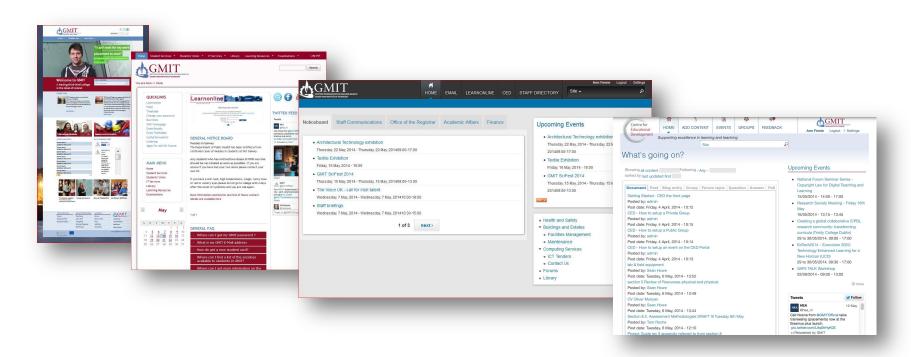




DRUPAL DEVELOPMENTS IN GMIT



PRESENTED BY: Martin Gibbons, Dónal McGinty & Ann Finnie

DATE: 16.05.2014 DRUPAL OPEN DAYS 2014

INTRODUCTION

Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology – GMIT

- » Campuses / Centres:
 - » Galway Dublin Road.
 - » Mayo Castlebar.
 - » CCAM Cluain Mhuire, Galway.
 - » Letterfrack Co. Galway.
 - » Mountbellew Co. Galway (Centre).
- » Schools and Colleges:
 - » College of Tourism & Arts (CTA)
 - » Centre for Creative Arts and Media (CCAM)
 - » School of Business
 - » School of Engineering
 - » School of Science
 - » GMIT Letterfrack
 - » GMIT Mayo

- » Students:
 - » FTE: 5,500
 - » Annual enrolment: 9,000 approx.
- » Staff:
 - » FTE: 600



WEBSITE HISTORY

- » Ver. 0
 - » HTML.
- » Ver. 1 (2000) (CMS) (www only):
 - » Netscape Navigator / PHP local development.
- » Ver. 2(2006) (CMS) (www, staff and student).
 - » Luminis (SunGardHE):
 - » Documentum.
 - » Heavyweight.
 - » End of Life 2012 in every sense!
 - » Had to rebuild public website using Dreamweaver.
- » Ver. 3 (2013) (CMS) (www, staff, student, ced):
 - » Drupal platform.



ECM REVIEW 2011/12

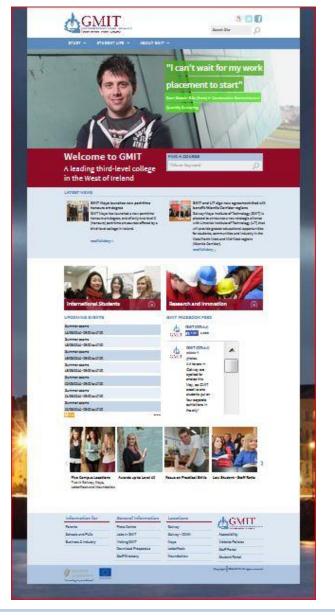
- » Review of ECM and online services and offerings:
 - » Content management (CMS) [Drupal].
 - » Document management (DMS) [Alfresco].
 - » Learning and teaching technologies (LMS) [Moodle].
 - » Social media.
 - » Various other services and offerings:
 - » Timetable.
 - » Module management.
 - » Etc.
 - » ECM Review details.



PUBLIC - 'www.gmit.ie'

- » Marketing focus
 - » Marketing Officer Project Co-ordinator:
 - » Major role in site development.
 - » Digital marketing focus.
 - » Responsive / adaptive / "mobile friendly".
 - » Usability studies.
- » Drupal 7
 - » Custom design Navigation & "Look and Feel".
 - » Vermillon (Tender process)
 - » All design elements:
 - » Blank canvas.
 - » HTML, CSS and Javascript.

