - EDUCAUSE Annual Conference - Dallas, Texas, USA
- ⊙ 11-13 October 2006 - EifEL (European Institute for E-Learning) - Fourth International ePortfolio Conference - Kings Centre, Oxford, UK
- ⊙ 22-25 October 2006 - Conference on Information Technology (CIT)- The League for Innovation's annual Conference on Information Technology (CIT) - Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte, North Carolina

