

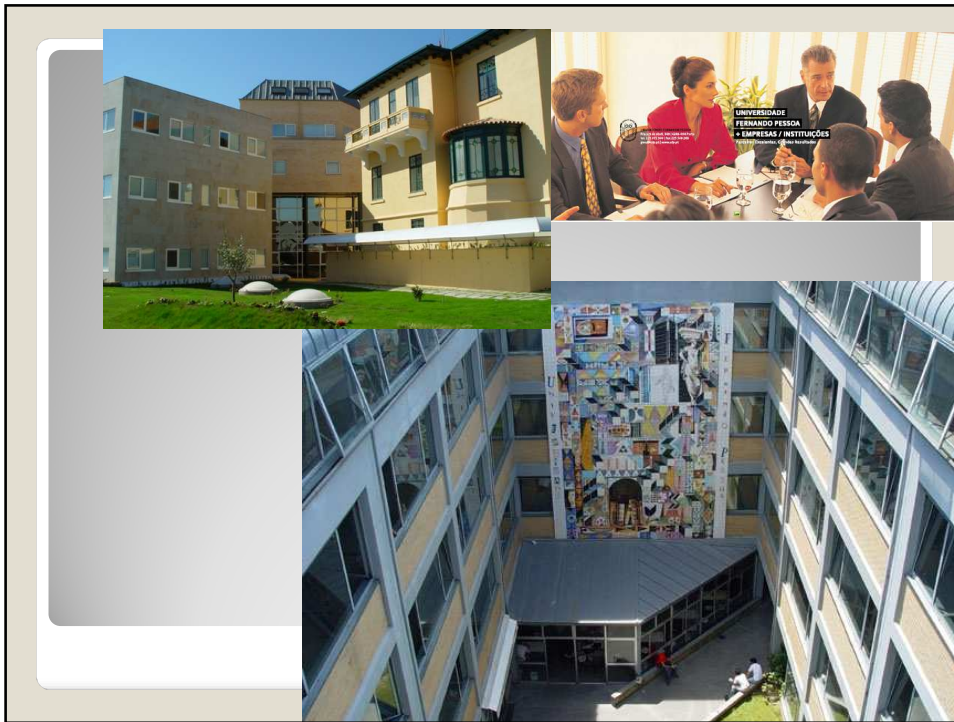
## **UFP ongoing experience with Sakai the last three years**

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UFPUV, University Fernando Pessoa  
28th May, 2009

Presentation at ISCAP, Porto within the Learning Management Systems (LMS) usage in Higher Education Institutions Meeting

- Small university located in Porto, Portugal
  - Another campus in Ponte de Lima (north of Portugal)
- Has around 33 000 m2 of building area (four main pedagogic building and other facilities)
- Some UFP dates (the first twenty years)
  - Higher education project initiated in the 1980's;
  - First students: 1989/90;
  - First PhD programs start at end 2005;

**The University Fernando Pessoa**

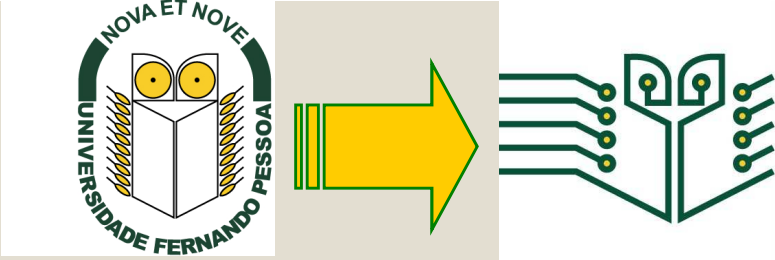


- the University is organised in
  - faculties (Health Sciences, Human and Social Sciences, Science and Technology), one School of Health Sciences;
  - one autonomous unit (Ponte de Lima College);
- 3000+ undergraduate, 1600+ postgraduate students, 109 PhD students, 140 administrative and technical staff members and 320 academic staff members full time (70+% holding a PhD degree);
- Bologna process started 2005/06
  - (first, second and third cycles – transition period ends last year);

