Functionality Mash Up - Evolving to the Next Generation of Learning Management Systems

Dr. Charles Severance
University of Michigan School of Information
IMS Global Learning Consortium
www-dr-chuck.com
April 30, 2008 - JA-Sig Conference



Innovation Adoption Learning

MORE INFORMATION

About IMS
Background
Collaborations
▶ Staff
Board of Directors
Press Releases
Press Kit

▶ SEARCH

Search

SEARCH ▶

QUICK LINKS

- Join the IMS/GLC Community
- Download Specifications
- Specification Problem and Suggestion Reporting
- Join IMS/GLC
- Combook He

SPECIFICATIONS

ACTIVITIES

LEARNING IMPACT

ABOUT IMS/GLC

IMS Global Learning Consortium

MEMBER WEBSITE >>

Charles Severance

Developer Network Coordinator

Email: Email

Biography

Dr. Charles R. Severance

Charles is currently the IMS GLC Developers Network Coordinator and Clinical Assistant Professor in the School of Information at the University of Michigan. Previously he was the Executive Director of the Sakai Foundation and the Chief Architect of the Sakai Project.

Charles is the Author of the book High Performance Computing, Second Edition, published by O'Reilly and Associates. Charles has a background in standards including serving as the vice-chair for the IEEE Posix P1003 standards effort and edited the Standards Column in IEEE Computer Magazine from 1995-1999.

Charles has taught Computer Science courses at the University of Michigan and Michigan State University.

Charles has developed several tools to assist in the production of multimedia web-based lectures. The tools are called the Sync-O-Matic 3000 and ClipBoard-2000.

Charles is active in television and radio as a hobby, he has co-hosted several television shows including "Nothin but Net" produced by MediaOne and a nationally televised program called Internet: TCI. Charles appeared for over 10 years as an expert on Internet and Technology on a call-in radio program on the local Public Radio affiliate (www.wkar.org).

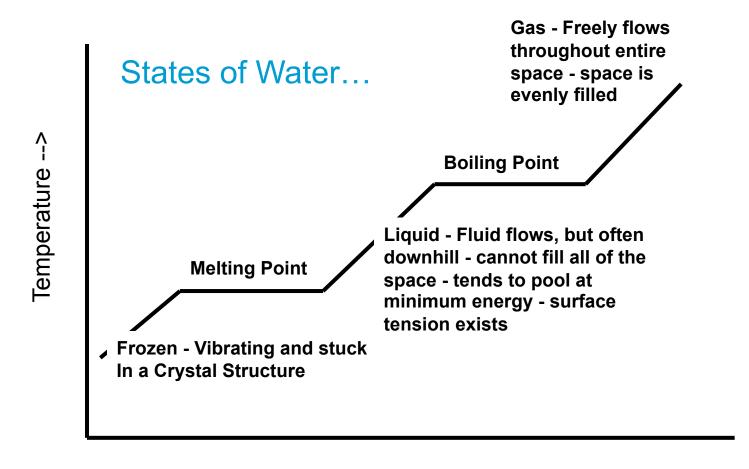
Chuck's hobbies include off-road motorcycle riding, karaoke and playing hockey.

Charles has a B.S., M.S., and Phd. in Computer Science from Michigan State University.

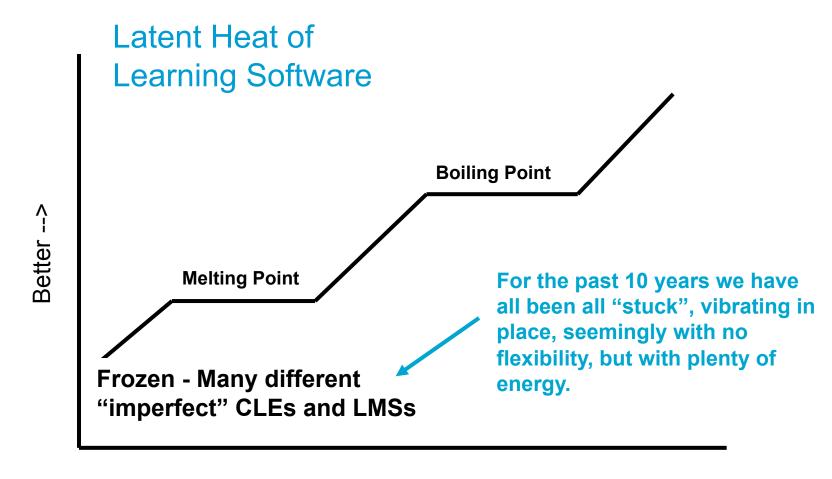


Outline

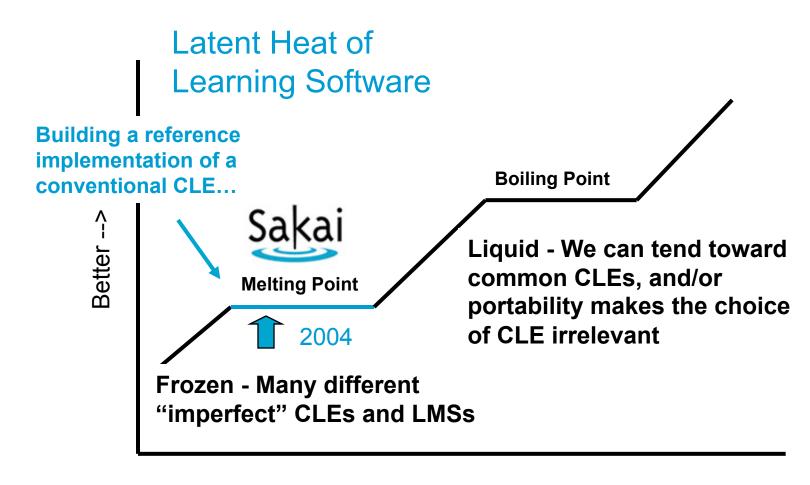
- Looking back at looking forward (2004)
- Student-Centered Learning
- What will the "next" LMS look like?
- IMS Learning Tool Interoperability 2.0
- Sakai/IMS Google Summer of Code
- Looking ahead in Sakai and Moodle



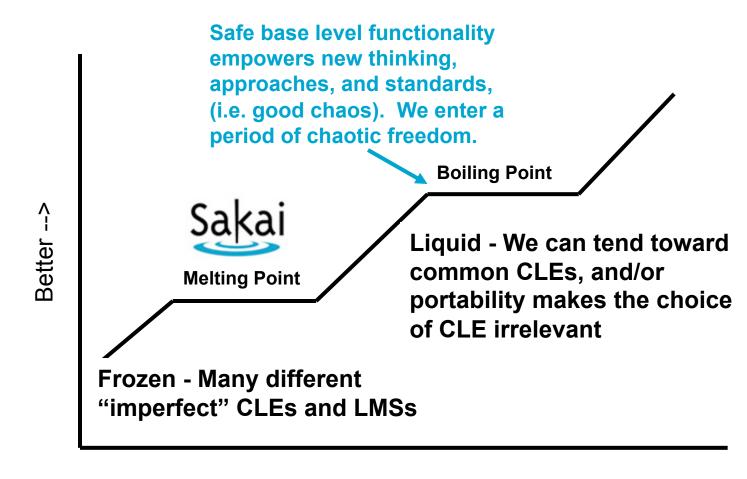
Time / "Heat" Applied --->



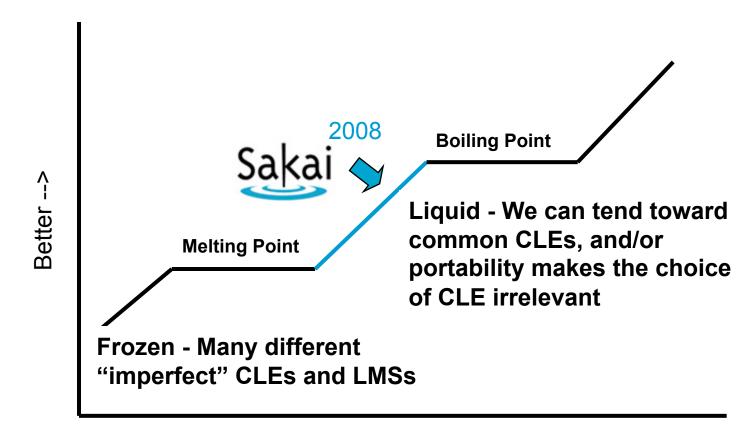
Time / "Heat" / Money / Energy Applied --->



