



# PUBLIC DISPATCH

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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 Coming Change in Learning: Creating New Architectures Now

The Coming Change in Learning: Creating New Architectures Now Summit and quarterly working group meetings hosted by the University of Michigan, in Ann Arbor, Michigan, were a great success. We've got videos with powerpoints available for you to check out online. Watch presentations from **John L. King**, *Vice Provost for Academic Information, Professor of Information, School of Information, University of Michigan*; **Paul N. Courant**, *Dean of Libraries, Harold T. Shapiro Collegiate Professor of Public Policy, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy*; and **James J. Duderstadt**, *President Emeritus, University Professor of Science and Engineering*, as well as many others.

Watch the videos here: <http://www.imsglobal.org/june2008meeting.html>



Summit: The Coming Change Learning-Creating New Architectures Now

The next IMS Quarterly meetings and Summit on Interoperability Now and Next will be held the 15-18 September in Birmingham, UK. We have an incredible week lined up with a super Testfest, that is open to the public, as well as an introduction to IMS GLC workshop.

### Testfest Draft Agenda

- 09:00 Welcome & orientation
- 09:10 CC demonstration showcase
  1. CC player: Warwick Bailey, Icodeon
  2. OpenLearn: Joel Greenberg, OU
  3. Evolve learning resources: Brent Bailey, Elsevier
  4. Pearson cartridges: Erik Unhjem, Pearson Education
  5. ...
- 11:00 Coffee
- 11:20 Alliance update
- 11:40 CC conformance
- 12:30 Lunch
- 13:30 QTI v2.1: Andrew Potter, RM
- 14:00 QTI v2.1: Gary Wills & Jon Hare, University of Southampton
- 14:30 QTIv2.1: Hélène Giroire & Françoise Le Calvez, University Pierre et Marie Curie
- 15:00 QTI 1.2 to 2.1 conversion: Steve Lay, CARET
- 15:10 Coffee
- 15:30 Learning Design: Gilbert Paquette, TELUQ
- 16:10 Learning Design: Dai Griffiths, University of Bolton
- 16:40 Feedback & conclusions
- 17:00 Adjourn

Demonstration showcase - open projector for people to demonstrate new implementations of IMS specifications. If you have a tool/product that you like to feature in the Testfest, please contact:

Kevin Riley      kriley@imglobal.org  
+44 114 221 6662

In addition, the Learning Impact 2009 regional finalist event will take place during the week. It's not too late to enter the competition. Nominations are being accepted until 25 August online at:

<http://www.imglobal.org/learningimpact2009/regional2009li.html> (Enter now)

Thursday, we've got a super Summit planned that will update you on numerous topics:

## Summit on Interoperability Now and Next

9:15am Welcome and Keynotes  
Rob Abel, CEO IMS GLC  
Bill Olivier, Development Director for Systems and Technology, JISC TBC

### Interoperability for Teaching and Learning Activities - Learning Design

Specifications and standards for eLearning content have matured over recent years: IMS Content Packaging has seen adoption for SCORM®, formed the foundation of IMS Common Cartridge and been supported by the Common Cartridge Alliance, and is now being submitted to the International Standards Organisation. IMS Question and Test Interoperability (QTI) has also matured into version 2.1 and is seeing an period of enhanced interest.

IMS Learning Design (LD), on the other hand, has been less widely engaged with but it offers a vital and widely demanded component for effective technology enhanced learning: a model and interoperability specification for learning activity coordination. This session will demonstrate recent developments and put forward some ideas for how to advance Learning Design based on experiences in applying it to date.

9:45 Learning Design

1. LD in brief, an elevator pitch on the origins and scope of application of LD and a reflection on where we are today, Dai Griffiths (University of Bolton)
2. Demonstrations of new-generation design and delivery software, featuring:
  - \* ReCourse Learning Design Editor, Phil Beauvoir, University of Bolton
  - \* Learning Design meets Widgets, Paul Sharples, University of Bolton
  - \* Prolix LD Tools, Fabrizio Giorgini (Giunti Labs)
3. Learning Design, what next? Brief position statements/presentations from panel on their views followed by audience questions and discussion.

