



JA-SIG Community Update

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Agenda

- JA-SIG Community “Bulletin Board”
- SOA Initiatives
- Workflow & Notifications
- uPortal Status & Call-to-Action



JA-SIG Community Bulletin Board

- 501(3)c status - incorporation is here!
 - Thanks Patty!
- New on the board
 - Jim Helwig (U Wisconsin-Madison)
 - Alain Mayeur (Université de Valenciennes)



Adoption & Interest in France

- ESUP Portail - 50 Universities and Engineering Schools across France
- “ A digital workspace offering university students and staff integrated access to services and information”
- Integrated around uPortal, CAS
- Consortium Helpdesk Application



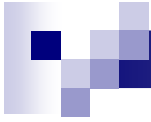
Adoption & Interest in the UK

- JASIG-UK meets 3 times per year
 - Open agenda; discusses JA-SIG, OSP, Sakai
- Post-early portal adopters wave of interest
 - Parallels North America
 - Find ways, as a community, to engage the wave
- eScience & eResearch Community
 - JISC Virtual Research Environment Programme
 - National UK Grid Computing portal



Community Source

- uPortal and Sakai Integration
 - Some basic enabling work undertaken
 - Sites with both Sakai & uPortal stepping up
 - If you're interested ... volunteer!
- Community dialogue
 - Joint Sakai/JA-SIG Board meetings
 - Discussing range of common issues



SOA Initiatives



Service Oriented IT: What It Is

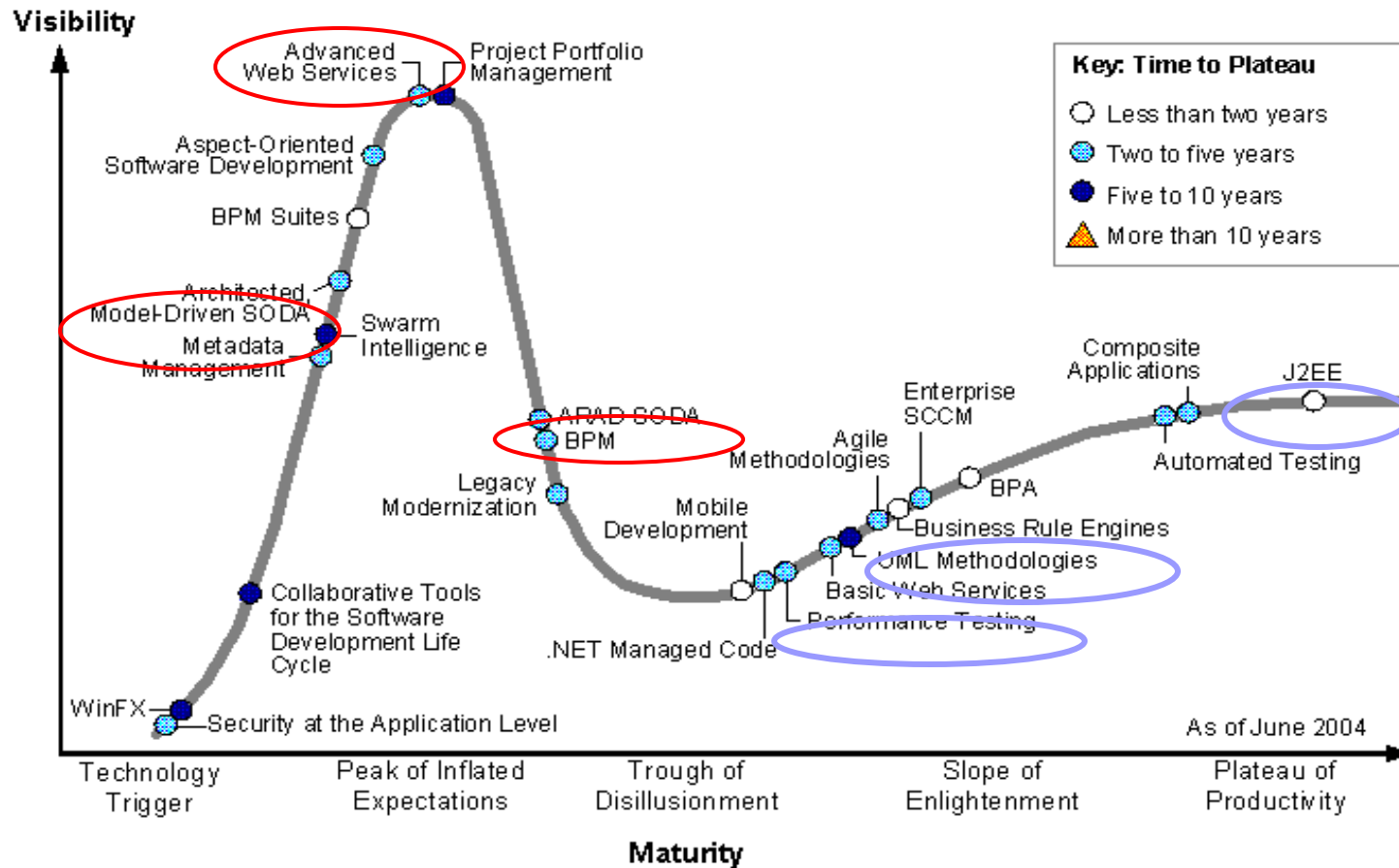
- Service: a software component that
 - carries out a specific part of a business process
 - e.g. a credit card authorization.
 - has a well defined, platform independent interface
 - is reusable, autonomous, can be “orchestrated”
- Service Oriented Architecture
 - loosely coupled services
 - services use middleware to communicate and execute business processes
 - use standard schemas when they are available