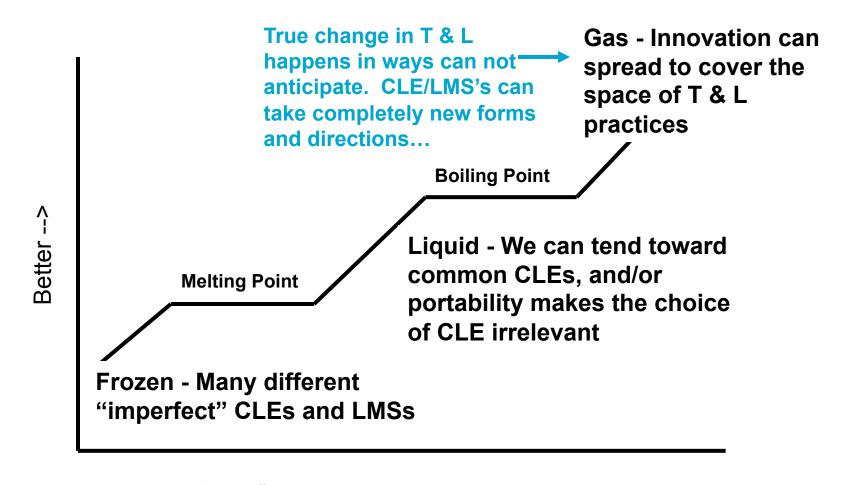
Time / "Heat" / Money / Energy Applied --->



Time / "Heat" / Money / Energy Applied --->



Time / "Heat" / Money / Energy Applied --->



Time / "Heat" / Money / Energy Applied --->

More Than Free Source Code

Open Source leads to Open Thinking and Open Innovation

Open Everything

- Open Source
- Open Intellectual Property
- Open Thinking
- Open Ideas

Open Innovation

open.michigan

Connecting the global learning community

home

about

community

education

projects

contact





community

education

projects

featured

recently added go to community »

David Stern, M.D., Ph.D. Talks About Global REACH



open.blog

This is a collaboration and discussion space for the Open.Michigan community. It's a space where we can stay informed about our various projects, share



experiences, and ask for feedback. More >



Except where otherwise noted, content on this site is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 License.



Moodle .versus. Sakai

- Many schools compare and choose
- Neither wins all the time

- Everyone realizes their weaknesses
- Everyone gets stronger

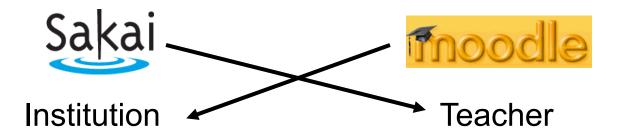


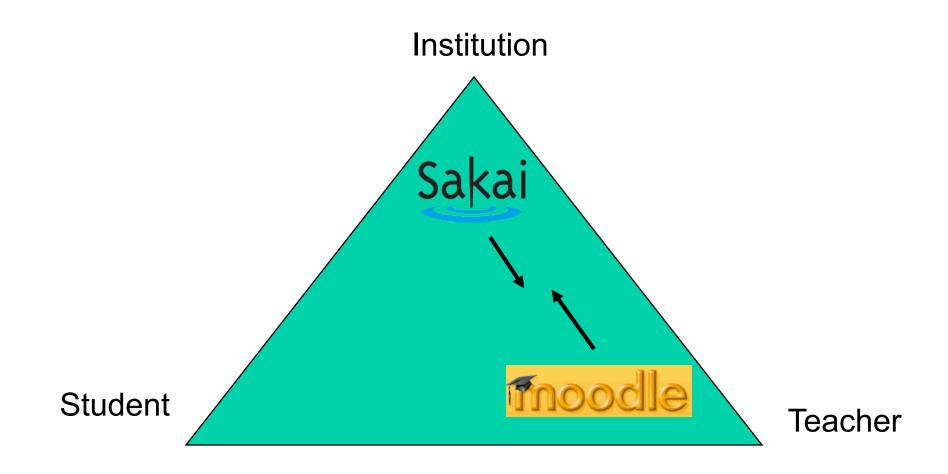
Ideas Flow...

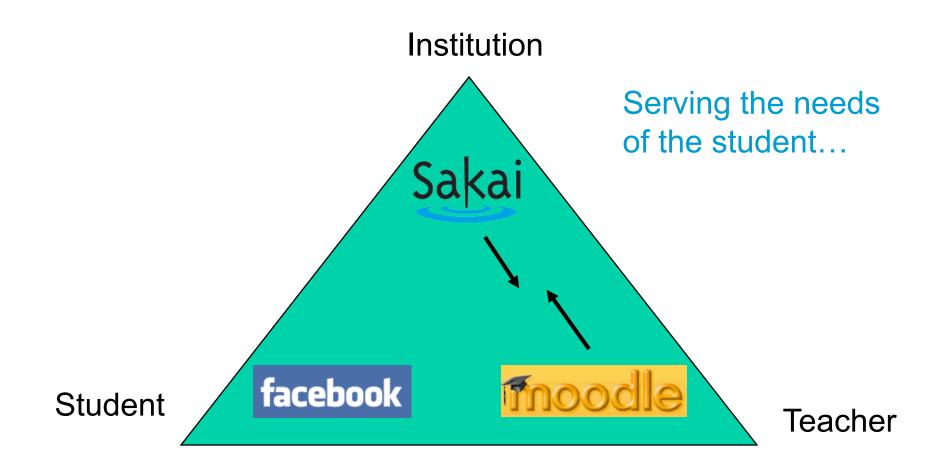
- Moodle adds flexible role system (Sakai)
- Sakai is designing flexible course setup and layout (add Resource) (Moodle)
- Moodle is building Learning Activity Management System (LAMS) Sakai wants this too..
- Moodle is adding web service APIs (Sakai)...
- Communities and adopters are glad to see teaching and learning improving

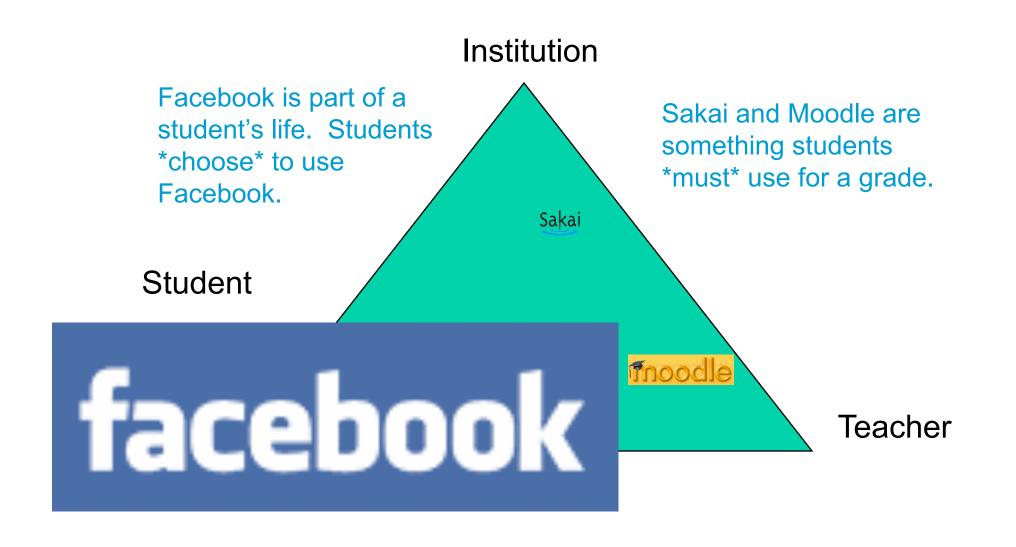
Addressing Weaknesses

- Moodle is working on increasing its appeal to enterprise institutions
- Sakai is working on building interfaces that teachers will love









Student Centered Learning

What can we learn from Facebook?