Panel: Oleg Liber (CETIS) or Rob Koper (OUNL), Patrick McAndrew (OUUK), Helen Beetham (JISC) TBC, Fabrizio Giorgini (Giunti Labs). Chair: Dai Griffiths

12:00 Lunch

### Recent and Current Approaches to Interoperability

Since the birth of XML 10 years ago, it has been the foundation of quite a diversity of approaches to interoperability. This session will take a look at some topics that may challenge conventional practice (or wisdom maybe) or test the way we think about designing for interoperability and ask the question: "how should we do things in the future?"

13:00 **Part 1: Bootstrapping interoperability with simple web specs**

1. Feeds-based provision of resources, a case study in medical education. David Davies, Warwick Medical School and IVIMEDS. TBC
2. SWORD, a case study in application profiling Atom Publishing Protocol for repository deposit combined, Sarah Currier, Intrallect
3. SWORD, Feedforward and IntraLibrary, an integrated demonstration. Sarah Currier, Intrallect and Scott Wilson, University of Bolton
4. How far can we go with this approach? Panel, audience discussion and Q&A based on the visions of the future expressed by the session speakers. Chair: Adam Cooper, JISC CETIS

## Part 2: Practical SOA and the eFramework

1. The International eFramework, an elevator pitch, Ian Dolphin, JISC
2. TILE, understanding "Library 2.0" in the light of the eFramework, David Kay, Sero Consulting
3. Question and Test Item Banking – Perspectives on QTI and Web Services, Steve Lay, University of Cambridge
4. The TETRA Collaboration, practical SOA for a sustainable OSS platform for HE, John Norman TBC, University of Cambridge

15:30 Break

### Is Higher and Further Education Fit for SOA: is SOA fit for HE/FE?

An entire industry sector has emerged around promoting and supporting a Service Oriented Architecture based on the WS\* stack but we need to ask some questions about where we are and where we are going. Should higher and further education be gearing up to adopt SOA? Are we ready now? Are there alternatives? Would it be better to think of service orientation as a more technology-neutral approach: a paradigm? How should we develop specifications in the light of answers to these questions and what other initiatives are needed such that higher and further education institutions can realize the benefits of service orientation or should we direct attention elsewhere and declare the proposed benefits to be merely an illusion?

16:00 **Panel Discussion**

Panel:

\* Ian Dolphin, JISC

\* Andrew Morris, Tribal Group

\* John Townsend, Liverpool John Moores University TBC

\* Other: TBC

Chair: Mark Stiles, Staffordshire University

17:00 **Regional LIA Award Winners**

Check out the full agenda for the week of meetings in Birmingham and sign up to attend now at: <http://www.imsglobal.org/sept2008meeting.html>



## Learning Impact 2009

Can't wait until next year's Learning Impact? Neither can we! Mark your calendars now for the 11-14 May 2009 in Barcelona, SPAIN.

It's also time to sign up to sponsor Learning Impact. Contact Lisa Mattson for details. We are expecting 300 people to attend this year's event. We have keynote speakers lined up, with others to be announced soon:

- Martin Bean, General Manager, WW Education Strategy, Products & Solutions, Microsoft
- Malcolm Read, Executive Secretary of JISC

Now is also the time to submit entries for the Learning Impact 2009. For more details visit: <http://www.imsglobal.org/learningimpact2009/awards.html>

Join us in one of the world's most beautiful cities.



## IMS Launches the QTI Community

IMS is offering new support that will allow vendors of products that implement the IMS Question and Test Interoperability (QTI) standards, and the users of such products, to validate conformance. Results of conformance tests to application profiles approved by the IMS GLC will be published in an online catalog on the IMS GLC website.