**The University Fernando Pessoa**


**UNIVERSIDADE FERNANDO PESSOA**

*Universidade*  
**VIRTUAL**



**Lemma**  
**Knowledge and proximity**

- It is the most visible face is the platform <http://elearning.ufp.pt>



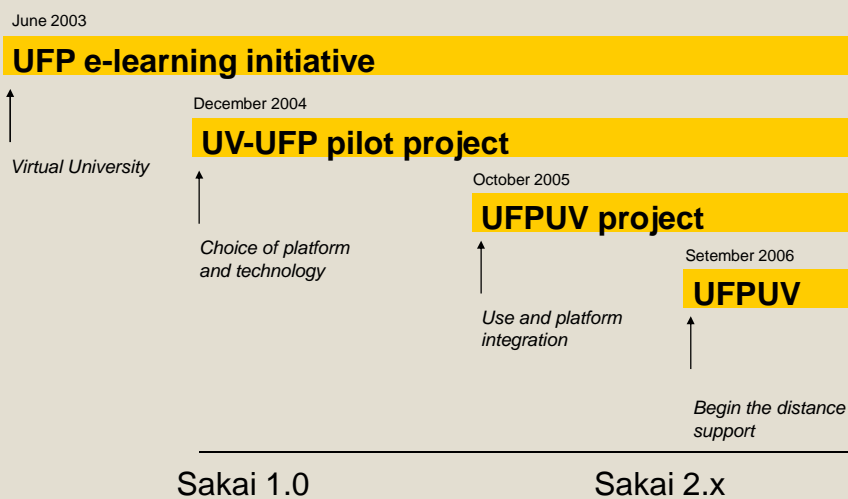
**UFPUV – what it is**

- Collaborative learning platform
- Community open source software
- Open software initiative, started in 2004, founded by a number of North American universities
- Is a foundation that counts with the official support of HP, IBM, and Oracle



**Sakai ([sakaiproject.org](http://sakaiproject.org))**

## About our Sakai implementation



# Some marketing



A number of open events, workshops and tutorials

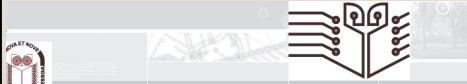
Stickies for students to place everywhere!



Posters to place around the university

Use of banners and buttons on university sites

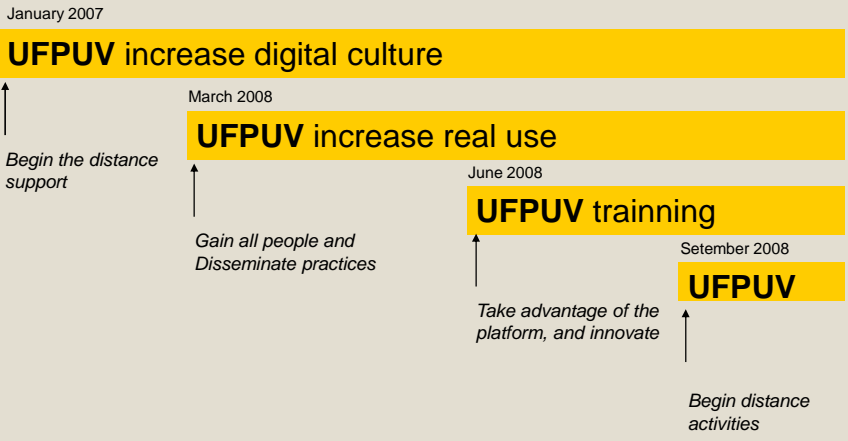
A Blog & a Wiki page



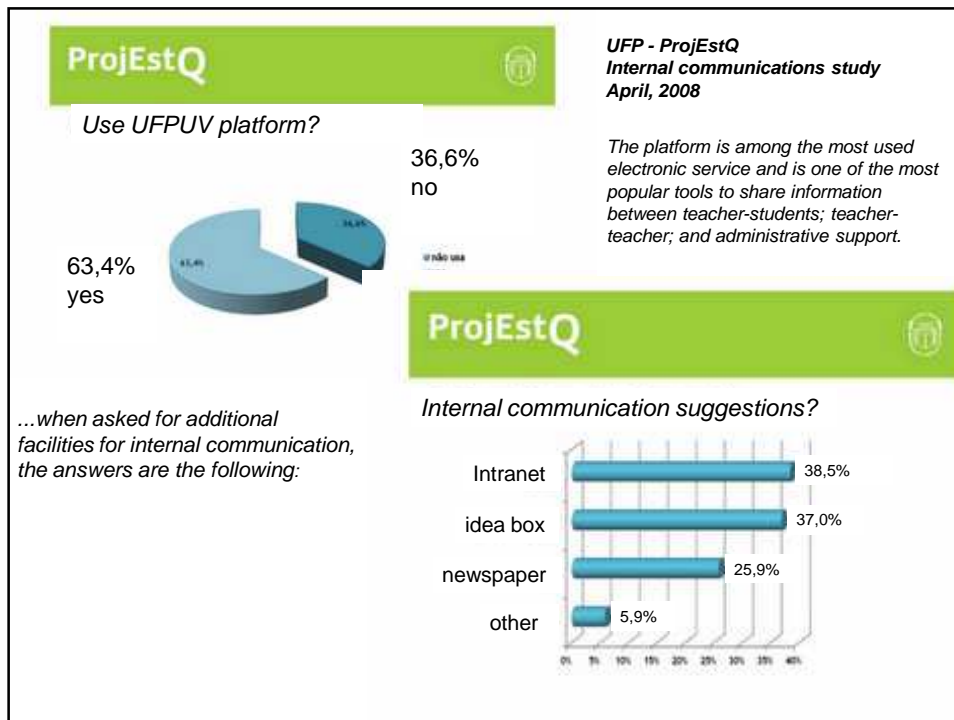
[ufpuv.blogspot.com](http://ufpuv.blogspot.com) & [elearning.ufp.pt/wiki](http://elearning.ufp.pt/wiki)



# About our Sakai implementation



Sakai 2.4    Sakai 2.5



- **For end of academic year 2007/08**
- Registered users (active and inactive):
  - UFP
    - Instructors: 650
    - Students: 7988
  - Non-UFP
    - Instructors: 20
    - Students: 678
- Total: 9607 (since January 2006...)