*Thomas Erl, “Service Oriented Architecture: Concepts, Technology, and Design,
Prentice-Hall, 2005*



Service Oriented IT: Goals of the Architecture

- Break business processes down into:
 - process or control logic
 - business logic
 - application functions
- Use standard data models and schemas
- Build reusable “services” to provide the business logic and application functions
- Use rules engines for the internal logic
- Use workflow for the process logic
- Loosely couple components
- Agility - make process change easier!

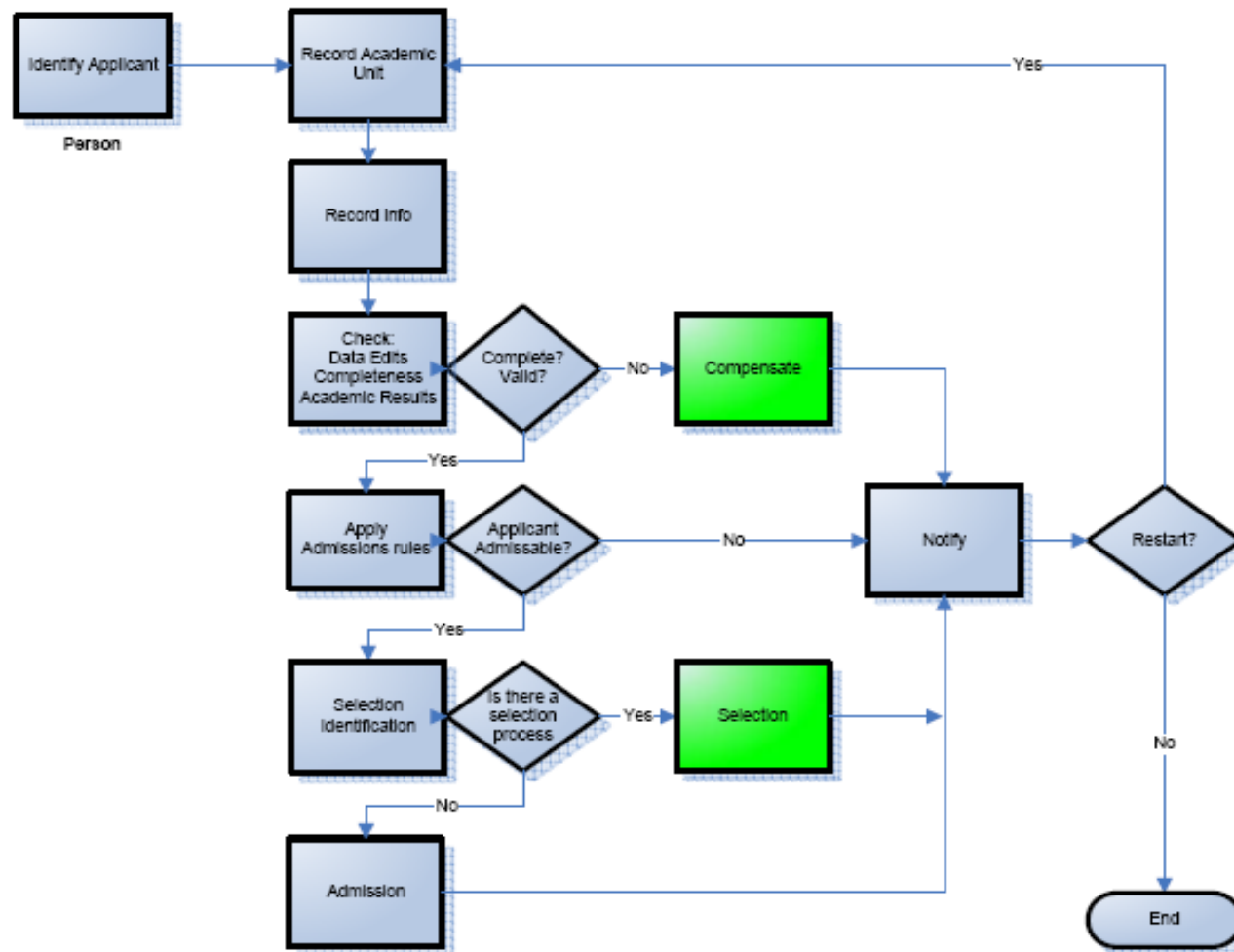




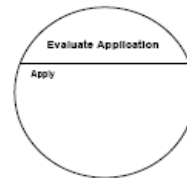
SOA in Higher Education

- UBC Hosted Workshop - March 2006
 - Participation
 - heterogeneous, international group
 - 25 participants, 12 institutions, 3 countries
 - Goal of the workshop
 - Build the community knowledge base needed to create a Conceptual Framework of cross-cutting university services.
 - Outcomes
 - Proof of concept: service analysis, decomposition
 - <http://educationcommons.org/projects/display/CSS/SS/Home>
- MIT Hosted Workshop – July 10-14, 2006

