

Website Review Committee

February 23, 2010

Major Developments:

- **Creation of New Faculty Website:** The goal for this site is to begin the centralizing of all faculty websites onto a single website in preparation for a major overhaul of the main college website later this year. Since its release on February 10th, nearly 50 faculty members have logged on and had their permissions added into the system.
 - **Planned:** Add ability for faculty members to create their own subcategories.
 - **Planned:** Add ability for faculty members to truly delete their own pages (and not just set a page to be unpublished).
 - **Planned:** Add ability for faculty members to easily insert an Email Contact Form within their pages.
- **Creation of New Staff Website:** The goal for this site was to begin centralizing staff-related information, as well as a number of new web applications that have been created in recent years that are directly used by staff members, most notably the new Program Review application.
 - **Planned:** Merge some of the new work being used on the new Faculty Website into the Staff Website.
 - **Planned:** Migrate Committees and Divisions pages into the new Staff Website.
 - **Needed:** Purchase DOCman (cost: \$33) so that we can simplify the Committee pages management and save secretarial time
 - **Planned:** Integrate Ordering Website into Staff Website
 - **Planned:** Integrate Trainings Website into Staff Website
- **Joomla 1.6 Contributions:** Since Joomla 1.6 will form the backbone of our main website, once I begin the process of overhauling it, I've been contributing some development time to this Open Source Project in order to speed up its release. A beta release is planned for by April, with a stable release before the summer begins. Once a beta version has been released I'll be able to begin work on the overhaul.

Completed or In-Progress Site Improvements:

- **Student Portal:**
 - **(Completed) WebSTAR Login:** I noticed last week that when a person's PIN was expiring, my auto-login-to-WebSTAR functionality didn't work properly, so the source of this issue was discovered and fixed.
 - **(Completed) Movie Showtimes:** While I'm not sure how well used the feature was when it was working on the portal, due to enhanced server security the method by which

movie showtimes were retrieved was no longer possible, so the method was tweaked to use one that would work within the new security constraints.

- **(Completed) JomSocial:** This is the software that powers the community section of the portal, and a few weeks ago, prior to the start of the Spring 2010 semester, it was updated to the latest version and added a number of new features, including the ability to add videos and photos to groups and fixing many minor bugs.
- **(In-Progress) Addition of Frontpage Slideshow:** Using a program similar to what is being used on the college's accreditation website, I am currently working with the Communications Department so that we can begin showing some more vivid images to students, advertising important events or new programs, at the top of the Portal Homepage (after logging in).
- **Staff Website:**
 - **(To-Do) Etudes Shell Requests:** Add in additional flexibility for creating the shell requests to make it easier for shells to be added after a semester has begun.
- **Faculty and Staff Directory:**
 - (In-Progress) Compact Version: In an attempt to aide those around campus who would greatly benefit from a printable version of the directory (similar in style to the printed directory we had before) I am currently working on adding this capability into the Faculty and Staff Directory.

Process Improvements:

- Migrate web application code to a college hosted version control system on fileserver.
- Integrate website database snapshots into version control system.
- Integrate website file snapshots into version control system.
- Create scheme for automating/simplifying the above two snapshot processes for ease of management as new sites are created.

Back Burner Projects:

- Events Website
- Online Probation Workshop Application
- Child, Family and Consumer Sciences Website

Side Project Ideas:

- Pioneers Museum Website
 - Books: Copy historical books about the Imperial Valley that are in the public domain, such as "The First Thirty Years", onto the Internet so that they can be used by schoolteachers throughout the Valley to teach children more about their local history.