**Some user numbers**

- Unique users (with activity in UFPUV):
  - first semester: 4513
  - second semester: 4634
- Total ay2006/07: 4322
- Total ay2007/08: 5265 (increase of 1K stud)
- Total unique: 7007

**More user numbers**

- Total created sites:
  - 1º semester: 368 (336 course, 32 project)
  - 2º semester: 384 (338 course, 46 project)
  - (sites can have more than one discipline...)
- Total ay 2006/07: 410  
(304 course, 106 project)
- Total ay 2007/08: 752  
(674 course, 78 project)
- Overall: 3190 (2949 course, 241 project)

**Even more user numbers**

- Globalization
- Education as a commodity
  - means higher education as a business?
- Information society issues
  - Security, mobility and knowledge change
  - Information overload, information and communication technology
  - Digital culture, level of integration in information systems
  - New media, digital rights, new skills
  - The quest for interaction and the ever growing network society
  - Issues as big science and small science rediscussed
  - ... many others, depending in the perspective!

## Higher education challenges

- The need for strategy and leadership (as allways!) – major challenges:
  - Global level
    - Globalization
  - European level
    - The Bologna process
  - National level
    - Negative demographics
    - Economic restrictions
- News ways to reinvent higher education practices are urgent
  - funding, partnerships and even activities
  - new publics, alternative approaches to knowledge and society

## Higher education challenges



- In traditional teaching
  - Stabilized processes
    - lectures, labs, etc.
  - Knowledge plus use of alternative technology
    - Blackboard, slides, videoprojector, lab equipment, etc.
  - Well known context
    - Traditional face to face interaction
    - Classroom, as a space with defined rules
    - Fixed time periods
    - The school as an interaction space and also as a social space for both students and teachers

*elearning activities...*

- In *elearning*
  - Experimentation processes
    - Use of distance education techniques, intensive use of computer and the Web, new applications and innovative activities
  - Knowledge and use of alternative technologies
    - Integrated systems, digital interaction, contents
  - Context well defined but different
    - Computer mediated interaction
    - Ciberspace as the negotiation space
    - Results based, with well determined goals
    - The knowledge itself as the trigger for interaction and socialization

*elearning activities...*

Associated challenges:

- New activities, new contents
- Relationship between teacher and students
- Relationship between students
- Efforts needed for both content and context:
  - Creation and development
  - Trial and error
  - Support and monitoring
  - Evaluation
- New responsibilities for the student (new ones or just a shift in the most important ones?)
- New skills for the teacher

*elearning activities...*

Let me see  
my email....



- The Virtual University follow a roadmap in its first years:
  - *Selecting, testing and providing a stable platform*
  - *Promoting within the UFP environment the use of the platform*
  - *Develop a digital culture for the teaching staff*
  - *develop the university approach to virtual university*
  - *Support integration with the university information system*
  - *Support all the university presential teaching*

## Final remarks

- Further activity must followed
  - *Pedagogic concerns: promote blearning and elearning offers*
  - *Technological concerns: continue the development of new services for the existing platform*
  - *Administrative concerns: provide a virtual interface with distance learners*
  - *Business concerns: develop a business approach to the virtual university services*

## Final remarks

- **How can we use SAKAI to support UFPUV distance learning?**

**A question...**

- A complementary offer to the university;
  - Distance offer oriented to abroad
    - from Portugal;
    - in place (there), when feasible (cost, group dimension,...)
- Uses available teaching staff;
- Always provide a presence component:
  - With local partners;
  - With some UFP physical presence at some point;
  - Organised in groups not physically dispersed.

**Our flavour of distance learning**

- Train people
  - Three tracks: (1) basic use of Sakai; (2) advanced use of Sakai; (3) course organisation
- Use at first stage available digital resources from UFP
  - Let teachers organise the resources and the tools they use
  - Provide support for each group of teachers upon course demand
- Allow for new time organisation other the ay and semesters
- Course delivery:
  - first week f2f, last week for evaluations f2f (possible middle week for getting together)

## <sup>T</sup>Approach with Sakai

- Address communication
  - Use current core Sakai tools
- Address activity follow up
  - Site Stats
- Address multimedia
  - Streaming audio / video (?)
- Address e-learning 2.0
  - Wiki
  - Blog
  - Social specs (?)

## Sakai use

- Internationalisation
  - Support for UTF8, dates
  - Localisation (UFPUV efforts to support the Portuguese version)
- Lack of groups to support groupwork
  - Communication between groups of students
  - Resource sharing, group submissions, ...
- Student tracking
- Workflow support

## Current issues

- Use Sakai to support digital mediation
- Need to support distance collaboration
- and the provision of innovative actionable knowledge