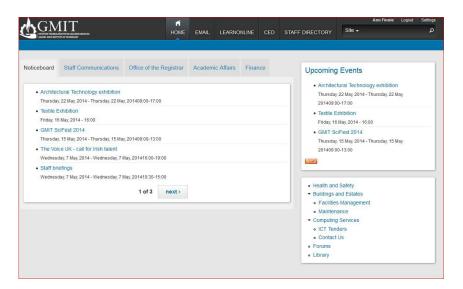






STAFF & STUDENT

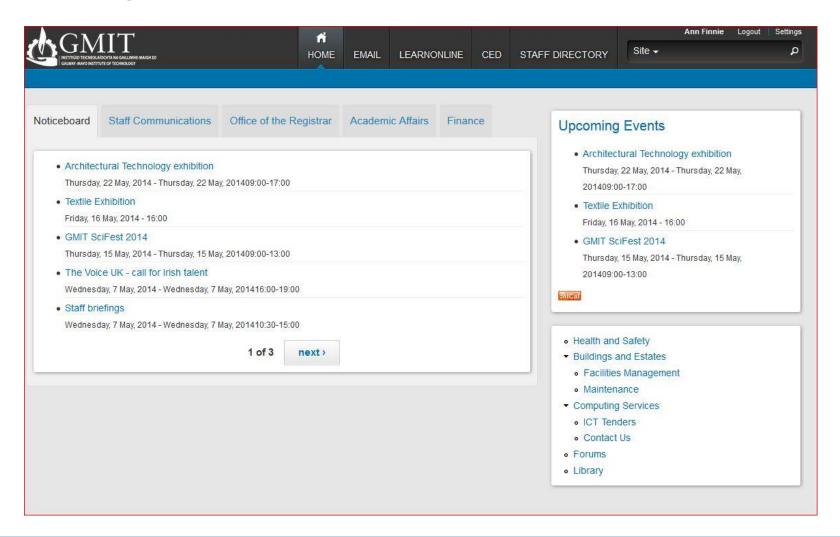
- » Staff (Drupal Commons 7):
 - » To be launched shortly.
 - » Ann (Project Co-ordinator).
 - » Aims / Objectives:
 - » Internal communications channel.
 - » Collaborative environment for all staff.
 - » Commons: Out of the box with some 'css' tweaks.
- » Student (Drupal 7):
 - » Launched ("soft") in Sept. 2013.
 - » Simple and easy to use.
 - » Very well received by students.
 - » Ann (Project Co-ordinator):
 - » Kieran and Shane (Developers Part-time)







STAFF 'staff.gmit.ie'





STUDENT - 'student.gmit.ie'





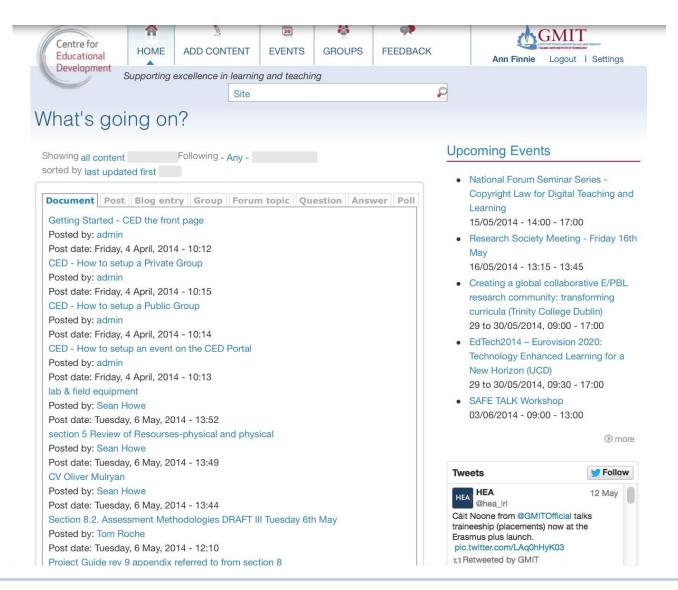
CED

- » Centre for Educational Development.
 - » A virtual entity to help further educational processes in GMIT.
 - » No dedicated staff or offices.
 - » Some F2F meetings for CED committee.
 - » Aim: To develop an online enterprise collaborative and social environment.
 - » Drupal Commons 7.
 - » Launched in May 2012.
 - » Step into the unknown for us.
 - » Commons 7 version just released March 2012.
 - » Difficulties in getting specific requirements from CED group.
 - » Difficult to get active engagement.
 - » But got loads of advice on what we should have done or be doing!
 - » Events and Calendar has worked well.
 - » Primarily being used as a 'repo' for static content.



