

**Sakai Summer Institute 2010:
Build a course in the rSmart Sakai
Collaboration and Learning Environment (CLE)**

Q. Is collusion detection available?

A: There is a tool called Integrity that might be able to be integrated into Sakai as TurnItIn has been:

<https://springerlink3.metapress.com/content/b704w76r0771085w/resource-secured/?target=fulltext.html&sid=xd1vdw4541qeb1452mj1zlbl&sh=www.springerlink.com>

Q. : Is web content called up through links in the Lessons, for example? Does web content correspond only to one page?

A. Covered in the recorded session.

Q. What's the best place to check on the availability of plug-ins for mathematics (tables, graphs, equation editor, applets. etc.)?

A. There are a couple of strategies institutions use to support rich math authoring/display in Sakai.

The first is the incorporation of the jsMath library into the Sakai wiki authoring environment, which you can learn more about here, and test on mySakai:

<http://www.math.union.edu/~dpvc/jsMath/>

Another option is the integration of a rich equation editor into the Sakai Lessons (Melete) learning objects/modules authoring environment. rSmart supports the Sferyx Equation Editor Applet:

<http://www.sferyx.com/equationeditor/index.htm>

Q. My first question is if these QT movies have a built in "deep linking" capability where there are URLs for the "chapters" in the video?

A. Sakai would support any media file that offered links to internal "chapters"—possible in QT movies imported into Flash, but we are unsure if it is possible in QT alone. This is a question of the tools used to author those media files.

Q. Is there a manual or "Bible" for Sakai development?

Webinar FAQ

A. : The Sakai community provides a lot of documentation, but it is of varying quality, depth, breadth, and currency. The community technical documentation is probably generally of a higher quality than the pedagogical info, although there is a newer community group specifically devoted to sharing more pedagogical info. rSmart customers have access to our original, high-quality users guide, administrators guide, and knowledge base, which is part of the value of an rSmart Sakai support subscription.

Q. : Is it possible to use two different forms of the same test so that pre-post comparisons can be made? Half the students do order A-B; the other half do order B-A?

A. Yes, if students were grouped/sectioned by A/B, each group/section could be given a different form of the same test.

Q. Is it possible to grade anonymously yet be able to uniquely identify (through a code) who submitted an answer? This would allow us to conduct research that does not identify individuals.

A. Yes, the Sakai Tests & Quizzes tool assigns unique, anonymous numbers to each user of an anonymous assessment/survey.

Q. : Is it easy to make changes in courses in subsequent offerings?

A. Yes. After one creates a new course, either by cloning an earlier course, or importing material from a previous course, one is then free to edit/adjust all content.

Q. Where can I find resources for alternatives ways to to add, author and display content.

A. Some tools for creating more appealing interfaces will be covered today. The Lessons tool is one way. Another is to author/upload content in Resources, and then use the Web Content tool to expose that "pretty" page directly. Refer to the recorded session for more detail on multiple authoring tools/strategies.

Q. Do people know it when you add them as a connection in Profile2 tool?

A. Yes, and new connections must be approved.

Q. : Is there a way to add graphics to the Resources page? Or make it more visually appealing? It seems like the Windows Explorer site and not a really friendly interface. Can you perhaps design templates that are more appealing?

Webinar FAQ

A. You can use the Resources tool to author rich content (or upload preexisting rich content), and then display that rich content as tools in the menu. There are also other tools to author rich content, like the Lessons and Assignments tools.

Q. What is the advantage of making separate items in the syllabus. It looks like you could build an entire page in one textbox?

A. Yes you could. Building separate syllabus sections allows you to make some items public (eg, course description, reading list, etc.) for course shopping capabilities. This is optional of course.

Q. . I would be interested in any documentation that describes all of the tools.

A. We have distributed a tool description document to attendees.

Q. Does Sakai support Shiboleth2.0 integration

A. Yes, it does.

Q. Can you please briefly describe the EPortfolio tools in Sakai - what kind of data can the portfolios include

*A. Portfolios can include any data. A fuller description of Sakai's portfolio tools is available at:
<http://www.rsmart.com/sakai/portfolios>*

Q. Can Sakai use an external CMS/ LOR like Equella for storing content?

A. Yes, but would require custom integration.

Q. How many people will be involved in supporting Sakai

A. Typically, rSmart customers do not need to increase staffing to support Sakai. Many institutions support the rSmart Sakai CLE only with the instructional design or teaching with technology team they have in place, for example a single staff member responsible for the overall management of the application. Institutions typically provide their own help desk services or use a first-tier support vendor for help desk.

Q. I'm trying to upload a Readings Folder, did you say I CAN upload a zipped file of items or I must upload one by one?

A.the best way to upload a zip file using WEBDAV...do you see the link in Resources to set up WEBDAV connections?

Q. : If I attached a Word Doc of my syllabus, should it appear in the text window?

A. No, a Word doc will appear as an attachment. An HTML document and depending on your browser, a PDF document would appear directly.

Q. Does rSmart Sakai work with PeopleSoft?

A. Yes

Q. Can you have more than one web content tool?

A. Yes, as many as you like.

Q. Can quizzes be released as "Self Tests", not for grade? 2. Can you have questions randomly pulled from a question bank?

