

UNIVERSITY OF HULL:
SUN MICROSYSTEMS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR DIGITAL UNIVERSITIES

Association Provides Implementation Knowledge to Academia for e-Services on Sun[tm] ONE and uPortal[tm] Platforms

KINGSTON UPON HULL, UK- January 13, 2004 - The University of Hull and Sun Microsystems, Inc., (NASDAQ: SUNW) announced today that Sun Microsystems has named the University, a Center of Excellence (COE) for the Digital Campus. The COE will drive the development and deployment of web-based services for all of the University's constituents. The COE will be based on Sun's Java Enterprise Architecture (JES), and the Java Architecture Special Interest Group's [tm] (JA-SIG) uPortal [tm] technologies.

As a Center of Excellence, the University of Hull will continue to assist Sun and uPortal customers worldwide, in planning, deploying and administering education e-services and user-facing portals.

The University of Hull's Digital University Project involves the deployment of a flexible web content management system, the procurement and implementation of a portal layer and the connection of key corporate systems, including student records and finance, to the portal in a meaningful way.

Ian Dolphin, head of e-Strategy at the University of Hull, had this to say about the benefit of the relationship to Hull, the region, and Sun's customers worldwide:

"The Center of Excellence will investigate practical issues of systems architecture integration and the development and deployment of standards-based software. It will provide a focus for emerging technologies in the specific areas of portals, elearning systems, digital libraries and repositories in the context of real-world deployment in education."

Educational user preferences and experiences in using the software and services will also be researched and white papers will be written to help the educational community implement web-based services into their institutions.

"The University of Hull and Sun Microsystems share a commitment to standards-based software and services, as well as the educational open source community," said Art Pasquinelli, Director of Education Solutions, at Sun Microsystems, Inc. "Sun is excited about adding the University of Hull to its elite Centers of Excellence group, and we expect that the integration work at the COE will benefit not just the University of Hull, but many educational institutions around the world. The Center of Excellence program includes over 50 centers worldwide in the areas of high performance computing, computational biology, digital libraries and e-learning."

"The PORTAL project is aligned with ongoing work at Hull and forms part of the programme to deliver the Digital University to all our students, regardless of location," Ian Dolphin said. "It will enable us to commission and benefit from research into the ways in which students and staff actually make use of portals and related information

resources. It will also help reduce the total cost of IT ownership for the University as employees will have access to all the information and applications they need from one interface, enabling them to work more efficiently."

University of Hull:

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About JA-SIG:

The Java Architecture Special Interest Group (<http://www.ja-sig.org/>) is an independent organization promoting the use of Java technologies and architectures within the higher education community. JA-SIG supports the development and adoption of low cost, flexible, open source solutions that adhere to best practices and open standards. uPortal is a free, sharable portal developed by higher education universities worldwide based on open standards.

Sun In Education:

Sun is a leading provider of open network computing solutions to colleges and universities around the world, powering academic, research and high performance computing systems, campus administration, digital libraries and student instruction systems. In addition, Sun is committed to connecting the world's students to the Internet, beginning with primary and secondary schools and extending to all levels of higher education. For information about Sun in Education, please visit <http://www.sun.com/edu>.

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