Virginia Tech’s Transition to Sakai
Open Source Framework for Collaboration and Learning

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What is Sakai?
Sakai is a flexible unified framework supporting teaching, learning and scholarly collaboration in either fully or partially online environments.

- Flexible, adaptable, interoperable, scalable
- Open source and open standards architecture enables Cloud/Web 2.0 integration and customization to meet local needs and goals
- Global consortium of 160 institutions

Good Company: Selected Sakai Institutions

Arizona State University  UDQ Virtual, Universidad de Guadalajara
Australian National University  Universiteit van Amsterdam
Boston University School of Management  University of California, Berkeley
Cairo University, Faculty of Engineering  University of California, Davis
Catholic University of America  University of Cambridge
Charles Sturt University  University of Cape Town
Columbia University  University of Delaware
Cornell University  University of Florida
Georgia Tech  University of Michigan
Hong Kong Univ. of Science & Technology  University of Missouri-Columbia
Indiana University  University of Nebraska-Lincoln
New York University  University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
North-West University  University of Notre Dame
MIT  University of Virginia
Oxford University  Virginia Tech
Rice University  Wake Forest University
Rutgers University  Western School, University of Pennsylvania
Stanford University  Yale University

Unifying Framework...

“In a research institution, if faculty can learn one software tool that helps in research as well as teaching, you’ve just made everyone’s life easier.

“If you find a tool that only impacts teaching but not research, you’ve just increased the workload.”

Joseph Harden, University of Michigan

Sakai is a strategic unified framework

- Coursework tools to supplement and enhance teaching and learning, in both fully online and hybrid course formats
- ePortfolio tools are fully integrated
- Collaboration tools help organize communication and collaborative work both on campus and around the world
- Library resources can be seamlessly integrated
- Cloud/Web 2.0 linkages

Contact: Dr. John Moore, jmoore1@vt.edu
Defining Choices …

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blackboard Course Management System</th>
<th>Sakai Collaboration &amp; Learning Environment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rigid, inflexible, constraining management system, locking everyone into one framework, one model</td>
<td>Open source enables each institution to control the functionality and configuration of its CLE (&quot;control over our destiny&quot;), inspiring and facilitating innovation and responsiveness to unique needs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closed product – license prohibits modification or repair of software</td>
<td>Flexible standards-based software can be extended, repaired, and customized. We leverage the collective resources of global universities, developers and multiple support vendors.</td>
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<td>Poor history of responsiveness to expressed customer needs</td>
<td>Community-designed innovation in functionality, with public collaborative decision-making on Web</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monopolistic – eliminating virtually all commercial competitors for both products and support</td>
<td>Educational Community License ensures intellectual property rights for the software can never be sold. No lock-in to a vendor for development, hosting or support.</td>
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Transition Snapshot, Fall 2009

N=1903 Instructors
- 39% of instructors using Scholar only
- 11% using both Scholar and Blackboard
- 50% using Blackboard only
- High enrollments for training
- Heavy use of Course Migration Resources
- KnowledgeBase articles, tool/process documentation and videos produced

ePortfolio Demand Grows

- 66 ePortfolio projects now underway
  - 35 in production across the university
    - Used in Majors and Courses
    - 11 projects span all colleges
      - e.g., Career Services, Student Engagement
    - 31 in development (12 started Fall 2009)
  - Also offer eP@VT portfolios to everyone

Timelines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sakai 2.5</th>
<th>Sakai 2.6</th>
<th>Sakai 2.7</th>
<th>Sakai 3.0</th>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2012</td>
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Training and Support Scope

- Online Course Systems, InnovationSpace
- One-on-One Consultations
- FDI Workshops
- Test and Quiz Migration team
- 4Help, KnowledgeBase, Documentation
- Model Courses
- FDI Faculty Panels: case studies & stories
- Workshop Videos on-demand
- Demo/Training on-site in departments

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FDI Training
- Hundreds of Workshops Offered
  - Scholar Overview, The Instructor's Tools for Teaching, Unpacking After the Move from Blackboard, Creating Your Course and Content, Collaboration and Communication Tools, Survey and Assessment Tools, ePortfolios
  - Scholar On-Site Departmental Training
  - Online training offered this spring and summer
  - One-on-One help / consulting

Scholar Advisory Board
- Faculty and administrators from all colleges, plus graduate and undergraduate students and support staff
- Monthly meetings provide:
  - Reality check
  - Input to our processes
  - Feedback and guidance
  - Channel back to faculty
  - Credible spokespersons in each college

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