A. Yes.

Q. Is the gradebook work across sections within a course?

A. Yes.

Q. Any broader comments comparing sakai to balckboard?

A. This is a complex question: there are functional questions, but also the larger, and I think more important question of which path is appropriate for your institution: the proprietary path of Blackboard, or the community source path of Sakai, where your technology is built by educators, for educators and you have the chance to help guide the destiny of the technology. I write about this on my blog at <http://xolotl.org>

Q. will we be able to export our Angel 7.4 content into Sakai? And will our test banks programs work?

*A. Some content from other LMSs can be migrated automatically. Migration is a complex issue. rSmart recommends a migration assessment to give your institution a migration roadmap:
<http://www.rsmart.com/sakai/sakai-service-offering>*

Q. I am working at two different universities, and they both use Sakai, will the tools and functions be different for each school? Or are they basically the same, with only a few changes? In other words, do I need training at each school to use Sakai for my courses?

Webinar FAQ

A. Sakai is highly configurable and there are many possible tools each institution may be using, so there may be some differences. However, the general navigation/capabilities may be the same. Local practices may differ.

Q. Do the setting for test include times or only dates?

A. Both.

Q. Can you time the test? In other words, give the students only a limited time to take the test?

A. Yes

Q. Can you change the tool options on the main menu? For example, in blackboard, I created a Study Guides section

A. You can edit the tool list in a site you own (like one you created) by going to the site editor > edit tools function. You can not edit the tools in Kara's course.

Q. can you create a drop box for uploading large video files?

A. Typically one would use WEBDAV to upload large files

Q, Can you give us more information about the Live Virtual Classroom. How does this work? How do I create a Virtual Classroom session? What technology does it use (i.e. gotomeeting?) and are there limits to how long a recording can last?

A, Currently, the LVC tool integrates with Elluminate. It is designed to allow for integrations with other LVC platforms (eg, Adobe Connect, Wimba, etc).

Q. What is the best way to handle upload of a zipped file with many items (including links etc). which have been exported from another LMS?

A: Usually unzip locally and use a WEBDAV connection to drag and drop all the unzipped files to the Sakai resources tool.

Q. Does Sakai prompt you if an ID is being entered for a course and that ID already exists?

A. This would typically be handled by integration with an SIS, so people would not be manually creating courses like we have here. There is one model where you can create a course manually, and then attach a student roster to it supplied from the SIS.

Webinar FAQ

Q. How easy is it to copy content from 1 course to another, with the ability to specify precisely what items to copy (eg. checkbox option for each item)?

A. You create a course you can use the import from site feature (site editor tool)

Q. Can you create a likert scale in the survey tool? Or is this something that is a global setting?

A. Yes.

Q. How will students find my rSmart Sakai course to log in?

A. You will invite them using their emails, they will receive invites in email, and once logged in can always return to <http://mysakai.rsmart.com> and log in

Q. Is there an easy way to auto-generate weekly modules?

A. Yes, either by importing pre-existing materials, or by cloning/importing from previous courses or course templates.

Q. Is there a way to set up a simple spreadsheet to populate and create modules. This process seems very tedious?

A. One could use a variety of authoring tools to create learning modules and then import them into the Lessons tool. Kara is demonstrating authoring them directly in the Lessons tool.

Q. How about the mobile learning option with rSmart Sakai?

A. There is a mobile portal in Sakai that provides a mobile device friendly view of Sakai.

Q. Can you explain later about the ADA compliance standard in rSmart?

*A. The best source of Sakai ADA information is the Sakai Accessibility Working Group wiki:
<http://confluence.sakaiproject.org/display/2ACC/Accessibility+Working+Group>*

Q. We are using the OS Sakai and the assignments and assessments were created by the Etudes Services company, called "Tasks, Tests and Surveys". The instructors like the features more than the original design, such as what you are presenting here. Why aren't the features included in rSmart Sakai?

Webinar FAQ

A. Etudes' Tasks, Tests and Surveys is an alternate tool to what Kara is showing here. rSmart includes this alternate tool as "beta" as we do not yet feel comfortable that it will perform well in production use.

Q. Can you change the order of assignments?

A. Yes

Q. Can you import exams from word?

A. Yes, please see Kara's demo using the quick create method. It allows copy/paste from word.

Q. Can you upload mp3's and wav files?

A. If they are allowed by your implementation of Sakai, should work here in mySakai.

Q. Can you import tests from blackboard

*A. Yes, but see our information about migration assessments:
<http://www.rsmart.com/sakai/sakai-service-offering>*

Q. Can you include pictures on the batch files creation

A. Unfortunately, no

Q. Can instructors download submitted assignment documents in bulk, or do they have to open or download them one at a time?

A. Yes, assignments can be downloaded and graded in bulk, and then bulk upload assignments to return to students.

Q. In the assignments tool is it possible to have the "accept until" date default so that it's the same (or later than) the "due date", to streamline.