Can we make a teaching environment students *want* to use?



University of Michigan Medical School

- What is beyond Sakai and Open Source Portfolio?
- In 2007, the put out a Request for Information (RFI) for a student centered learning system.
- They had a very clear vision of what they wanted
- Nothing in the marketplace even came close to their requirements



Learning Management System: Medical School Requirements

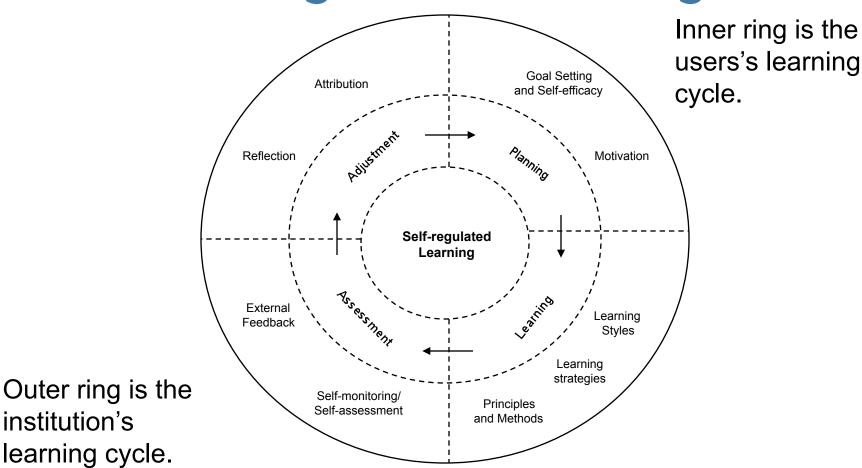
- Student-centered
- Self-regulated learning
- Competency-oriented national and local competencies
- 3 distinct but interactive levels
 - Institutional
 - Personal
 - Portfolio

Casey B. White, Ph.D.

Joseph C. Fantone, M.D.

March 2007

A Model for Self-regulated Learning*



• White CB, Gruppen LD. 2007. Self-regulated Learning in Medical Education. Association for the Study of Medical Education: Understanding Medical Education.

institution's

learning cycle.



Self-regulated Learning

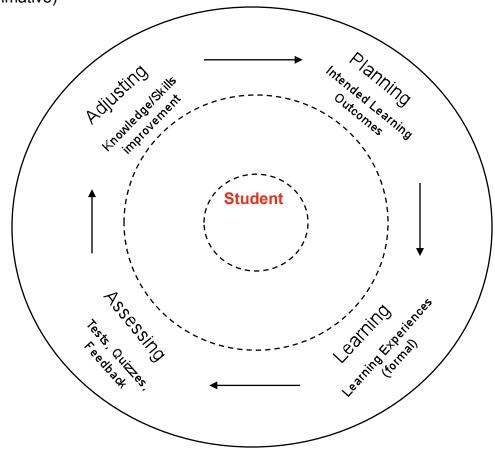
4-phase cycle Continuous (formative/summative)

Feedback = key

Student responsibility &

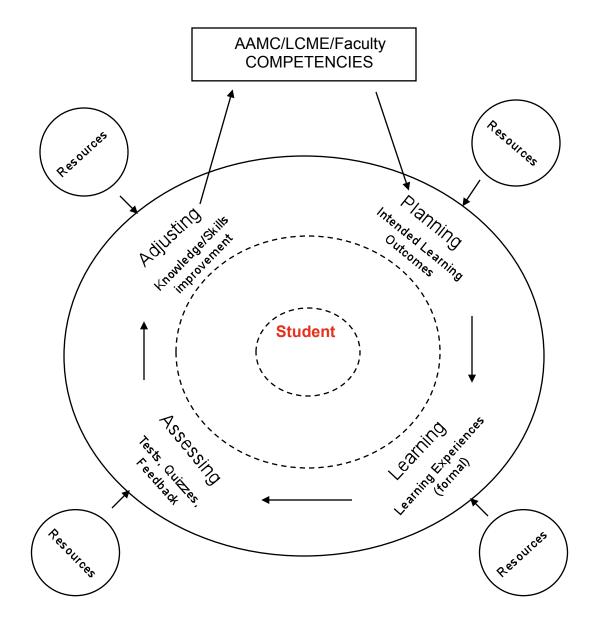
Accountability

Lifelong learning



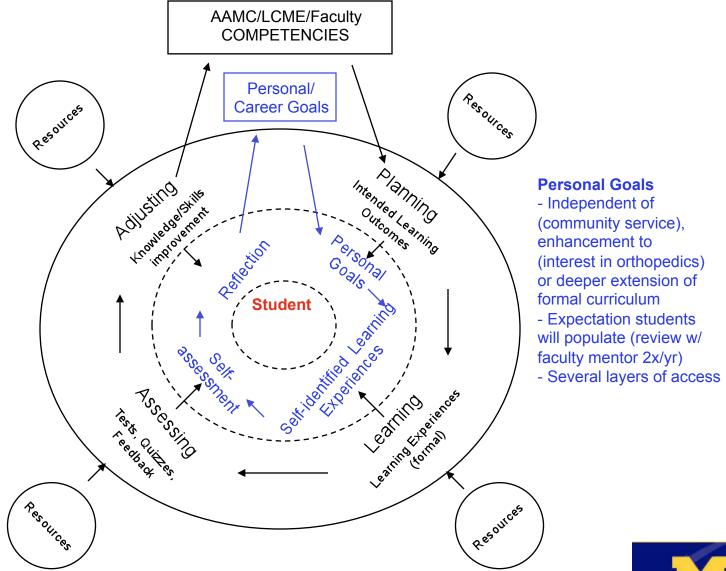


Responding to the need for tracking of competencies defined by others.



