

PUBLIC DISPATCH

Contents:

- **The Summit on Innovation in Learning Technology**
- **Learning Impact 2008 and Learning Impact Awards and Recognition Program**
- **February 2008 – IMS Quarterly Meeting and TAB Integration Summit**
- **JTC1 SC36 W3 Call for Submission**
- **New PUF SIGs and Project Groups**
- **2007 Year in Review**
- **Workplan**
- **New Members and Member News**
- **Meeting Calendar**
- **Workshops and Presentations**

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.

The Summit on Innovation in Learning Technology

Over 130 people attended The Summit on Innovation in Learning Technology 7-9 November 2007 in Queenstown, New Zealand. IMS GLC and the Ministry of Education New Zealand hosted the event. There were three days filled with exciting workshops, panel sessions, and presentations in key areas of Learning Technology. In addition, more than a dozen organizations competed in the New Zealand Regional Learning Impact Awards (LIAs). All of the entries were great, but the top three winners were:

- Visible Learning Lab - Finalist
- eXe learning - Finalist
- New Zealand Open Source VLE - Winner

Read the full announcement here:

<http://www.imsglobal.org/pressreleases/pr071126.html>



The Minister of Education, the Honorable Chris Carter, sent a message to the delegates as follows:

Dear Rob and delegates,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to beautiful Queenstown for the Summit on Innovation in Learning Technologies and the inaugural New Zealand Learning Impact Awards. I am sorry that I cannot be there in person, but I am thrilled by the excellent turn-out and would like to extend a very warm welcome to our international guests.

I have recently been appointed to the role of Minister of Education, and one of the areas of particular interest to me is the way in which ICT can support educational achievement.

ICT has an important role in supporting the personalising of learning—all the elements of it. It has the potential to radically transform education, and I want New Zealand to be at the cutting edge.

And it's clear that this is happening. But we need to maximise the benefits that technology can offer to all students, teachers and researchers.

The first step in providing an integrated and strategic approach to ICT was the development of the Digital Strategy. Content, connection, and confidence are the Strategy's three enablers; government, business, and communities are the agents of change.

Across the sector there are already a number of initiatives in New Zealand which are championing collaboration and integration. Examples include the Government Shared Network and KAREN—the Kiwi Advanced Research & Education Network.

Later on this month the government will be hosting the Digital Future Summit 2.0 in Auckland. Beyond the Summit and looking to the future, by 2010, the intension is the operation of government will be transformed, as government agencies and their partners use technology to provide user-centred information and services and achieve joint outcomes.

Again, I am sorry that I cannot be there in person, but I wish you a productive and challenging conference.

Yours sincerely,

*Hon Chris Carter
Minister of Education*

You can find Rob Abel's presentation on the Learning Impact awards at: <http://www.imsglobal.org/articles/presentations.cfm>

Speaking of Learning Impact Regional Finalists awards, at the recent !dea 2007 conference in Brisbane, Australia the top rated entry in Australia was the Online Learning Environment, Graduate School of Medicine, University of Wollongong, supported by the Learning Edge and Blackboard Vista. The first runner-up was the Schools Online Curriculum Services (SOCS) implemented by the Department of Education and Training Western Australia, supported by Oracle iLearning. The second runner-up was The Learning Federation, supported by Curriculum

Corporation. All three of these winners are invited to attend as finalists at the 2008 global competition held at the IMS Learning Impact conference, 12-15 May, in Austin, Texas. Congratulations to all the nominees.

The winners in the New Zealand Regional LIAs and Australian Regional LIAs each received \$5K US towards travel expenses to attend the global 2008 LIA competition.



Learning Impact 2008 and Learning Impact Awards and Recognition Program

Don't wait until the last minute—get ready now for Learning Impact 2008. This year's conference is in Austin, Texas the 12-15 May 2008. We are gearing up for a great event. Now is your opportunity to get involved and secure your organization's place at the event.

a) **You can participate by entering the Learning Impact Awards.** Nominations will be accepted until 31 December 2007. For more information visit:

<http://www.imsglobal.org/learningimpact2008/awards.html>

b) **You can participate in a Program Track.** Our Program Tracks topics are: Digital Content, Learning Systems, Learning Enterprise, and Personalized Learning and Inclusive Design. We encourage you to bring a client to the event to speak about what they see as important with respect to learning impact, technology trends, and standards, highlighting the use of your product or service. For more details: <http://www.imsglobal.org/learningimpact2008/agenda.html>

c) **You can sponsor Learning Impact.** What better way to show your support of IMS GLC and Learning Impact?