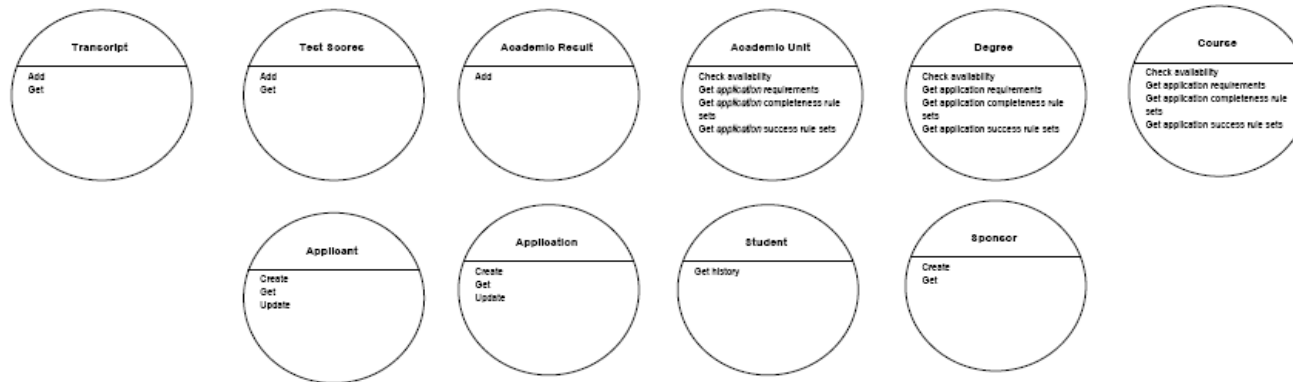
Business Process: Apply for Admission



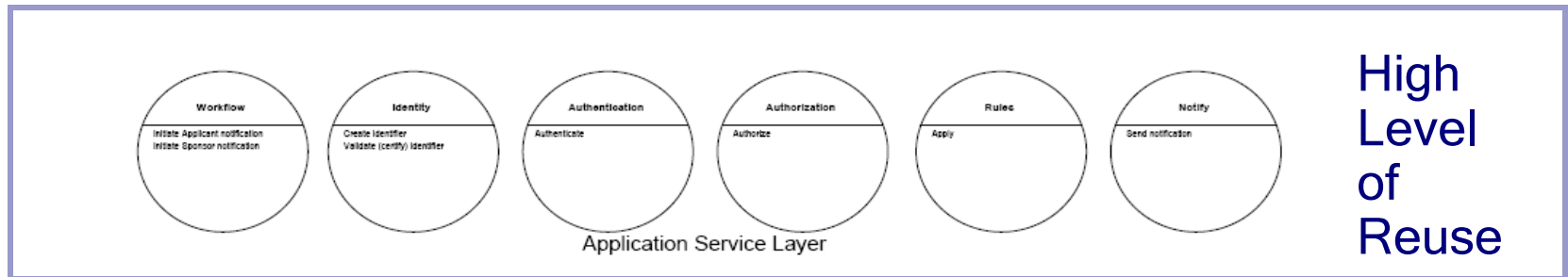
Preliminary Service Candidates: Apply for Admission



Business Process Layer

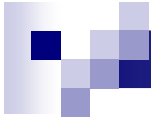


Business Service Layer



Application Service Layer

High Level of Reuse



Workflow & Notification



Functional Goals

- Support changing business model
 - Silos -> Meadows
 - Service Centers
- Lower administrative costs
 - Improve efficiency & productivity
 - Lower training cost
- Improve transparency
 - ...what happened to my purchase request?



Key Services

- **Portal:** *a user-centric web desktop that gives users access to all of the information resources they commonly use.*
- **Workflow:** *General purpose service that automates the routing of documents to the users responsible for working on them.*
- **Notification:** *General purpose service where any authorized application or user can reliably notify a user of a task, an alert or an event.*



Kuali Enterprise Workflow

- Java API (for the java shops)
 - Easy to Use
 - Easy to setup
 - Client application in control
 - Requires client application written in java
- Web Services API (for other technology shops)
 - Fairly easy to use
 - Client application in control
- Edoc Lite (for less technical shops)
 - Easy to use
 - XML document definition based
 - Small amount of technical expertise required



Product Evolution

- Heavy Client - Java Applications
- Light Client - Edoc Lite
- Enterprise Service Buss - BPEL




Status

- Fully deployed at IU
- Integrated with Kualu Finance
- Hawaii and Cornell doing prototype deployments
- Not completely packaged
- Looking for a few more developers
 - Developing vs. Deploying
- KEW retreat



Joint development experience

- Lack of formality
- Great experience
- Kualu experience effect on Cornell



More about Kuali Enterprise Workflow

Presentation - Tuesday 10:15AM-11:15AM



Notification service

- One place to find out what is on your plate
- Fully integrate with KEW & uPortal
- Types of notifications
 - Something you need to do - workflow
 - Something you need to know - university closing
 - Something you want to know - when a library book is do
- The portal is where you go to deal with notifications
- Support different styles of portal use
- Plug-in Tickler Technology



Status

- Semi vaporware
- Architecture defined
- Portlet under construction
- Backend only developed enough to facilitate portlet testing
- New development project manager
- Open source