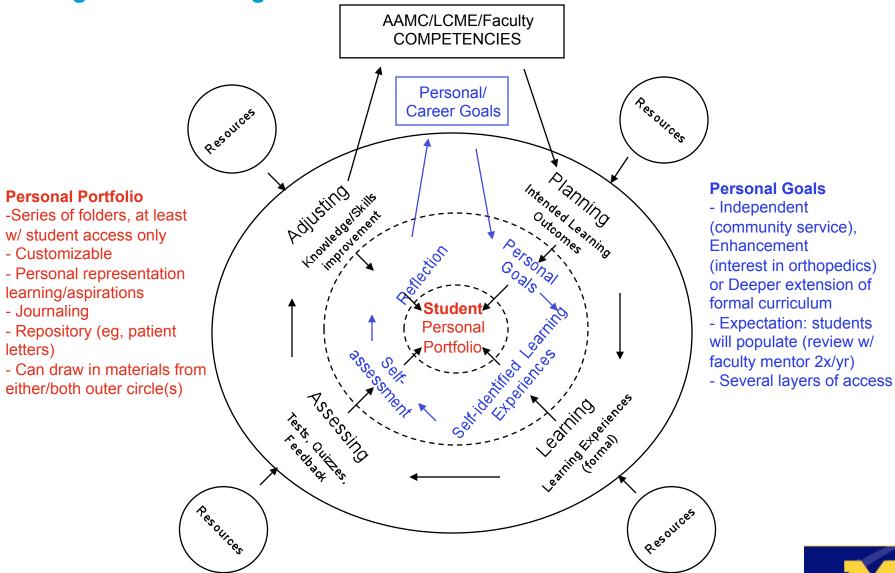


The student process operates within the institutional process under the student's control

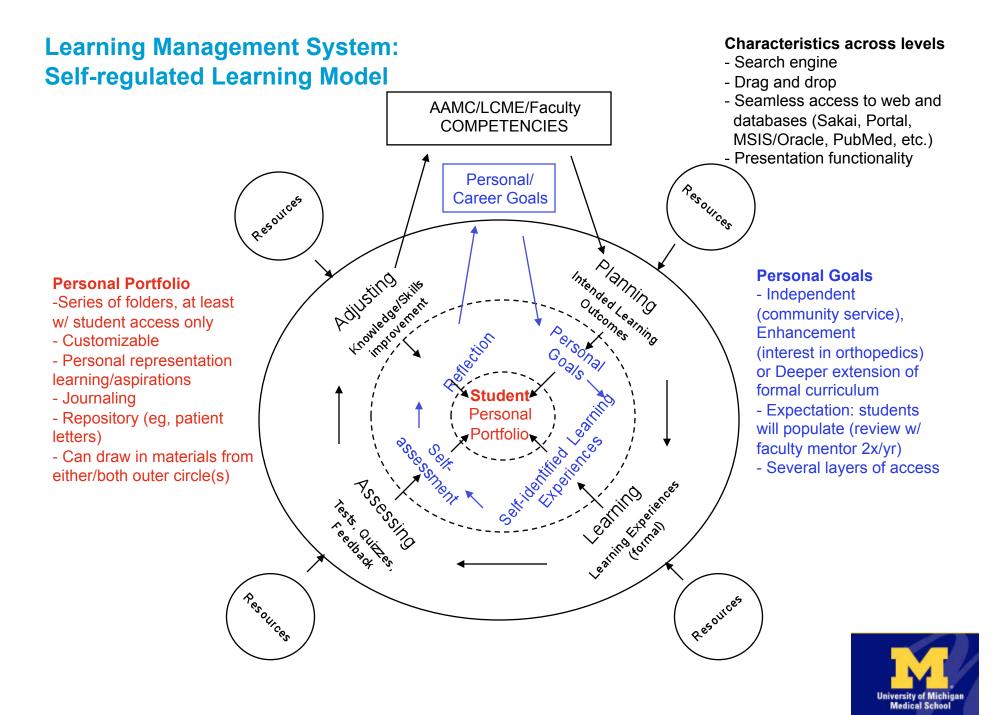




Learning Management System: Self-regulated Learning Model



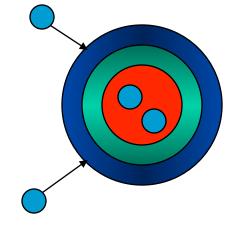




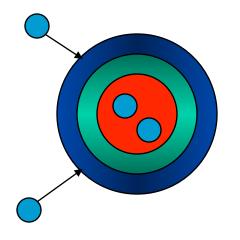


The Social Dimension

- These pictures focus on the view from the institution into the individual
- The processes and flows are around and toward the student at the center







What are we doing with the resources?

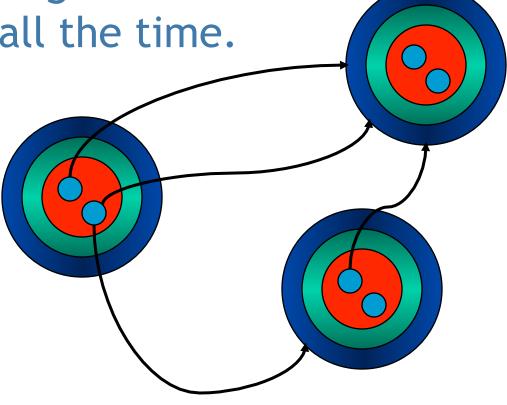
What are we putting in our portfolio?

Do those things just sit there forever?



The "learning turbines" are producing new resources all the time.

These can be people or even groups - constantly making, consuming, and enhancing resources.



What will the Student Centered Learning System look like?

A journey of 1000 miles begins with a single step...



Michigan Medical School

- The desired software cannot be purchased or downloaded. Period. Nothing comes close.
- Lets just write it. Lets build/adopt/extend a student centered learning environment.
- This is not a new feature in an LMS this must be for the student. It must compete with Facebook.



Teaching and Learning @ Michigan

- Deeply involved in Sakai and OSP
 - 5 FTE working on Sakai
 - 4 FTE working on Open Source Portfolio
- Building Open Courseware / Open Educational Resources
- Michigan also runs BlackBoard on its Flint and Dearborn Campuses
- SharePoint is increasingly used in administrative settings



First: Survey The Market to Learn from others

- Not happy with classic LMS software like Sakai and Moodle
- Look for personal portfolio systems and content management systems and Facebook
- Start from the student perspective and work outwards...



Things to Look At...

•LAMS •Elgg

Moodle PortfolioDrupal

Open Source PortfolioPlone

•Mahara •Joomla

•Chisimba •Facebook

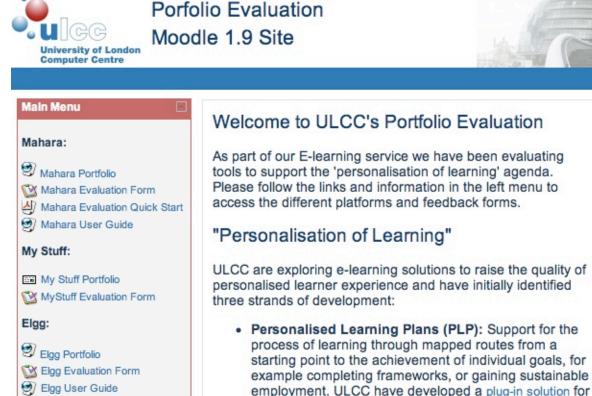
•....

Always think "personal" not institutional. The institution has an interest - but the user interface must be personal fit institutional needs into a user-centered interface.



NP: Portfolios are offered as

portfolio.evaluation.ulcc.ac.uk



Moodle to manage PLPs.



You are logged in as Charles Severance (Logout

ULCC Links

- ULCC Web Site
- ULCC Moodle
- ULCC ILP Demo

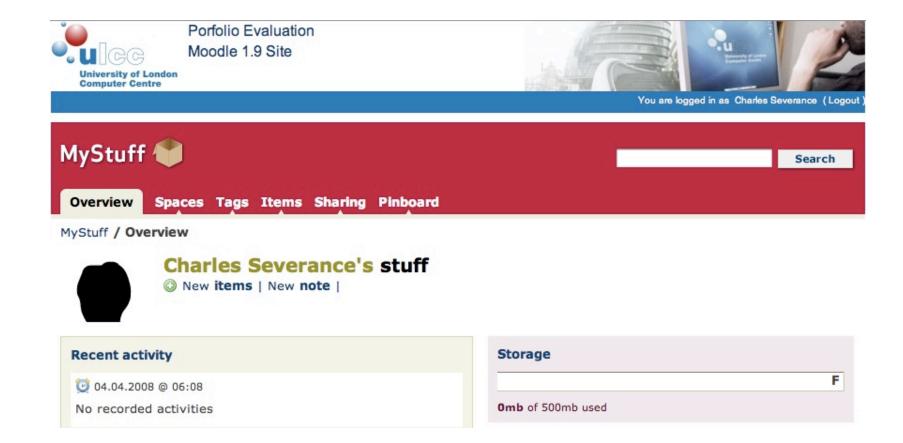
Note: The following evaluation and conclusions were only based on about 30 minutes of playing with each of these applications. It is brainstorming and **nothing more**. That means that this is not very scientific and should absolutely **not** be used to guide institutional major investments or strategic directions.

