



The Connected Learning Innovation Community Newsletter - Issue 13 Leveraging the Value of Learning Tools Interoperability®

A newsletter produced for educators, developers, technologists, and parties interested in establishing connected learning architectures and policies to promote education app interoperability.

CASA Developments at the August IMS Quarterly Meeting

IMS Global Quarterly Meeting and Developers Bootcamp was held at the University of Wisconsin-Madison from August 17th through August 20th. Sessions were held on the various IMS Global initiatives ([view the schedule here](#)), including a [CASA Workgroup](#) on August 18th.

CASA (Community App Sharing Architecture), as you may already be aware, is a specification that enables the sharing of curated digital content or learning activities. Educators can arrange these learning activities to facilitate customized learning experiences. The value of CASA is that it leverages metadata related to privacy, accessibility, interoperability, and existing standards to help educators create an effective teaching and learning environment. In short, CASA functions as a store or repository for LTI conformant apps (and mobile apps), so that groups or associations of users can quickly find the particular apps to meet their needs and have assurance that those apps can be integrated into their learning environments. More information on the CASA initiative can be [found here](#).

The current CASA work involves developing a test protocol for IMS conformance and certification as well as a set of best practices to address implementation criteria UI/UX design considerations, and so on. Much of the work on these areas was accomplished at the Quarterly Meeting. IMS Contributing Members are welcome and invited to participate in determining the specifications. There are bi-weekly calls as well as a mailing list ([subscribe here](#)).

IMPORTANT - Rescheduled CASA Call

Our next regularly scheduled CASA Call falls on September 7th, which is Labor Day. For this call only, we will be rescheduling for Tuesday, September 8th at the same time: 3 pm EST. For those on the call list, you will log in using the regular web conferencing information. A reminder will be going out by email.

Beginner's Guide to IMS Global's Big 4 Standards for K-12

If you haven't come across [this article from earlier in the summer](#), parts 1 and 2 make a worthwhile read. One of the standards addressed is LTI (Learning Tools Interoperability, which part 2 of the article defines as "a

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Standard for authenticating a user into another system and getting back specific content." The LTI standard along with CASA holds tremendous promise for leveraging the consumer paradigm of app selection, non-technical implementation, and ease of use. One of the value propositions for LTI is user empowerment and the ability to implement solutions tailored to particular learning environments and individual user needs. Individuals, institutions, and organizations involved in LTI work are to be commended and recognized, which brings us to...

The Third Annual Connected Learning Innovation Community App Challenge

For the past two years, the Connected Learning Innovation Community App Challenge has highlighted the tremendous work being done by LTI app developers in the education space. We are pleased to announce the third installment of the Challenge, and we look forward to the innovative submissions we will see this year.

The Top Three LTI apps will be selected by an evaluation panel, and each will be awarded \$1000. In addition, all submitted apps will be listed in a future issue of Connected Learning Innovation Community newsletter, and each will be profiled.

This year there will be three award categories: 1) Best Institution-developed App, 2) Best Non-institution-developed App, and 3) Best LTI implementation. For more information and to enter your LTI app, please go to <http://www.imsglobal.org/leadingchange/appentry.html>.

Deadline for submission is November 20, 2015.

Winners will be announced at EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative in San Antonio, Texas, February 1-3, 2016, and there will be recognition at the IMS Learning Impact Leadership Institute 2016.

Participate in the Connected Learning Innovation Community

At over 1100 members, the Connected Learning Innovation Community continues to grow. Members and non-members alike can participate in a number of ways in show of support for the community and for the LTI standards we are advocating worldwide. If you haven't already, be sure to follow us on Twitter @IMSClic and sign the petition (below).

Sign the Petition

Signing the Connected Learning Innovation Community petition is an easy, free first step to help your college, university, system, school district or school begin to move towards an open academic enterprise. Signing signifies institutional willingness to move towards a new educational enterprise based on open standards to make technology experiences more seamless and productive for teachers and students, reduce the time and cost of integration, and reduce barriers to entry for new suppliers. Upon receipt of your petition, IMS will provide you with the Connected Learning Innovation Community toolkit to help your institution begin to incorporate adoption of IMS standards enable highly personalized connected learning. You can view the petition here: www.imsglobal.org/connectedlearning/petition.cfm

Connected Learning: Coming Up

[You can always find the latest details online.](#)



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