

Chamilo LMS - Bug #5819

Missing academic title field in user registration

11/12/2012 11:19 - Alexander Hu

Status:	New	Start date:	11/12/2012
Priority:	Low	Due date:	
Assignee:		% Done:	0%
Category:	Global / Others / Misc	Estimated time:	0.00 hour
Target version:		Spent time:	0.20 hour
Complexity:	Normal	SCRUM pts - complexity:	?

Description

I don't know why this hasn't been seen before, but:

if you have a Dr. or Prof., there is no field for entering the academic title.

Did anybody recognize that?

I have an university here which just denied to use Chamilo because of missing elementary things like that :-)

Thanks

History

#1 - 13/12/2012 16:54 - Julio Montoya

This could be easy to do, a new extra user field could be added and then function `api_get_user_info()` could be modified too

#2 - 13/12/2012 18:09 - Alexander Hu

Hello Julio,

i know, but the question was: nobody noticed that before?

Is Chamilo not in usage at universities/educational services?

I think this should be a default field, not an extra user field.

#3 - 14/12/2012 11:46 - Julio Montoya

- Target version set to 2.0

Alexander Hu wrote:

Hello Julio,

i know, but the question was: nobody noticed that before?

Is Chamilo not in usage at universities/educational services?

I think this should be a default field, not an extra user field.

I agree with you, a new option should be added in the DB.

If we use the extra fields we will have some issues when changing the platform language.

Moving to 1.10 because it will need some DB changes.

Chamilo is use in a **lot** of universities but I as far as I know I didn't receive that feature.

#4 - 15/12/2012 18:44 - Yannick Warnier

- Priority changed from High to Low

- Target version deleted (2.0)

I am not particularly a fan of having the kind of leveling of putting the title as a relevant field. A person should be recognized by his/her skills, not by his/her titles. In particular in an educational model where we want to democratize education, it doesn't make sense to put hierarchical barriers like this.

I understand this might be important to some, but I don't think this is the sole reason why this university rejected Chamilo. If this hadn't been a problem, they would have found something else. Please don't get affected by this kind of arguments, I get these all the time. The most likely reason is they had a lazy sysadmin there who knows Moodle and didn't want to learn anything else. We get these all the time as well (they are always linked to some stupid rejection reason).

Now it is true that Extra Fields do not comply with the multilingual capabilities of Chamilo, but in any case titles can be very different from one place to another (except for basic ones such as doctor or engineer), so it's **not** going to be helpful to have them translated either. Furthermore, a title is proper to the person's language for anything not conventional.

I am personally strongly opposed to having an additional "title" field in the basic Chamilo, and would like to submit this to votation first, reason why I'm removing it from the objectives of 1.10. Of course, anyone can decide to contribute this feature as an optional feature (disabled by default) and it will be approved, but I refuse to personally invest more than the time to review a complete code in this. There are mucho more important things to spend time on right now.

#5 - 16/12/2012 17:50 - Alexander Hu

Hello Yannick,

neither do i care about having a title, i know my skills :-)

On the other hand, you can't deny that a person, who invested lot's of time/money to get this title is allowed to have others call him Prof/Dr.

In my case it was a professor, which university is using ILIAS at the moment.

It is a good private contact, so personal issues are not involved :-P

In the past, he didn't have the position to make decisions, but now he can do this for his (not so small mathematic) ressort at the university.

I have told him, he doesn't need to use ILIAS in the future if he doesn't like, there are plenty other solutions available :-D

But when we were at the registration screen, he asked me, if this is the default.

I had to tell him yes, and so he told me, that this is unacceptable.

Just think about what you've said.

Isn't it disrespectful against others to turn a blind eye on typical registration screens? ;-)

I had a look at the custom fields, because i know Chamilo is pretty flexible to use.

But, to make these changes each time there is an update/upgrade is pretty uncool ;-)

Just think about the index page, where the courses are listed with the names of the content creators.

There is no: Dr. Firstname Surname, just Firstname Surname

Okay, if you say, this can be done easily by a plugin/module, i will have a look at, because this university would be a nice reference for Chamilo.

Can be closed :-)

#6 - 17/12/2012 02:05 - Yannick Warnier

A little additional guidance...

This task doesn't have to be closed. If you are going to look into writing a module, then it should really be left open, and if you are an official provider, then you should really be reporting here about your progress :-)

I don't want, however, to set it for a specific version, because this implies **we** (Julio and I) take the responsibility to manage this requirement.

Regarding the update at each version, it isn't correct for either extra fields nor for a module: you can define an extra field that will remain version after version, and you can write a module that will need very little work between updates (probably none at all - the plugin feature in Chamilo prior to version 1.9 had remained completely compatible with plugins of over 3 years ago, and all of them were upgraded by us when we switched to something more extensible).

If you do find shortcomings in writing the module, please let us know and we will make the necessary infrastructure changes to make it work.

Either way, I still don't think it is unacceptable **not to** show the title. In fact, I can say it is pretty much accepted by 2 million people around the world :-p

#7 - 17/12/2012 09:34 - Marko Kastelic

Yannick Warnier wrote:

I am not particularly a fan of having the kind of leveling of putting the title as a relevant field. A person should be recognized by his/her skills, not by his/her titles.

agree.
may i suggest optional salutation field ? That way can be used for anything or for nothing (prof, dr, mr, mrs,). Can be used for academic title, position, gender, ...

#8 - 17/12/2012 15:53 - Alexander Hu

Marko Kastelic wrote:

may i suggest optional salutation field ? That way can be used for anything or for nothing (prof, dr, mr, mrs,). Can be used for academic title, position, gender,

erm, yes, that is the correct name for this kind of field :)