From 0 to Drupal in Six Months

A Case Study on How the
Stony Brook University
IT Department
Migrated to Drupal

http://it.stonybrook.edu/camp

Previous Web Presence

stonybrook.edu/it

- Static HTML/PHP
- Managed via FTP
- 2 Editors
- Wordpress for News
- Third Party KB Solution

tlt.stonybrook.edu

- SharePoint 2010
- Custom Web Parts
- 20 Editors
- Publishing Workflows
- Custom Permissions
- Audienced Based Navigation

About 200,000-300,000 monthly visits

Major Issues

Typical Content Headaches
Outdated, Duplicated, Inaccurate, Incomplete, Unmanaged

Growing Backlog

Navigation & Search

SharePoint Headaches
Atrocious Markup, Cross Browser Problems, Reputation

Timeline

New CIO - May 2011

TLT Director Leaves - November 2011

SharePoint User Mutiny - 10 minutes after he left

CMS Search Begins - January 2012

New TLT Director Hired - April 2012

Drupal Chosen - June 2012

CIO Leaves - September 2012

TLT Director Becomes Interim CIO

Site Launched - October 2012

Richard von Rauchhaupt
http://www.stonybrook.edu/it
Richard.vonRauchhaupt@stonybrook.edu

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CMS Selection Committee

Myself (TLT Site Admin, .Net Developer)

Kerrin Pernicario (IT Content Admin/PR)

Michael Basille (IT Admin/PHP Developer/Client Support)

Don Lavalle (Research Site Web Admin/.Net Developer)

Jason Knaris (Administration Dept. Web Guy/.Net Developer/)

Defining Our Needs

- Multi-Tenant Capable
- Flexible Content/Role Based Permissions
- Extendable
- Single Sign On Capable
- Flexible Search
- Content Approval Workflow
- Web Forms

- Simple Rich Text Editing
- Clean HTML / Section 508 Compliant
- Unlimited Contributors/Editors
- Create Page Redirects
- User Comments

Who We Evaluated

- Adobe CQ5
- dotCMS
- DotNetNuke
- Drupal
- **OmniUpdate (OU Campus)**
- Oracle Fatwire
- Sitecore
- Umbraco

Richard von Rauchhaupt
http://www.stonybrook.edu/it
Richard.vonRauchhaupt@stonybrook.edu

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Additional Considerations

Platform / Familiarity

Support

Community

Cost & Licensing

Richard von Rauchhaupt
http://www.stonybrook.edu/it
Richard.vonRauchhaupt@stonybrook.edu

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DotNetNuke vs Drupal

- .Net Based
- Direct Vendor Support
- Marketplace
- Local or Cloud Hosted
- Free / Professional Edition $2000/Year

- PHP Based
- Community Supported
- User Modules
- Local or Cloud Hosted
- Free

- Existing Footprint on Campus

Drupal Wins 4-1

Now What?

Richard von Rauchhaupt
http://www.stonybrook.edu/it
Richard.vonRauchhaupt@stonybrook.edu

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Timeline

Drupal Chosen - June 2012

GOOGLE APPS ROLLOUT BEGINS! - JUNE 2012

Hey, we need an office! - Early June

Content Evaluation Process - June

Content Types Defined - Late June

Migration Proof of Concept - June/July

OH NO! New Idea Requires Content Re-Evaluation - Mid-July

Content Migrated Cleanup Begins August....

Semester Start / Target Launch - August 27

CIO Leaves / TLT Director Serves as Interim - September 1

Content Cleanup September....October...

I go on vacation - October 15 - 22

Site Launched - October 22 2012

Kerrin On vacation - October 25 - November 14

Where to Host?

Local

- More Control
- One Time Cost
- More Responsibility

Cloud

- Scalability
- Support
- Redundancy
- Best Practices
- Patching
- Faster Turn Around

Drupal Is Highly Portable

Choosing a Provider

Acquia

- Amazon Cloud Based
- Dev, Test, Prod Environments
- GIT / Drush / SFTP
- Multiple Codebases
- Dashboards
- "Insight"

Other Considerations

- Drupal Gardens
- Pantheon

My Dev Environment

Acquia Dev Desktop

GIT

- git add <folder>

- git commit -m 'Message'

- git push origin master

Drush

- drush sql-sync @it.prod @it.local --no-cache --sanitize

- drush rsync @it.prod:%files/ @it.local:%files

- http://www.mydrupaljourney.com/articles/2012/04/20/running-drush-rsync-windows-solved

Notepad++

PuTTY/PuTTYgen

Richard von Rauchhaupt
http://www.stonybrook.edu/it
Richard.vonRauchhaupt@stonybrook.edu

Settings.php

```php
$conf['apachesolr_read_only'] = "1";

// Page cache
$conf['cache'] = FALSE;

// Block cache
$conf['block_cache'] = FALSE;

// Optimize CSS files
$conf['preprocess_css'] = FALSE;

// Optimize JavaScript files
$conf['preprocess_js'] = FALSE;
```

Content is King!

Evaluate

Categorize

Structure

Content Types

Taxonomy

Best Practices

Tools that can help

- "Web Whacker"

- Excel / Databases

- Feeds Module

- WYSIWYG

- Entity Reference

- Views

- Date, Email, Link

- Features

File Management

- Lots of Images & PDFs
- Define Structure on where you want things saved..THINK NOW!
- What about video?
- What about Flash?

- Other Best Practices

Modules
Insert
IMCE
Transliteration
FileField_Paths

Dealing with Users

What Roles?   Modules

Who Can Do What?   CAS

Profiles   Shib_Auth

Authentication   Workbench

Methods   Content_Access

Securing Content   Taxonomy_Access

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Theme, Layout & Menu's

Custom Theme, Referencing Zen

Moving to Responsive (Omega? Semantic Grid)

Templating
Menu System

Modules

Panels

Context

Delta

Menu_Block

Richard von Rauchhaupt
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Pitfalls, Headaches and Issues

- Patching

  - Test your patches!

- Editing Experience

- Hitting Limits of GUI Based Modifications

  - Views

  - Panels

- File System Cleanup

- Dead Links (http://wummel.github.com/linkchecker/)

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Support

- Google/YouTube
- [NodeOne.SE](#)
- User Groups
- Camps
- LevelUpTuts http://www.youtube.com/user/LevelUpTuts
- [Drupalize.me](#)
- [Lynda](#)
- Acquia's Support

Feedback

- Content Editors Happy
- Site Visits Way Up
- University Wide Collaboration

- Missing Some Services

- University Wide Drupal Interest

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The Path Ahead

- Ditching Panels
- Implementing SASS (http://sass-lang.com)
- The Left Column
- Responsive Design
- Restructuring Content Types

- Drupal as a Service
- Multi-Sites

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