But at the same time, how long will students tolerate learning a user interface that theoretically was built for them.

Take all of this with a grain of salt - its intent is to make you think not give you conclusions. This section is for entertainment purposes only.

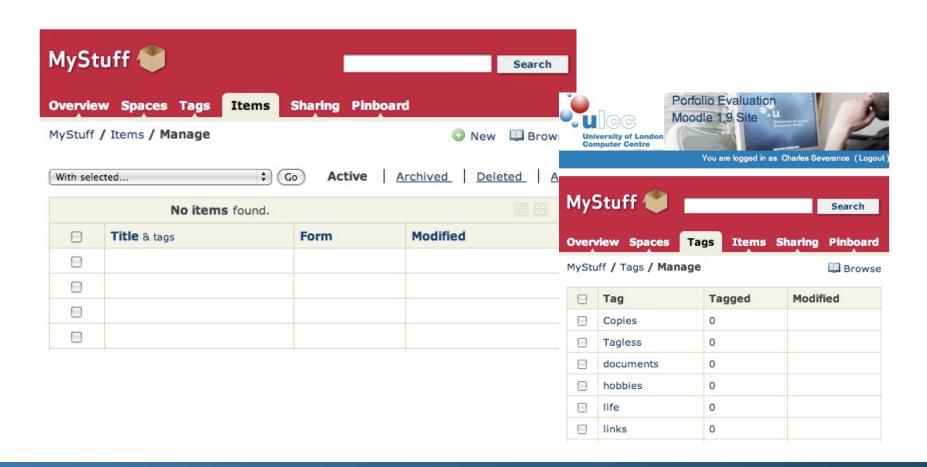


Moodle Portfolio





Moodle Portfolio





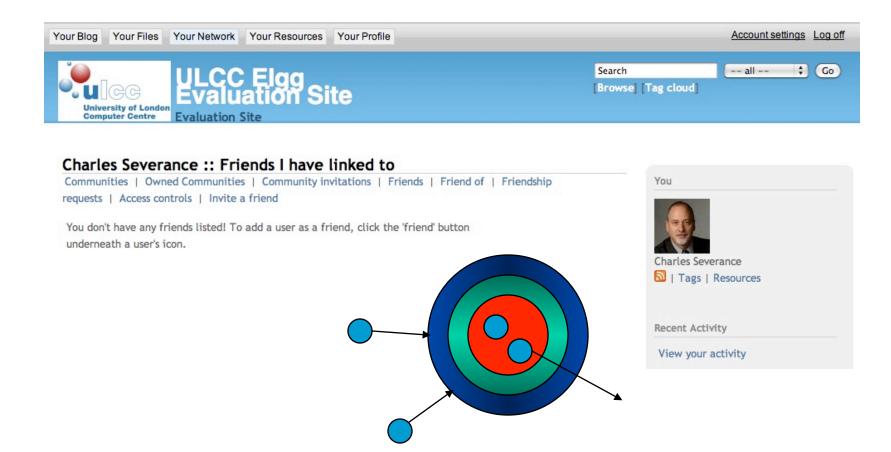
Elgg- It is clearly about "you"



Elgg is social software



Elgg - where you fit...





open source eportfolios



♣ Download Now

HOM

FEATURES

COMMUNITY

ROADMAP

SUPPORT AND TRAINING

DOCUMENTATION

Puts ePortfolio Owners in Control

Established in 2006, Mahara is the result of a collaborative venture funded by New Zealand's Tertiary Education Commission's e-learning Collaborative Development Fund (eCDF), involving Massey University, Auckland University of Technology, The Open Polytechnic of New Zealand and Victoria University of Wellington.

Mahara is a fully featured open source electronic portfolio, weblog, resume builder and social networking system, connecting users and creating online communities. Mahara is designed to provide users with the tools to demonstrate their life-long learning, skills and development over time to selected audiences.

Meaning 'think' or 'thought' in Te Reo Māori, the name reflects the project's dedication to creating a user-centred life-long learning and development application as well as the belief that technology solutions cannot be developed outside the considerations of pedagogy and policy.

Mahara is provided freely as Open Source software (under the GNU General Public License). In brief, this means that you are allowed to copy, use and modify Mahara provided you agree to:

- provide the source code to others;
- not modify or remove the original license and copyrights, and
- annly this same license to any derivative



IN THE NEWS...

Mahara 1.0.0 Released

Mahara 1.0.0 has been released! This landmark release contains many great new features over the 0.9 series.

more

Mahara 1.0.0rc1 Released 28 March 2008

Mahara 1.0.0rc1 has been released, containing many bug fixes and improvements, especially to browser support.

Mahara 1.0.0beta2 Released

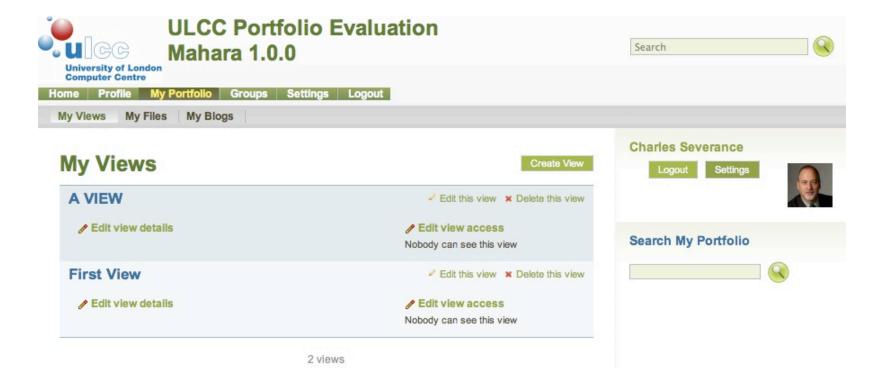
Mahara 1.0.0beta2 has been released, which contains the new theme and many bug fixes and improvements.

more



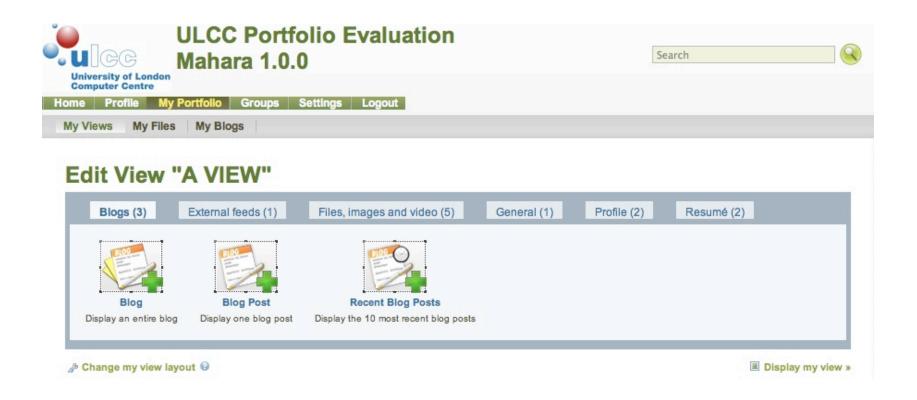


Mahara - "My Portfolio"





