

MyUCDavis 2.0, Powered by Sakai

“Sakai” describes a set of course management tools, created by a consortium of American universities, that will provide its users quick and intuitive access to the class content, communication tools, and self-assessments that university students and independent learners have grown to expect. In addition, Sakai will encourage and enable significant new innovation in teaching, collaboration, and learning. To be packaged for the UC Davis community as MyUCDavis 2.0, the Sakai Course Management Tools will include a number of familiar applications, including

- A website and lesson builder
- Discussion tools, such as chat rooms and bulletin boards
- A digital drop box for easy sharing and submission of assignments
- An archive of class e-mails
- A calendar program with different icons for different activities
- An assessment tool for tests and quizzes
- A SCORM (Sharable Courseware Object Reference Model) Player that can launch customized assessment and lesson modules that will be constructed by Mediaworks programmers
- And a gradebook

The first pilots of Sakai-supported classes were launched during the summer of 2005. As more faculty members begin teaching with elements of Sakai, they will look for support from IT Express, the ET Partners Program, the Faculty Mentoring Faculty Program, and the Mediaworks programmers who are preparing Sakai (with templates and other preformulated structures and content) for wider faculty and student use. Working with the Faculty Mentoring Faculty Program, UC Davis faculty will transition more easily to a Learning Management System that will grow with and adapt to the needs of 21st century faculty and students.

The MyUCDavis 2.0 Two Year Implementation Plan

Project Phases:

- Discovery (Summer/Fall 2005)
- Small Pilot (Winter 2006)
- Preview (Spring/Summer 2006)
- Transition (Fall 2006-Summer 2007)
- Retire current MyUCDavis CMS – Fall 2007

Faculty interested in becoming mentors, and thus being among the first to work with early versions of MyUCDavis 2.0, should contact Andy Jones, Faculty Mentoring Faculty Program Manager, at aojones@ucdavis.edu or 752-4080. Faculty interested in learning more about Sakai, the pilot program or in arranging presentations for their departments should contact the CMS Upgrade Program manager, Kirk Alexander at kdalex@ucdavis.edu 754-7778.

The Faculty Mentoring Faculty Program

Andy Jones, Program Manager

The Faculty Mentoring Faculty Program provides UC Davis faculty an opportunity to mentor and to learn from other faculty interested in instructional technology. Participants will learn about such tools as Macromedia Breeze and MyUCDavis 2.0, the new suite of web-based course management tools that will improve upon and eventually replace the current tools faculty use to instruct and communicate with their students. The mentoring program's success will depend upon participants sharing their discoveries and expertise with fellow faculty and with the program manager, and building formal and informal networks of faculty who seek effective and innovative ways to meet their teaching goals.

Managed by Andy Jones, a longtime user of instructional technology at UC Davis, the Faculty Mentoring Faculty Program will guide faculty through the technical and pedagogical opportunities offered by the many tools within MyUCDavis 2.0, including the new lesson builder, the digital drop box, the integrated calendar and the improved assessment tools, among many others. The Faculty Mentoring Faculty Program will also serve as a conduit of information and ideas about teaching and instructional technology between UC Davis faculty, The Teaching Resources Center, and Mediaworks, the Instructional Technology and Digital Media Center at UC Davis.

Beginning in 2006, the new course management tools will be tested by a growing number of intrepid faculty who will work with the Faculty Mentoring Faculty Program manager and student ET partners to discover the early challenges and continuing opportunities offered by the new tools. As part of the mentoring Program, the ET Partners program will provide trained student assistant support to faculty wishing to pilot the new tools found within MyUCDavis 2.0 (powered by "Sakai").

Incentives to Participating Faculty

- One-on-one tutorials and consultations with Faculty Mentoring Faculty Program manager Andy Jones
- Instructional and technological support from a student ET Partner from the ET Partners program
- MyUCDavis 2.0 Technical support from Mediaworks managers and programmers

Responsibilities of Participating Faculty

- Attending relevant demonstrations (preferably with a colleague!)
- Meeting with new program participants to "mentor" them on teaching with technology
- Meeting with Mediaworks representatives to ask and answer questions about new applications and procedures
- Help to arrange departmental demonstrations and identify other potential users.

Faculty interested in becoming mentors should contact Andy Jones, Faculty Mentoring Faculty Program Manager, at ajones@ucdavis.edu or 752-4080.

The Three Committees Faculty Participants Needed!

1) The MyUCDavis 2.0 Conversion (from MyUCDavis) Advisory Group

This group, chaired by transition expert and organizational consultant Kate Powers, will ask and consider answers to the following questions:

What one campus site should be responsible for answering Learning Management System (i.e., MyUCDavis 2.0) support questions and referring faculty to available resources?

What kinds of training and support work best for UC Davis faculty?

How can faculty be made aware of and take best advantage of the currently-available instructional technology support options?

- IT Express (available at 754-HELP and <http://itexpress.ucdavis.edu/>)
- The ET Partners program (754-2115 and <http://etpartners.ucdavis.edu/>)
 - New faculty office visit program/ *ad hoc* support
 - New Departmental Partnerships – especially for Sakai users
- The Teaching Resources Center
- The Summer Institute on Technology in Teaching
- The Faculty Mentoring Faculty Program
- Pilots, Other?

2) The First Faculty Mentors (for Breeze, Sakai, etc)

Aided by Faculty Mentoring Faculty Program Manager Andy Jones, this group will work with new and advanced tools, and share their increasing expertise with other faculty. Participants will work with Sakai/MyUCDavis 2.0 and Macromedia Breeze, help to arrange departmental demonstrations (by Mediaworks staff) on these topics, and identify colleagues as potential participants in Sakai pilots. The first faculty mentors will meet monthly as a group, and more often with Andy, other mentors, and with mentees as needed.

3) The TRC Faculty Support Advisory Group

Chaired by Andy Jones, this group will meet monthly to discuss existing instructional technology tools (e.g., PowerPoint, MyUCDavis course management tools), and consider ways that we can encourage pedagogically effective use of these tools by our faculty peers. In addition, participants in this group will be asked to give one presentation or workshop on a familiar instructional technology tool or practice, and answer occasional e-mails from other UC Davis faculty on instructional technology practices and resources.

For further information please contact Andy Jones at aojones@ucdavis.edu 752-4080 or Kirk Alexander kdalex@ucdavis.edu 754-7778.