The new QTI community is offered as a component of the Common Cartridge Alliance (see <http://www.imsglobal.org/cc/alliance.html>) and will be managed and administered under the policies and procedures for development of and conformance to IMS GLC application profiles. The new QTI community will address conformance of both the currently released QTI v1.2 and also the draft QTI v2.1, which is currently out for public comment. Conformance marks will be issued by IMS GLC for use by product suppliers designating specific product versions that meet conformance to specific application profiles. These marks will also be published in the publicly available online catalog.



# Learning Technology Advisory Council

The LTAC leadership is responsible for: establishing the agenda for the Annual LTAC Summit, which convenes an international constituency of learning technology leaders to identify emerging challenges facing higher education; and, exploring emerging technologies to understand their market impact and associated technical interoperability requirements and the need for associated adoption standards.

Additionally, the LTAC leaders, on a quarterly basis, review and provide input to LTAC-initiated project activities to help guide project charter and work activities to ensure the work product(s) of these groups is aligned with addressing the key quality education challenge for which they were initiated. The LTAC leadership participates in active projects as well. See the leaders in the LTAC:

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

## Achieving LMS and Content Management Systems Interoperability: A Learning Technology Advisory Council (LTAC) Workshop 16 - 17 October 2008

Join us in October for a LTAC Workshop in Nashville, Tennessee, hosted by the Tennessee Board of Regents for a Workshop.

The workshop agenda is below, check out:

<http://www.imsglobal.org/oct2008ltacseminar.html> for the LTAC Project Group update scheduled for the 17 October 2008.



Time	Topic
9:00 - 9:30 am	<b>Welcome and Overview of TBR and Regents Online Campus Collaborative</b> <i>S. J. (Sandy) Schaeffer, III</i> Director, Advanced Learning Center
9:30 - 10:00 am	<b>Keynote: System-wide eLearning and Importance of LMS/Content Management Integration</b> <i>Dr. Charles Manning</i> , TBR Chancellor <i>Tom Danford</i> , TBR CIO
10:00 - 10:45am	<b>IMS and LTAC Orientation and Updates</b> <i>John Falchi</i> , Chief Program Strategist, IMS Global Learning Consortium
10:45 - 11:00am	Break
11:00am - 12:00pm	<b>What is a content management system? Benefits to student, faculty, institution?</b> <i>Jeffrey B. Larson, Ph.D.</i> , Dean of EICCD E-learning Enterprise, Eastern Iowa Community College District
12:00 - 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 - 2:00pm	<b>Panel Discussion: Interoperability/integration Issues</b> <i>S. J. (Sandy) Schaeffer, III</i> , Director, Advanced Learning Center <i>Ken Udas, Ph.D.</i> , Penn State World Campus TBD, Open University, UK

2:00-3:00 pm	<b>Focusing on Solutions: Common Cartridge</b> <i>Mike Farnesi</i> , Pearson Higher Education, Director, Core Technology Product Management <i>David Mills</i> , CTO, ANGEL Learning
3:00 - 3:15 pm	Break
3:15 - 4:30pm	<b>Break-out Groups: Gathering Initial Requirements and Use Cases</b>
4:30 - 5:00pm	<b>Report Out and Closing Remarks</b> <i>S. J. (Sandy) Schaeffer, III</i> , Director, Advanced Learning Center <i>John Falchi</i> , Chief Program Strategist, IMS Global Learning Consortium



## Common Cartridge Specification

The IMS Common Cartridge v1.0 Specification is being released in late July 2008 to the public as a Public Draft specification. The 60-day review period will be open for the public to read the specification, download the schemas, and use the test tool. Comments and feedback will be collected and evaluated by the CC APMG prior to submitting the specification for TAB approval and Final specification vote. The specification is available here: <http://www.imsglobal.org/cc/>



## IMS Making an Impact

*Links to recent interviews, presentations, or noteworthy instances of service to the community that impacts learning*