Mahara - A View





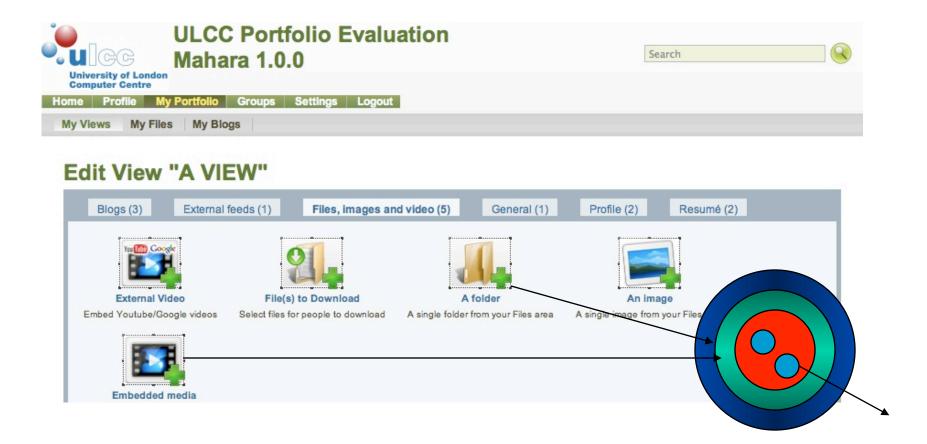
Embedded media

Mahara - Artifacts



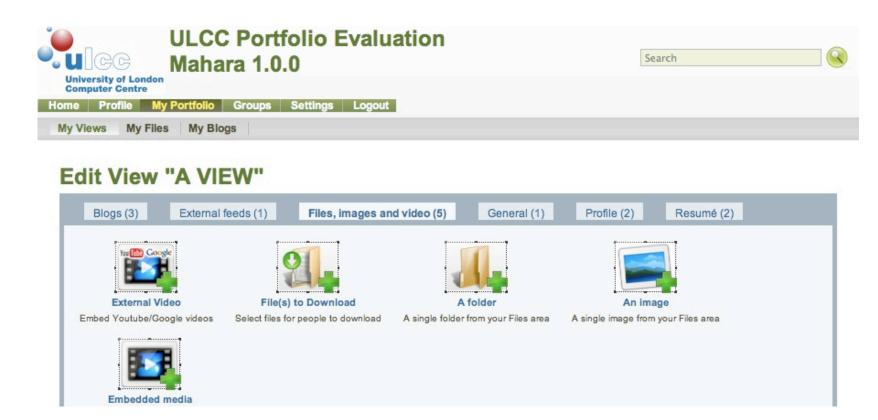


Mahara - Artifacts





Up Next-Functionality Mashup



Functionality/Resource Mashup

Distributed Provisioning for Teaching and Learning Software

Functionality Mash up

- Functionality Mash up is the ability to pull a program into another program under end-user control
- Functionality Mash up is not just read-only the mashed up application will need sufficient access to services in the aggregating system to be able to provide rich and dynamic features.
- Functionality mash up includes identity, context, roles, and data interchange







Bodington / Leeds

- Bodington (www.bodington.org) is an LMS developed by Leeds, Manchester, Oxford, and University of the Highlands and Islands.
- Bodington uses a variant of Shibboleth called GuanXI to mash up functionality.
- Leeds has done extensive experimentation with functionality mash up.

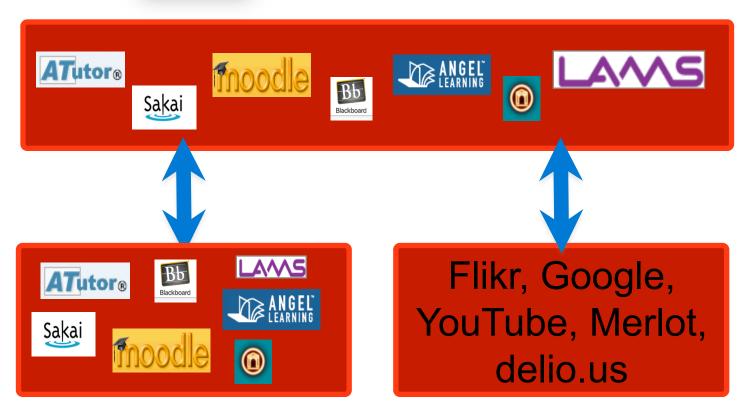
"I certainly don't see the VLE or LMS continuing in the form that they currently are, where you have a monolithic application with lots and lots of different tools presented to teachers and students. You very quickly come to the limits of any tool that you use. The answer is to abandon the tool you have been using and to swap in another tool. Now I can see a situation where you extend this from a single tool to all of the tools of an LMS. I can see a situation where the VLE or LMS actually shrinks to a container into which you plug these learning tools". (Dr. Aggie Booth, Leeds University, 2007)



http://www.dr-chuck.com/media.php?id=80



Functionality Mash Up Future – Learning





IMS Learning Tools Interoperability 2.0

Building the Standards for Learning Functionality Mashup





IMS Tool Interoperability

- A standard which is currently under development by IMS (<u>www.imsglobal.org</u>) for functionality mash up
- Effectively provides Facebook-like capabilities for learning management systems
- Read-write access from a tool to the LMS





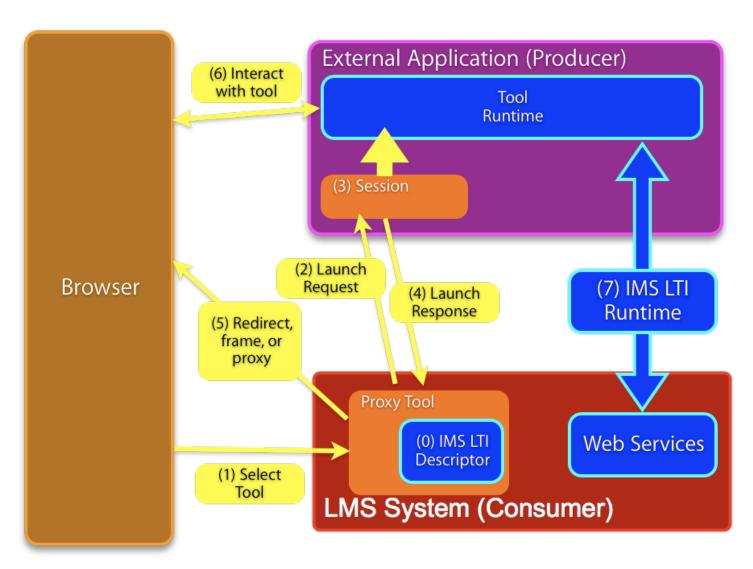
IMSTools Interoperability 1.0

- Demonstrated at IMS
 Alt-I-Lab 2005 in
 Sheffield England
- Balckboard, Sakai,
 WebCT, Moodle,
 Samigo, ConceptTutor











IMS Learning Tool Interoperability 2.0

- Currently in Development
- Specification Leads
- Bruno van Haetsdaele -Wimba
- Chris Moffatt Microsoft
- Learning Functionality Mash Up
- Integrated into "Add Resource" in learning systems



Caveat: This section discusses a specification still under development - anything can change as the specification progresses.