More about notification service

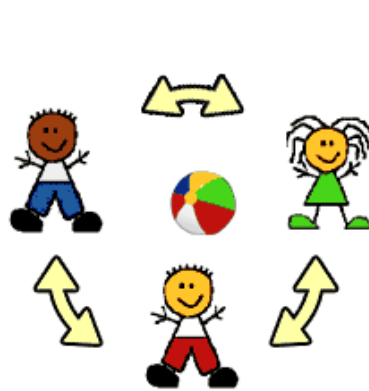
Presentation - Tuesday 11:30AM-12:30PM



uPortal Status and Call-to-Action

uPortal – The Open Source Higher Education Enterprise Portal Framework

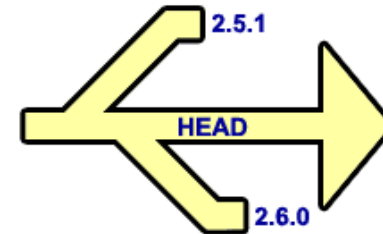
Vancouver, BC, Canada - June 2006



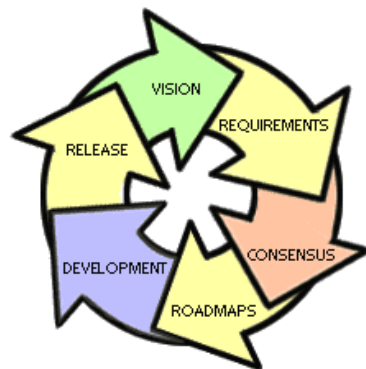
Participation



Sustainability Model



Release Framework



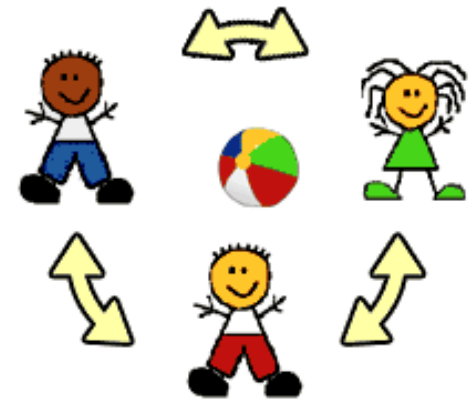
Development Model



Roadmap

Why Participate?

- Ensure long term viability
- Determine strategic direction
- Shape uPortal roadmap
- Avoid duplication of effort
- Collaborate with your peers



Create the best open source Enterprise Portal Framework by and for Higher Education!

Sustainability Model – The 3 Pillars

1. University “volunteers”
 - Funded by home institution
 - Priorities guided by local needs
2. Commercial Partner “volunteers”
 - Funded directly by commercial partner
 - Priorities guided by customer needs
3. Grant or Institutional Funding
 - Typically used to fund significant growth spurts
 - Used to supplement community resources





The Evolving Project Model

- Project Team

- Developer Community
- Release managers

- JA-SIG Board

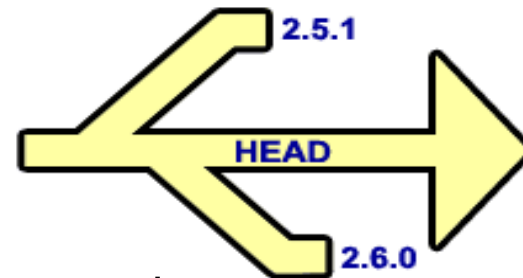
- Project liaison
- Board sponsorship, oversight, and support

- Stakeholder Participation

- Active Investors
- Can commit resources and support

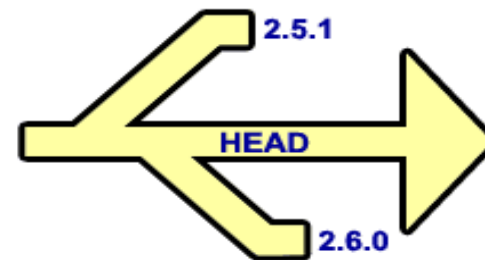
Release Framework - Versioning

- SECURITY 2.5.1 → 2.5.1.1
 - **Critical** minimal change
- PATCH 2.5.3 → 2.5.4
 - **Conservative** incremental improvement
- MINOR 2.5.4 → 2.6
 - **Evolutionary** incremental improvement
- MAJOR 2.6.5 → 3.0
 - **Significant** change!