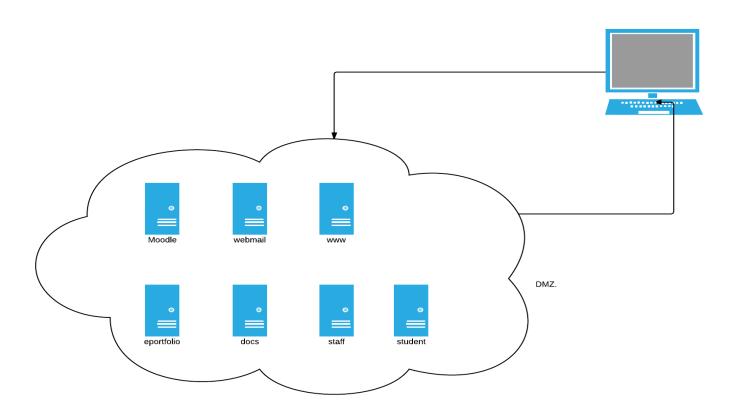


CED





Previous Infrastructure





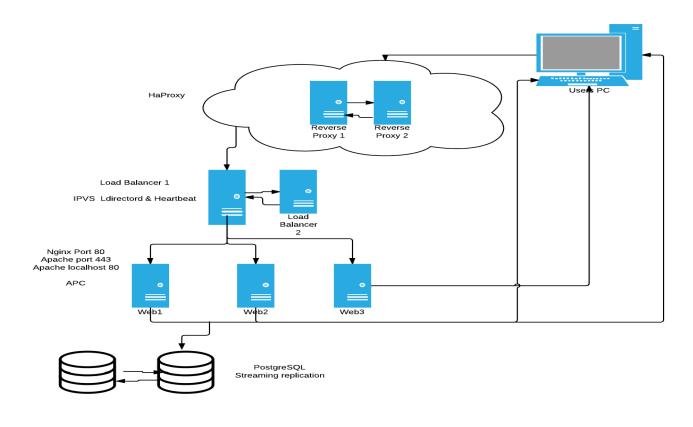
Downsides

- » Single Point of failure
- » Cost
- » All DMZ (Security)
- » Performance

Solution

» High Availability Webfarm





GMIT Web Farm configuration.



- » Drupal Easy to incorporate into architecture
- » Improved performance
- » Cost Reduction
- » Reduced DMZ footprint
- » No Single point of failure



PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- » Management:
 - » Project comprised of four loosely-coupled projects.
 - » Ambitious project overall.
- » Project Team key element to success:
 - » Sponsor (President), Manager (IT Services Manager), Co-ordinators, members.
 - » Adequate budget.
 - » Agile philosophy informal.
 - » Weekly meetings
 - » Trello
 - » In-house training and workshops for Drupal and "Writing for the web".
- » Support:
 - » Acquia:
 - » Customised training One week Drupal and Drupal Commons.
 - » Annertech all web sites:
 - » Excellent technical support and web development advice.
 - » Vermillion public web site only:
 - » Very good design.
 - » Computing Services Dept. and Marketing, Communications and President's offices.



PROJECT PHASES

- » Phase 0 Discontent.
 - "When are YOU going to fix OUR website?"
 - "Have YOU seen our website recently? It's a disgrace!"
 - "WE must have the worst web site in the world!"
- » Phase 1 Migrate and update existing websites.
 - » www marketing focus. Significant content already available on existing website.
 - » Content inventory.
 - » Student and staff communications focus. Content available.
 - » CED collaborative environment. New website.
- » Phase 2 CONTENT. (Not the opposite of Phase 0!)
 - » Better quality content on all sites.
 - » Structure sites to needs of users.
- » Phase 3 Portal.
 - » Quality content on all marketing and communications sites.
 - » CED merged into staff.
 - » Higher levels of collaborations and online engagement.
 - » Automation, etc. and better integration of systems.



DRUPAL Developments in GMIT

- » Did we make the right decision?
 - » Yes.
 - » Flexible and has met all our requirements to date.
 - » Vast range of modules available.
 - » Flexibility needs to be managed!
 - » Open source readily available.
 - » Budgetary considerations were lessened somewhat!
 - » Large ecosystem for support, etc.
 - » Excellent service from Annertech and Acquia.
 - » Web development and management team built in-house.
 - » Very good Drupal skills in-house now and knowledge base is being extended.
 - » Professional development environment built to support current and future developments.
 - » Good technical fit with existing technologies in GMIT.
 - » Configuration relatively simple and fit-for-purpose.
- » Drupal 8!?
 - » Haven't given any consideration to Drupal 8 yet.
 - » May be included as part of Phase 3.



Website addresses:

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http://www.gmit.ie/
http://staff.gmit.ie/
http://student.gmit.ie/
http://ced.gmit.ie/
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Thank you!

Questions?

