

WebLearn Beta

An overview of the new improved
WebLearn service

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Topics

- Current Service
- Beta Service
- Transition Timescales
- Features
- Migration
- Demos
- Questions



What is WebLearn?

- Integrated set of tools for teaching, learning ,collaboration and research.
- Tools (discussion forum, assessment submission, tests/quiz, content)
- Inside one framework (shared users, authorization, events, content)
- Integrate together well with similar design.



Current Service

- <http://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/>
- Based on Bodington source
- Physical metaphor
- Content is in a tree
- Dwindling community
- Fewer development resources locally

WebLearn Beta

- <http://beta.weblearn.ox.ac.uk/>
- Based on the Sakai source
- Main concept is a site
- Large community
- Currently in pilot

What's Better

- Cleaner interface
- Better usability and accessibility
- Simpler access control
- Community Documentation
- More tools
- Good integration
- Good search



Transition Timescales

- Pilot program starts in earnest now
- During next year new features introduced
- Full production service starts Jun 2009
- 2011 current Bodington service becomes read only



New Local Features

- Hierarchy of Sites
- Nice URLs
- Devolved Admin
- Control of Public Access
- Tools to support migration
- Integration with Oxford groups.



Migration Support

- Lots of content can timeout
- Export/Import of content
- Migration of assessments
- Reuse of groups
- Redirects for existing content



Demos

- Should I have had a backup?
- Cover
 - Sites
 - Hierarchy
 - Public Access
 - Tools (Assignments, Announcements, Resources, Wiki, Mailtool, Email Archive).



What's coming?

- Sakai 3.0
 - Lots of client side development (AJAX)
 - Integrating with social networks (Facebook)
 - Scalability improvements

Questions?

- What would you like from the new service?
- How do you currently use WebLearn?
- If you don't what would have encouraged you to use WebLearn?
- Become part of the pilot?

Notes

- <http://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/>
- <http://beta.weblearn.ox.ac.uk/>
- <http://sakaiproject.org/>
- <http://www.oucs.ox.ac.uk/ltg/vle/>
- weblearn-beta@oucs.ox.ac.uk