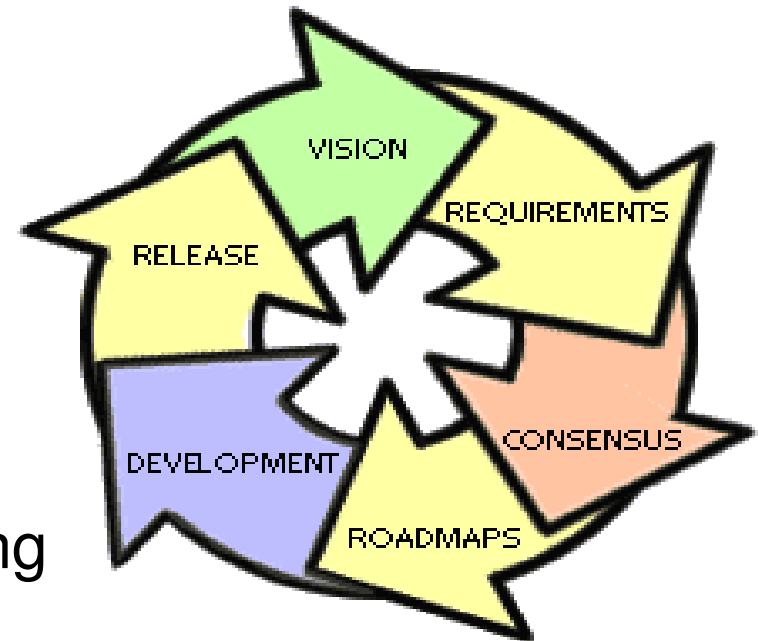
Release Framework - Builds

- Milestone (M)
 - Work in progress, typically containing a subset of features
 - Used to assess progress and get early feedback on implementation
- Release Candidate (RC)
 - Considered feature complete
 - Signals beginning of QA cycle
- General Availability (GA)
 - Production-ready release
 - “Ready for Prime Time”



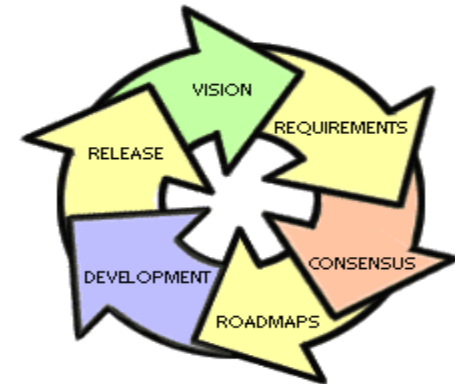
uPortal Development Cycle

- Encourage participation
 - Vision Statements
 - Requirements & Use Cases
 - Bug Reports & Patches
 - New Development
 - Release Engineering
- Transparent and open planning
 - Mailing lists and wiki
 - Periodic uPortal developers meetings
 - uPortal Roadmaps



Vision Statements

- Big Picture – Vision of enterprise portals in higher education
- Gathered and combined to produce shared community vision and guide requirements, direction, and roadmap



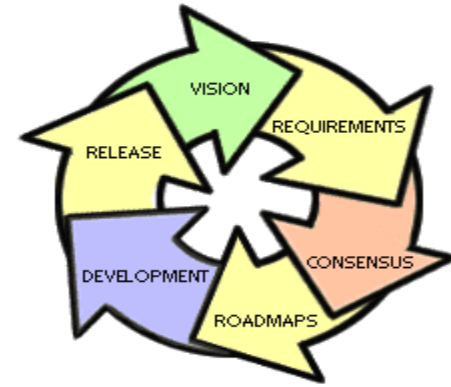
Portal is an integrated personalised web environment for both staff and students allowing them to interact in a seamless, secure atmosphere for both teaching and research, and to provide the opportunity to optimise business processes and objectives. - University of Nottingham

Enterprise portal will provide a single web platform for the integrated delivery of information, services and online communication tools to the University community. - University of Montana

Improving the quality of lives (customer satisfaction) of our students by de hassling UB. - SUNY Buffalo

Requirements

- What the framework needs to provide in order to fulfill our vision
- Use Cases: detailed descriptions as to how requirements are met



End-user Requirements
Accessibility
High-contrast Display

Evaluator Requirements
Quickstart release
Public demonstration deployment

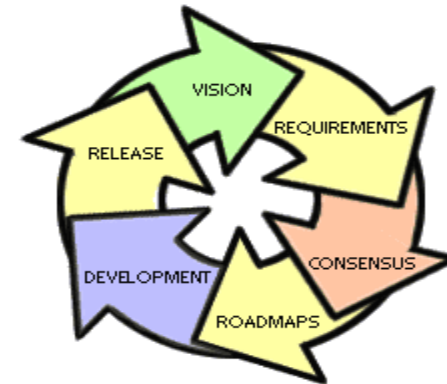
Standards Support
Portlet API (JSR-168)
WSRP Consumer