Please contact Lisa Mattson for more information at lisa@imsglobal.org



February 2008 – IMS Quarterly Meeting and Technical Advisory Board Integration Summit

The first Quarterly meeting of 2008 will be in Long Beach, California, 11-15 February at California State University Chancellor's Office. The Technical Advisory Board Integration Summit will provide a great overview of all the IMS GLC work in progress. Each Project Group will provide a technical overview of their area of interest, detailing the use of other specifications, relationship to overall IMS spec work and other specific specs, how it can be used, and the current implementations and profiles, as well as, any outstanding issues. You will not want to miss this meeting. We have a full week of Project Group meetings as well, so make sure to include this meeting on your calendar.

<http://www.imsglobal.org/feb2008LongBeach.html>



JTC1 SC36 W3 Call for Submission

JTC1 SC36 WG3 has recently requested that IMS provide information for their call for submissions during the Study Period of Competencies and Skills Architectures for information technology systems.

In addition, to asking IMS to submit its Enterprise specification, they have also requested the following information.

1. Examples of information technology architectures that are used specifically for competencies and skills including technical items such as:

- data models;
- information flows;
- competency skill data (definitions of data structures);
- learner/personnel profiles that are used within IT systems for competency or skills management;
- evidence (e.g., record data structures that are used for evaluation), assessment (e.g., formative/summative, credentialing, accreditation, prior learning assessments).

2. Additional information regarding any national competency/skills legislation or initiatives in various domains.

3. Potential areas in Learning, Education, and Training that require standardization of information technologies in order to enable systems to interoperate.

If you have information, you wish to share, please send it to Lisa Mattson at Lisa@imglobal.org



New PUFSIGs and Project Groups

Several new groups are getting started. They include:

- Dynamic Instructional Content Exchange – This group will be looking at digital and etextbooks, and how they can be transported and used effectively.
- Information Analytics – The group’s work product will enable higher education IT professionals and academics (and third parties that support them) to leverage a discrete set of methods and technologies to facilitate the use of learning data to promote student success—while allowing those institutions to accommodate their unique legislative, normative, and student-driven standards of privacy.
- Learning Enterprise Leadership-Learn SAT – This group will be reviewing the current IMS Learning Satisfaction and Trends (Learn SAT) report methodology and survey for future use. This group will develop a Recommendations Report providing guidance and direction to future Learn SAT activities (research and reporting).

- Simple Sequencing—This group will be looking to update Simple Sequencing v1 to address harmonization with SCORM, and include a bug fixes.
- ePortfolio—This group will look at creating an ePortfolio Profile and Prototype. The goal for a profile and prototype will be to address a more tightly focused set of common needs in an easier to implement and more flexible manner. This will still be based upon the combination of the IMS GLC Content Packaging with IMS GLC Learner Information Package specifications thereby sustaining all of the core functionality. Further work integrating more IMS GLC specifications with ePortfolio will focus on: the usage of IMS GLC Reusable Definitions of Competencies and Educational Objectives (RDCEO); and improved interoperability with Enterprise Systems, in particular Outcomes reporting for individuals, using the IMS GLC Enterprise Services v2.0 specification.



2007 Year in Review

Fast Facts:

- ⊙ IMS GLC has 100 Members and Subscribers.
- ⊙ We released seven articles on Learning Impact.

Timeline:

January

- ⊙ Public Website (<http://www.imsglobal.org>) Reorganized

February

- ⊙ IMS Overview & Executive Summit on the New Academic Enterprise & IMS/ADL/SCORM Technical Futures Workshop at Oracle in Redwood Shores, Calif.
- ⊙ Enterprise v2 Charter Approved
- ⊙ Learning Satisfaction and Trends Report Released
- ⊙ Contributing Member and Subscriber Product Directory Released

March

- ⊙ Learning Tools Interoperability v2 Charter Approved
- ⊙ Content Packaging CM/DN Draft Released

April

- ⊙ Learning Impact 2007 in Vancouver, B.C. over 200 attendees
- ⊙ Learning Impact 2007 Awards
- ⊙ Common Cartridge CM/DN Draft Released

May

- ⊙ John Falchi, IMS Chief Program Strategist, was hired to set up and lead the Learning Technology Advisory Council (LTAC)

June

- ⊙ New Board of Directors Members Elected:
 - **Curtiss Barnes**, Senior Director, Industry Product Strategy, Education & Research, Oracle Corp.
 - **Matthew Schnittman**, President, eLearning Division, eCollege
 - **Peter Segall**, President, North America Higher Education and Operations, Blackboard

July

- ⊙ Learning Technology Advisory Council (LTAC) Summit and IMS GLC Quarterly Meetings at Microsoft in Redmond, Wash.
- ⊙ Updated TB Policies and Procedures with the addition of APMGs
- ⊙ Access for All v2 Charter Approved

August

- ⊙ Achieving Learning Impact 2007 Annual Report Released
- ⊙ Common Cartridge Alliance Announced at Merlot Conference in New Orleans