Scenarios

- IMS LTI 2.0 tool installed by the administrator endusers don't even realize the tool is hosted externally
- IMS LTI 2.0 generic tool available to instructors to be placed and configured Mash-Up style (like a general-purpose RSS reader or web-content tool)
- An IMS LTI 2.0 tool is placed when a publisher cartridge is loaded - often these are partially provisioned



Virtual Tool - Admin Install

- Administrator installs a proxy tool and makes it available as a regular tool
- Administrator configures services "sandbox" for the remote tool - exchange of key material
 - Tool may have permission to connect asynchronously
 - Tool may have permission to places "resources" instances of itself



Instructor MashUp - YouTube

- Instructor creates some learning object in an external service (freelearningsoftware.com)
- The service presents a URL + password
- The instructor pastes this information into an LTI Consumer Tool in the LMS





Instructor MashUp - SandBox

- For instructor mash up the Instructor configures the "sandbox" at the time of mash up
- The admin can set an inherited "sandbox" for all instructorplaced tools.

Allow this application to...

Know who I am and access my information

Put a box in my profile

Place a link in my left-hand navigation

Publish stories in my News Feed and Mini-Feed

Place a link below the profile picture on any profile

Send me notifications via email

Which Star Trek Personality Are You? was not created by Facebook.

By clicking 'add,' you agree to the Platform Application Terms of Use.



Common Cartridge

- Scenario 1: Content points to a pre-trusted host such as content.pearson.com - administrator has a sandbox pre-configured for tools that point to the pre-trusted host
- Scenario 2: When there is no pre-arranged trust/ sandbox - a placement from a cartridge behaves as an instructor-placed IMS LTI proxy tool.



Case Study: UM.SiteMaker www.gvcsitemaker.com

- SiteMaker is a simple, end-user tool to build web sites
- Database capability called "data tables"
- Combination of power and simplicity
- Written in Apple's Web Objects by Michgan
- Now has its own open source community and commercial vendor
- Should we rewrite SiteMaker in Sakai? No.



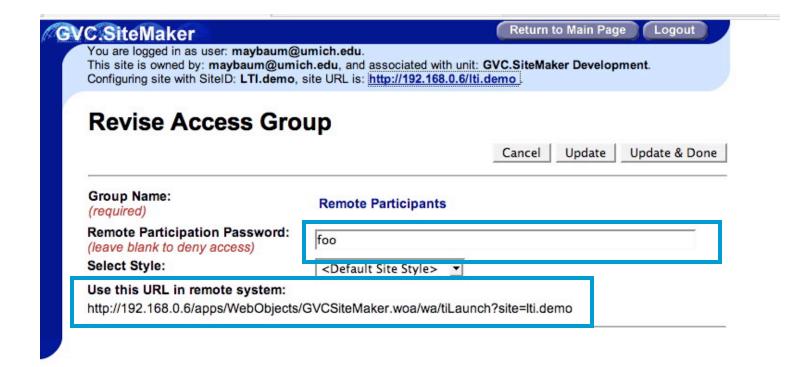
Sakai / Sitemaker Integration

- Launching via IMS LTI 2.0 (an early draft)
- Experiment in the ease of workflow of mashing a tool up
- Model: YouTube "paste this HTML"
- Production: Fall 2008

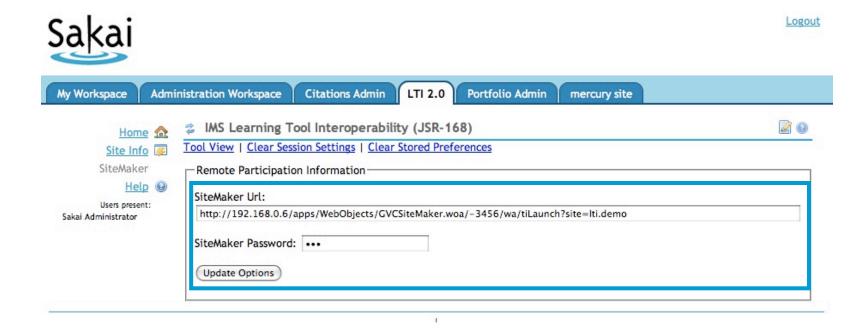














Sakai

Logout



View YouTube Videos Manage YouTube Videos

Navigate Database Table: "YouTube Videos"

Current record is #1 out of 1 in found set (1 total records in table)

List View Search Find All

<<First <Prev Next> Last>>

Kol Halev in Argentina - Part 1



This video was taken during our concert in Rosario, Argentina, during the summer of 2007. The trip was a very rewarding experience, both for Kol Halev and for each of the communitites that we visited.

Comments Add Comment

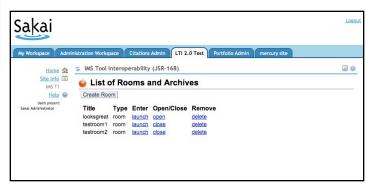
I found the music to be spirited, and very heartfelt. Very commendable for the group...

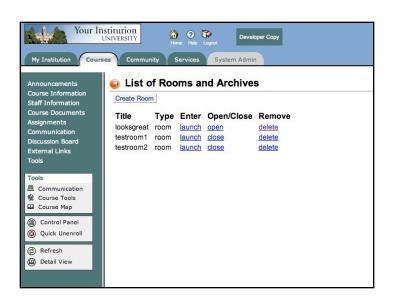


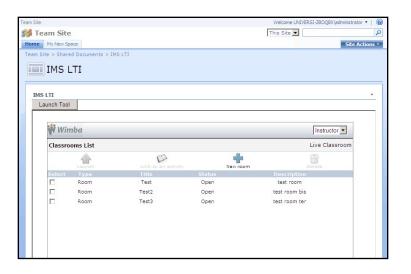
IMS Learning Tools Interoperability Demonstration

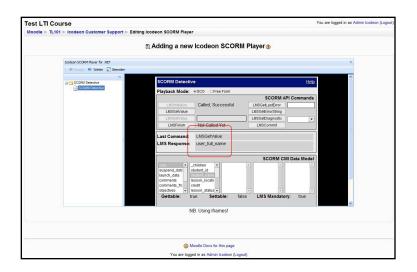
- IMS Learning Impact
- May 12-16, 2008, Austin, TX, USA
- http://www.imsglobal.org/













IMS Developer Network

- My task is to develop the IMS Developer Network
- Improve "in-the-field" availability of standardscompliant implementations
- Develop reusable bits / sample code / test code
- Work with and go-between developers implementing IMS Specs in their products

Sakai / IMS Google Summer of Code







Functionality Mashup Using IMS Learning Tools Interoperability Google 2008 Summer of Code

Update: Sakai and IMS are very pleased to have been selected for Google Summer of code 2008. We are now in the phase of the process where students and mentors interact and get to know each other better. Students applications are accepted by Google from March 24 - March 31. Students interested in working Sakai should read this entire page paying particular attention to the Ideas section below. If you have any questions, you should feel free to contact Dr. Chuck directly.

This Summer of Code 2008 ideas page centers around the notion of building open source reference implementations in a number of Learning Management Systems and environments for the IMS Learning Tool Interoperability specification which is under development.

IMS LTI has the potential to dramatically transform the use of technology in education. With IMS LTI, teachers and students will be able to use a wide variety of tools in their teaching and learning - not just the tools installed in their centrally installed learning management system. In addition, IMS LTI has the potential to put learners in charge of their own learning over their lifetime. The hope is to make the mash-up of teaching and learning tools as simple as placing the Google and YouTube videos on this page.