Deployer Requirements
Deployment
Support load balanced/clustered environments

Administrator Requirements
Accessibility
Channel import and export

Development Roadmaps

- Driven by consensus and resource availability, developed at biannual uPortal Developer meetings
- Coordinate work over next 6 months and document development plans



uPortal 2.5.3 *is the next mature, production branch recommended for production deployment.*

uPortal 2.6 *is a tentative release categorizing ongoing development efforts is incomplete, undergoing active development and is NOT recommended for production deployment*

uPortal 3.x *is an independent development branch, is incomplete, undergoing active development, and may change at any time. It represents a complete re-architecture of the uPortal framework is NOT recommended for production deployment*

uPortal Release Roadmap

- uPortal 2.5.3 (soon to be GA)
 - Next mature production ready release
 - Active maintenance for 2.5.x focused on performance, stability, bug fixes and enhancements
- uPortal 2.6
 - Internationalization Framework
 - Distributed Layout Manager Enhancements
 - DLM as the default layout manager
- uPortal 3
 - Next generation enterprise portal framework
 - New software architecture (Spring Framework)
 - Will incorporate the output of our Requirements Call-to-Action



uPortal 2.5.x Roadmap

Conservative incremental improvements

- uPortal 2.5.3 - next mature production ready release
- Performance, Stability, New Features for 2.5.x
 - Person Directory Externalization
 - WSRP Consumer Functionality
 - Performance Validation & Enhancements
 - XHTML Theme & CSS-based Skin Templates
 - Layout Publishing Tools
 - SLM -> DLM Migration Tools

- Release Engineer: Andrew Petro, Unicon



uPortal 2.6.x Roadmap

Evolutionary incremental improvements

- uPortal 2.6.0
 - Internationalization Framework
 - DLM Fragment Manager
 - DLM Integrated Modes Support
 - DLM the default Layout Manager

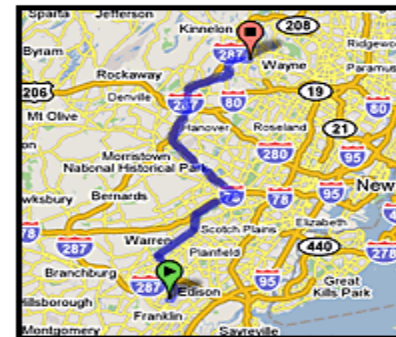
- Release Engineer: TBD



uPortal 3.x Roadmap

- Next Generation Enterprise Portal Framework
- Active Research & Development
- Architectural Re-design

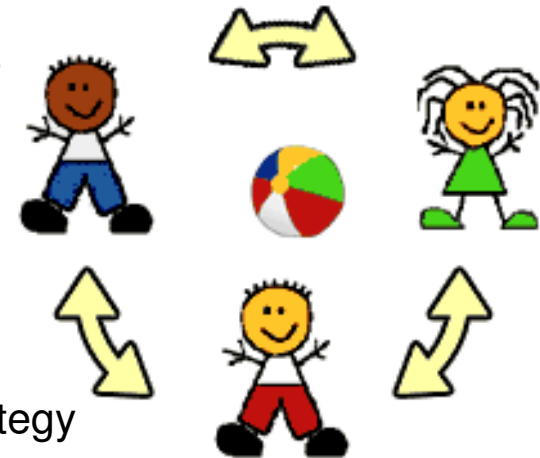
- **Requirements Call-to-Action**
 - Vision of the future
 - New features



How to Participate

JA-SIG uPortal Board Liaison
Bill Thompson: wgthom@rutgers.edu

- Vision Statements
 - <http://www.ja-sig.org/wiki/display/UPR/Vision>
- Requirements & Use Cases
 - <http://www.ja-sig.org/wiki/display/UPR/Requirements>
- Bug Reports & Patches
 - <http://www.ja-sig.org/issues/browse/UP>
- New Development
 - <http://www.ja-sig.org/wiki/display/UPC/Home>
- Release Engineering
 - <http://www.ja-sig.org/wiki/display/UPC/Release+Strategy>
- uPortal Roadmap
 - <http://www.ja-sig.org/wiki/display/UPR/Spring+2006+Roadmap>



<http://www.uportal.org/participate.html>