



Web Administrators Constituent Group Meeting Minutes

Sessions: Thursday, November 6, 12:45 – 2:05 p.m. (50 participants)

Facilitators: **Weston Thompson**, Web Editor,
Claremont McKenna College

1. Weston Thompson called the meeting to order at 12:45 PM.
2. Thompson passed around sign-up sheets and asked all attendees to sign up.
3. Thompson had a show of hands for who was on the Web Admins listserv already: most attendees were. Thompson indicated that all interested parties are invited to sign up for the listserv on the group's page on the EDUCAUSE web site.
4. Thompson initiated introductions. Individuals introduced themselves to the group while late arrivals came in. Nearly all meeting attendees were able to give an introduction before the next agenda item.
5. Thompson introduced Kim Round, who took the floor. Round presented for about 10 minutes on her efforts at Merrimack College, where she has built a content management system using Linux, Apache, MySQL, and PHP (LAMP). The Merrimack site now encompasses 103 departments, and all are participating, with a total of roughly 80 users.
6. Group members asked Round a series of questions about content management systems. The Q/A session eventually turned into a group-wide discussion. Some highlights of the discussion include:
 - a. University of Miami efforts to select a CMS. They are considering Ingeniux.
 - b. Duke University is working with Zope Corporation: they hired Zope as contractors to build a CMS using the Zope platform. This work will likely spawn a new Zope product, Zope4EDU.
 - c. Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona) seeking a solution for sharing content between the main web site and the portal – while accommodating dynamic bread crumbs.
 - d. A significant part of the conversation focused on the issue of branding and design standardization in the institution.
 - e. Defining ownership of content via policies and procedures.
 - f. A suggestion to share examples of ROI (return on investment) with other group members to help move forward with CMS proposals.
7. After roughly 45 minutes of discussion, Thompson interrupted. He again asked people to sign the attendance list if they had not. Then he asked for questions on topics that differed from the primary discussion thus far. The group had some brief discussion of:
 - a. Ways to avoid using FTP due to user inability with the interface. Suggestions for looking at WebDAV, including Xythos' WebFile product. Concerns about the proliferation of uses of HTTP to circumvent standard methods, thus undermining the firewall.
 - b. An interest in sharing policies. Thompson asked that members use the listserv to highlight their policies.
 - c. The issue of moving to open source as a strategic decision. Some indicated they are, others indicated some caution.
8. Thompson thanked all members for participating in the meeting and sharing great information. He called the meeting to a close at 2:05 PM.