Presentation: Breaking Down Barriers Between Learning Systems December 17, 2007, Open University, Milton Keynes UK



General Idea

- Build many different implementations of IMS Tool
 Interoperability
- Variations on a theme think beyond just learning management systems
- Try to create an initial body of work to make it worth while to build tools using IMS Tool Interoperability

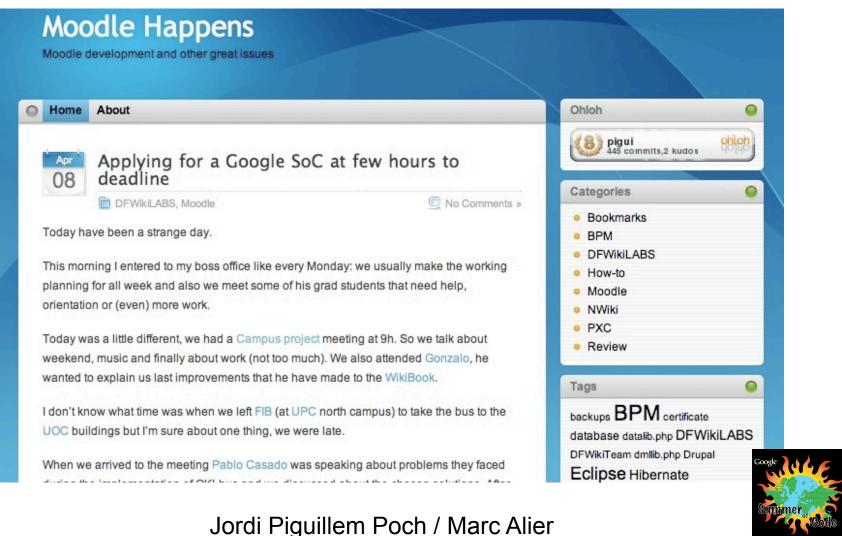


Proposed Project Ideas

- Sakai
- Consumer
- Producer
- Moodle
- Consumer
- Producer
- Atutor
- Elgg

- Chisimba
- Drupal
- Google Android
- Rails IMS TI Test Kit
- Consumer
- Producer
- Proxied access

Consumer = LMS Producer = Tool



Jordi Piguillem Poch / Marc Alier

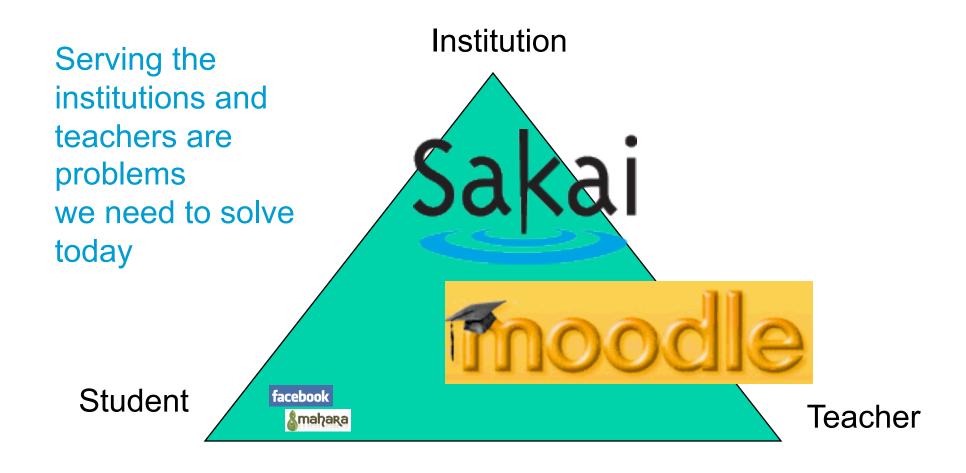


Sakai / IMS Google Summer of Code

- Funded Applications
 - An IMS LTI Producer for Sakai Katherine Edwards,
 McGill University
 - An IMS LTI Producer for Moodle Jordi Piguillem Poch -Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya
 - Improving Sakai's Presense Capability Eli Foley -Georgia Tech

Coming back to earth...

We can never get too excited about the ultimate future and lose track of the immediate future.



MyCamTools - Cambridge University

Adding a Personalized View to Sakai



Sakai User Centered Sakai

- Cambridge University is experimenting with a new interface to Sakai which is focused on giving the users more control over their interaction with Sakai.
- Users also have more flexibility with widgets which provide dashboard information outside of Sakai in the interface of their choosing

Sakai CamTools Widgets

Wherever the user wants to learn - meet them there.

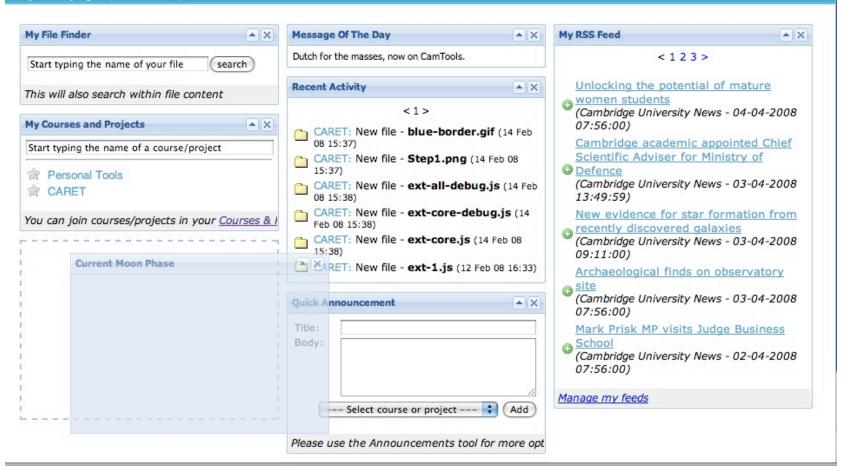




cambridge

My Startpage | Courses & Projects | Personal Tools | My Settings | Help | Logout

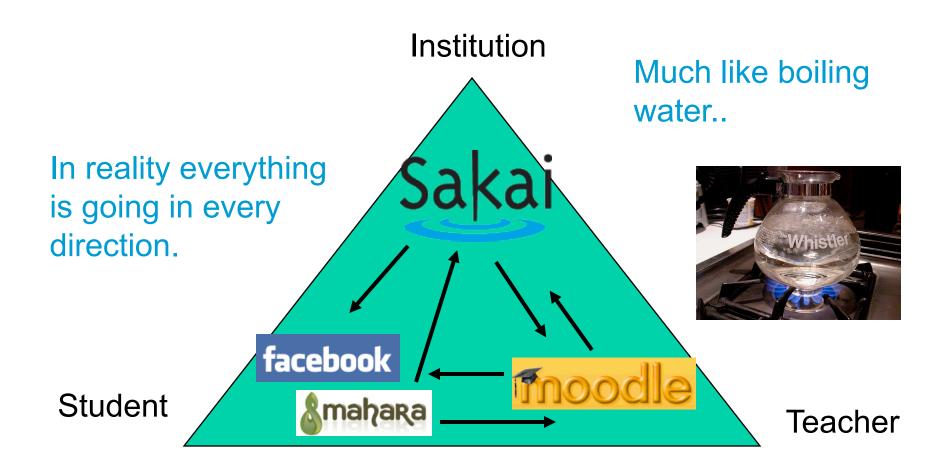
My Startpage (Add stuff ...)





Moodle 2.0 Roadmap

- File API internal repository of files and access controls
- Repository API allows users to browse external repositories
- Portfolio API allows Moodle content to be pushed to repositories.
- Learner plans and competencies
- Builds on 1.9 support for outcomes so that individuals can have learning plans which are updated when courses are completed
- Standard Web Services Layer



A lot of topics

- Looking back at looking forward (2004)
- Student-Centered Learning
- What will the "next" LMS look like?
- IMS Learning Tool Interoperability 2.0
- Sakai/IMS Google Summer of Code
- Looking ahead in Sakai and Moodle

Summary

- Open Source Learning Management Systems such as Moodle and Sakai are just the appetizer
- True innovation will happen with the exchange of ideas and new ways of thinking about teaching
- We are approaching the "boiling point" in teaching and learning