A. No, not without customizing Sakai.

Q. When grading assignments for large classes, can instructors sort by section to go through students in that order

A. Yes

Q. Where can we find a list of the *supported* IMS standards THAT SAKAI SUPPORTS regarding importing IMS content from other platforms???

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A. IMS CP (import), IMS BLTI and initial support for IMS LIS.

Q. Is the Honor Code text customizable by institutin or sub-group w/i the institution (eg, each sch w/i a univ has it's own version of the honor code)?

A. Customizable by institution.

Q. Can Respondus be used to *insert* questions into Sakai (ie, the other direction)?

A. Yes, although requires extra intermediate step.

Q. Can 'Course Site Tools" be added/removed *after* course has been created?

A. Yes, also some institutions do not give instructors these privileges. Obviously, in most cases, students do not have access to it.

Q. Is there an option for entering Forum Due Dates in the Calendar (just like Assignments)?

A. Forums don't provide due dates, but they can be assigned due dates make making them into assignments, which would then populate the calendar automatically.

Q. Had difficulty getting gradebook item to display in forum list, to link topic to grdbk. had to go back & forth many times. is this a "known bug" that's currently being addressed?

A. It's definitely a known issue. The two institutions focused on these tools (IN U for Forums, UC-Davis for Gradebook2) are talking about solutions.

Q. Does Elluminate integrate with Sakai? We are presently using it with Blackboard but I heard rumors that Elluminate doesn't work with v2.6 no sure about v 2.7

A. Yes, rSmart built an Elluminate integration and contributed it to the Sakai community called Live Virtual Classroom. Blackboard claims they won't break Elluminate integrations with other platforms, but alas, they have not always kept all promises

Q. How does one Weight items in the gradebook?

A: Covered in the recorded session.

Q. Using the Sakai Entry Llnk button - can you link to resources?

Webinar FAQ

A. Use the insert/edit link or insert/edit image buttons instead.

Q. For the - "Re-use Material from Other Sites You Own" option, is this a way to import course material from other courses?

A. Yes

Q. If a test is set to "Anonymous grading only" and students have submitted their tests, can the instructor see who submitted what?

A. No, that is the point of anonymous grading. Instructors can see grades from assessments in the gradebook however.

Q. I was intrigued hearing that in 2.7 you can release items in Resources based on gradebook item grades. Did I understand correctly? If so, I've created an assignment, which is reflected in the gradebook, can you show me how to set up this condition for an item in the Resources area?

A. This new conditional release capability is a new part of 2.7. However, there is a small bug in the early release that is already fixed and will be distributed with Sakai 2.7.1. The rSmart Sakai CLE 2.7.1 release is scheduled for October. When we upgrade mySakai then, it will contain the new conditional release capability.

Q. What is IMS? I can move IMS resources? What is the tool?

A. You can learn more about IMS here: <http://www.imsglobal.org/>. Some IMS resources can be moved, but it depends on the exact version. There is also SCORM support, but this is not available to try in mySakai due to licensing of the SCORM tool.

Q. The system that i use now, ANGEL, allows us to keep track of in-class students attendance. Does Sakai allow this?

A. There is no dedicated attendance tool, but some people use assignments and/or test/quizzes to create attendance records.

Q. Are the chunks of a syllabus re-usable in other syllabi or elsewhere in Sakai?

A. Syllabi can be imported or cloned from one course to another, and sections can be made public for course shopping, but each section is not an independent unit so one can import only some sections and not others from one course to another.

Q. Can you share a Web Content tool between sites?

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A: No, but such tools can be cloned/copied from old courses to new. Links can be shared across courses via the Resources tool.

Q. What is the best way to let students know about forum participation being part of their grade?

A. Make forum participation an assignment in the Assignments tool.

Q. Are passwords for students generic or per course? In other words, would a student be able to see any and all courses, or only the courses they are enrolled in?

A. All the courses they are enrolled in. Each user has one username/password that gives them access to all their courses.

Q. Is it true that all of the assignments due, etc., from all of the various classes, etc., show up on the student's main calendar?

A. Yes, in the student's My Workspace calendar, unless an instructor has specifically excluded an assignment from the calendar

Q. Can a "guest" see, but not participate? Or does access include "full" participation access always?

A. Yes a guest can only see. But you can customize the permissions for that role to behave as you see fit.

Q. Does being a member of Sakai mean everyone in the world, or can a school close itself off from the outside?

A. Sakai permissions can be very open, or totally closed. It is up to you how you configure Sakai to behave.

Q. Do you need a different WebDav for each site that you are an instructor for?

A. Yes, one folder for each course or site.

Q. What role is visible when the menu entitled "View Site As" : in upper right corner shows "Select Role"

A. It is configurable, but usually only roles at your institution that have fewer privileges than your role, eg, TA or student if you are an instructor.

Q. Can you push SMS content to student cell phones/PDAs?

A. There is a new tool in Sakai (not yet in mySakai) that enables messages authored in Sakai to be broadcast via SMS.

Q. If you are teaching multiple sections and want to have separate gradebooks but share content, how do you set up those courses?

A. The gradebooks are "section aware" so they understand students are in sections. You first need to enable sections, assign TAs and students, etc, then you will see in gradebook the ability to assign those to items.