

# Planning an enterprise Drupal CMS at Princeton University



# CMS History at Princeton

*You can't know where you are going, until you know where you have been.*



# CMS History at Princeton

- 2004 (approx) Need for a CMS recognized.
- Evaluation took place. CMS landscape was not the same as now.
- 2005 (approx) Roxen CMS chosen.



# CMS History at Princeton

- Roxen has served us well.
- Able to meet most needs (Directories, News, Events, Course Listings).
- We set up a 3-tier service (Free, Low Cost, and Custom). With a training class provided.



# More about the Roxen service

- Roxen is supported by the Office of Information Technology. Centrally managed. Hosting, training, site building, etc.
- Available to academic, administrative, and select affiliate departments.
- No charge to departments for hosting, maintenance.



# Why evaluate a new CMS?

- Normal part of IT life-cycle management.
- Need to ensure technology offerings meet current and emerging customer needs.
- Need to ensure that customer investments are protected.
- Need to continue to deliver highly stable, scalable service.
- We know that with our current system, there are some limitations.



# Why evaluate? (cont.)

- Our customers needs are changing.
  - Mobility
  - High levels of interactivity and flexible presentation of content.
  - Connection to other systems (Sharepoint, DataSpace, social media)
  - More robust modules



# Evaluation - Overview

- Approach focused on Drupal.
- No bake-off.
- Involved key IT and Communications staff.





# Why did we focus on Drupal?

- Allowed for more functionality.
- Open source.
- Written in PHP.
- Easier to write modules for Princeton.
- Easier to hire staff or outsource work.
- Active community.
- Popularity



# How did we evaluate Drupal?

- Developed evaluation criteria.
- Studied the CMS market.
- Talked to peers.
- Tested and began learning the system.
- Considered our end users.



# What did we learn?

- Drupal met nearly all of our Technical and Functional requirements.
- Early adopters found it easy to add and update content.
- Support was plentiful.
- Many of our peer institutions had success with Drupal.



# What's next?

- Configure and fine tune an enterprise Drupal system designed to meet the needs of the University.
- Evaluate and install modules. If needed, build modules.
- Create templates.
- Perform security audits. Create policies and best practices.
- Evaluate training.
- Prepare documentation and KnowledgeBase articles.
- Determine installation profile.

