Apereo Newsletter
October 2016

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From the Editor:
This month's newsletter brings important deadlines and opportunities as well as informative case studies.

Remember that the Apereo newsletter provides an important opportunity for communicating within and across the many projects in our community. This is your vehicle to share what you're doing and invite others to join. Our newsletter is also an important place for sharing strategies and success stories for pursuing an open source philosophy in educational technology.

We are looking for contributions of all kinds -- examples might include (but are not limited to) articles, video clips, screencasts, graphics, or short announcements on:
-- How you're using software produced by an Apereo community at your institution
-- Major releases or minor tweaks
-- Ideas for new projects you'd like to get feedback on or gauge interest in
-- Important discussions of general educational technology issues that emerge on community email lists

Contributions of all lengths, from snippet to think pieces, are welcome. Send your submissions (and any questions!) to newsletter@apereo.org . The newsletter will publish on or about the 15th of the month, with items due by the 10th.

-- Lucy Appert, Newsletter Editor

Upcoming Events

1) EDUCAUSE 2016 Open Learning Analytics Conference Session Oct. 27
"Deploying Open Learning Analytics at National Scale: Lessons from the Real World"
Thursday October 27, 8:00 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.

Through the Jisc's Effective Learning Analytics initiative, institutions are realizing one of the world's first open source academic early alert and intervention systems that leverages predictive analytics.Leaders of this U.K.-based initiative will share lessons learned from technical, implementation, and strategy perspectives and explain how others can get involved. Learn more at https://events.educause.edu/annual-conference/agenda/deploying-open-learning-analytics-at-national-scale-lessons-from-the-real-world.

-- Lisa Di Pietro, Unicon
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2) Open Apereo 2017 Call For Proposals: Due 10/24/16 (Early Bird) & 11/28/16 (Final)
The call for proposals for Open Apereo 2017 is open and the deadline for early submission is approaching!

The Early Bird proposal deadline is October 24 and the final proposal deadline is November 28, 2016.

The program committee will review and accept submissions during the open submission period. Early Bird Proposals entered by October 24 will be eligible for early review decisions by November 18, 2016. The committee expects to have all proposals reviewed and final acceptances by December 16, 2016. Please note that you may login and edit/review this proposal only through the cutoff date of November 28, 2016.

Submit a proposal now!
https://www.eventsforce.net/concentra/frontend/reg/tOtherPage.csp?pageID=6632&ef_sel_menu=76&eventID=12&eventID=12

-- Ian Dolphin, Executive Director, Apereo Foundation
*   Laura McCord, Open Apereo 2017 Planning Committee Chair*

3) Sakai Virtual Conference 2016: Nov. 2
The Future of the Learning Online: Beyond the Walled Garden
November 2, 2016 - Online
http://virtconf.apereo.org/   #SakaiVC16

Registration is $50 per person, with all proceeds going toward Sakai feature development. Attendees will have the opportunity to provide input on the enhancements they would like to see in Sakai.

The Sakai Virtual Conference will take place entirely online on Wednesday, November 2, 2016. You'll attend presentations in concurrent session webinar rooms, ask the presenters live questions, and get the conference experience without the expense of travel. There will be opportunities for networking, informal discussions, and back by popular demand, enter our Rogues Gallery (https://youtu.be/mpnknXbjjYw) contest to win a prize. The "conference location" will be in Sakai, and we will be using Sakai tools such as Lessons, Forums, etc. to facilitate interaction among attendees. If you are comfortable in Sakai, you will easily engage in this virtual experience.

Find out how your peers are using Sakai at their institutions! Learn from early adopters of Sakai 11. Presentations will focus on effective teaching and learning practices, online pedagogy, and engaging students using technology.

The Sakai Virtual Conference is a unique opportunity to network with your peers and share stories and best practices in an online venue.

Register today (http://virtconf.apereo.org/home/registration and stay tuned for publication of the full program.

-- Neal Caidin

Announcements & Case Studies

4) University of Murcia: Already Running Sakai 11
We are so happy to share with the community that the University of Murcia's Sakai instance [1] was upgraded to Sakai 11.1 on September 15th.

The system was down for about 4 hours and, so far, only minor issues

have been found and, most of them were related to browser's cache... The feedback that we are getting is pretty good, we can say that the change has been well received. Since then, we have fixed and contributed all the issues that our users have reported us, expect them in Sakai 11.2.

As we already mentioned on the Apereo mailing lists, we appreciate all the information that others have shared about their upgrade and about the new features that come with Sakai 11. It helped us to create this post [2] about the new features that our users will enjoy. Sorry, it's in Spanish. Those things happen when you have such a global community ;)

Again, Thanks to everyone that helped to make this possible, it's a great community. We will be sharing all the information about the upgrade at the next SAKAI VIRTUAL CONFERENCE (#SVC16) where we have a session called "Let's upgrade to Sakai 11, it is now responsive! - The University of Murcia's experience". Hope to see you there on the 2nd of November at 10 AM EST (Upgrading Sakai track).

¡Gracias!
-- *Murcia's Team*
   aulavirtual@um.es
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[1]- https://aulavirtual.um.es
[2]- https://www.um.es/aulavirtual/novedades-nueva-version-del-aula-virtual-%e2%80%93-sakai-11-curso-2016-2017/
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5) Case Study Video: Sakai At University of Virginia

The University of Virginia has released a short promotional video highlighting the power and potential available in its instance of Sakai, as well as the role of its instance in expanding the university's mission into the digital world. The video, which includes screenshots and workflows from Lessons, Resources, Gradebook, and other tools within Sakai, is available on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fK02iFNbtNQ

A discussion of the planning and production of the video will be included in the university's presentation on marketing Sakai at the institutional level, which will be offered as part of the Sakai Virtual Conference on November 2.
-- *Matthew Burgess, University of Virginia*