### Learning Tools Interoperability

Dr. Chuck spent time at the Sakai Conference discussing the merits of the Learning Tools Interoperability work. You can check out the audio at: <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~csev/talks/2008/2008-07-03-lti-sakai.mp3>

And the slides at: <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~csev/talks/2008/2008-07-03-lti-sakai.ppt>

### En France

Rob Abel spoke recently at OpeniWorld in Lyon, France. You can hear his presentation by visiting:

[http://www.univ-lyon2.fr/1213686554372/0/fiche\\_\\_\\_actualite/](http://www.univ-lyon2.fr/1213686554372/0/fiche___actualite/)



### Nugget: Summer Gardening

Nugget has been enjoying his summer sabbatical touring gardens. He sent a photo and mentioned how the great diversity of digital content can be represented in a single simple format—Common Cartridge—just like the great diversity of flower gardens. He also mentioned that he looks forward to seeing everyone in Birmingham, UK, in September.



## 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 encouraging implementations of the v2.1 specification to be able to reach interoperability objectives, including identifying patterns for profile development.
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 (2Q 2008) is underway.
Common Cartridge Project Group	The Common Cartridge Project Group has completed the Public Draft v1.0 release of the specification. For the next sixty days the public is encouraged to use the specification and provide feedback to the Project Group before the Final spec is completed.
Learning Information Services Project Group	The Learning Information Services Project Group (recently renamed from Enterprise Services) 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 recently demonstrated working prototypes of 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 Project Group	The group is working on the CM/DN Draft of their document and collecting peer reviewed research to identify current best practice in the area of elearning introduction.
Dynamic Instructional Content Exchange PUF SIG	This group is looking at digital and etextbooks, and how they can be transported and used effectively.

Group	Description
Information Analytics PUF SIG	This group has submitted its Charter to the IMS TAB for approval. The aim of the work is to 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.
Learning Enterprise Leadership-Learn SAT PUF SIG	This group is 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).
ePortfolio	This group is reviewing implementations of the ePortfolio v1.0 specification, additional use cases, and future needs as it considers a new version of the specification.
Simple Sequencing PUF SIG	This group is looking to revise the Simple Sequencing specification to address sequencing for personalized learning, use of Learning Design, requirements for constructivist models, and the need for higher levels of interoperability in practice.
Improving Interoperability in Practice	This group will focus on achieving better interoperability in practice with Content Packaging, Simple Sequencing, SCORM®, and other related standards.



## New Members and Member News

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

4C Soft

<http://www.4csoft.com/>



Credu

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



DaulSoft

<http://www.daulsoft.com/Eng/main/index.asp>



Miami Dade College

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



Utah Valley University

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



### Subscribers:

Intrallect  
Blue Valley High Schools  
Illinois Virtual High School  
Plano Independent School District

### CC Alliance:

LearnGuage  
Claire Schneeberger  
Eduardo Serafin



## Meeting Calendar

- ⊙ 15-18 September 2008 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly Meeting: JISC, Birmingham, United Kingdom <http://www.imsglobal.org/sept2008meeting.html>
- ⊙ 3-7 November 2008 – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Meeting: Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania, USA

*Members interested in hosting future IMS GLC Meetings should contact Lisa Mattson at [lisa@imsglobal.org](mailto:lisa@imsglobal.org)*



## Workshops and Presentations

- ⊙ 7-10 August 2008 - MERLOT International Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA
- ⊙ 8-10 September 2008 - SC36, Stuttgart, Germany
- ⊙ 13-14 October 2008 - HR-XML, Chicago, Illinois, USA
- ⊙ 16-17 October 2008 - LTAC Workshop, Nashville, Tennessee, USA  
<http://www.imsglobal.org/oct2008ltacseminar.html>
- ⊙ 19-22 October 2008 - League for Innovation CIT, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA
- ⊙ 28-31 October 2008 - Educause, Orlando, Florida, USA
- ⊙ 12-14 November 2008 - UOC 'Fighting the digital divide through education', Barcelona, Spain