September

- ⊙ Student and Faculty Support Services for e-Learning Initiatives Summit and IMS GLC Quarterly Meetings at University of Maryland University College, College Park, Maryland
- ⊙ New PUFSIGs formed: Dynamic Instructional Content Exchange (DICE), Information Analytics (IA), Learning Enterprise Leadership-Learn SAT (LEL), Simple Sequencing (SS), ePortfolio (eP)
- ⊙ LODE Charter Approved

October

- ⊙ K12/Schools Enhancements for Common Cartridge Charter Approved
- ⊙ Regional Learning Impact Awards held in Australia
- ⊙ Participated in Launch of University Campus, Barcelona, Spain

November

- ⊙ Learning Education Technology Leadership in Education Summit at the Ministry of Education New Zealand, in Queenstown, New Zealand
- ⊙ Regional Learning Impact Awards held in New Zealand

December

- ⊙ Technology-Enabled Flexible Learning (TEFL) Charter Submitted for Approval
- ⊙ Launch of Common Cartridge Test Services



Workplan

A description of the current status of development work happening within IMS GLC.

Group	Description
QTI Assessment Project Group	The QTI Assessment Project Group is gathering contributing member commitments to begin developing profiles of the QTI v2.1 specification for conformance testing.
Content Packaging Project Group	The Packaging Project Group has completed the CM/DN Draft and is now available to IMS Contributing Members and Developers Network subscribers for implementing. The one-year adoption period before the spec becomes Final (1Q 2008) is underway.
Common Cartridge Project Group	The Common Cartridge Project Group has completed the v1.0 CM/DN Draft of the specification and is preparing the final specification.
Enterprise Services Project Group	The Enterprise Services Project Group has completed the Base Document version of the ES v2.0 specification and is now working on the CM/DN Draft.
Learning Tools Interoperability Project Group	The Learning Tools Interoperability Project Group is working on the Base Document draft of the LTI specification and commencing work on prototyping the use cases listed in the Charter.
Accessibility Project Group	The Accessibility Project Group is working on the AccessForAll v2.0 Base Document version of the specification.
Learning Object Discovery and Exchange Project Group	This group is working on Base Document version of the v1.0 specification.
K12 Common Cartridge Project Group	This group is collecting requirements for recommendations to include in the Base Document version of the specification.
Technology-enabled Flexible Learning PUF SIG	This group recently completed its Charter and it is currently being reviewed by the TAB for approval
Dynamic Instructional Content Exchange PUF SIG	This group is looking at digital and etextbooks, and how they can be transported and used effectively.
Information Analytics PUF SIG	This group's work product will enable a discrete set of methods and technologies to facilitate the use of learning data to promote student success, while allowing institutions to accommodate their unique legislative, normative, and student-driven standards of privacy.

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ePortfolio PUF SIG	This group is look to create an ePortfolio Profile and Prototype to address a more tightly focused set of common needs in an easier to implement and more flexible specification.



New Members and Member News

We are pleased to announce and welcome the following organizations as a new **Contributing Members**

Capella University

<http://www.capella.edu/>



Wiley

<http://www.wiley.com/>



Tennessee Board of Regents

<http://www.tbr.state.tn.us/>



University of Toronto

<http://www.utoronto.ca/>



Télé-université (TÉLUQ)

<http://www.telug.quebec.ca/>



Send your news to lisa@imglobal.org



Meeting Calendar

- © 11-15 February 2008 – 1st Quarterly Meeting: California State University, Long Beach, California, USA <http://www.imsglobal.org/feb2008LongBeach.html>
- © 12-15 May 2008 – Learning Impact 2008, Austin, Texas, USA <http://www.imsglobal.org/learningimpact2008/agenda.html>
- © 9-13 June 2008 – 2nd Quarterly Meeting: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA
- © 8-12 September 2008 – 3rd Quarterly Meeting: TBA
- © 3-7 November 2008 – 4th Quarterly Meeting: Penn State University, University Park, Pennsylvania, USA

Members interested in hosting future IMS GLC Meetings should contact Lisa Mattson at lisa@imsglobal.org



Workshops and Presentations

- © 19 February 2008 - e-Learning 2008 - St. Petersburg, Florida, USA <http://www.itcnetwork.org/elearning2008.htm>

Achieving Learning Impact: Focusing on the Key Industry Challenges Rob Abel, Chief Executive Officer, IMS Global Learning Consortium

In this session, the key challenges to improving higher learning in the 21st century will be introduced. A new program, sponsored by the IMS Global Learning Consortium's Executive Strategic Council (<http://www.imsglobal.org/esc/>), that is designed to support the collaboration of the learning technology community in addressing these challenges will also be discussed. The program is called Learning Impact and features collaborative workgroups as well as an annual recognition program and conference (see <http://www.imsglobal.org/learningimpact2008/> for additional information).

