

# CONTENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (CMS) PROPOSAL

## MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY COMPUTER FEE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE FY10 Funds

1. Please select the option below that most accurately characterizes this proposal.



New Campus Wide Proposal: Proposes the creation or expansion of campus-wide computing labs, infrastructure, software and/or other computing resources.

2. Please provide information below that details the relationship between this proposal and the MSU IT Strategic Plan.

The Website offers a broad scope of academic and non-academic content that students use in high volumes daily. All students that interact with the MSU Web domain will benefit directly from the advantages of the content management system (CMS) through higher quality Web content, greater accessibility (for students with disabilities), increased usability and increased access via alternate display devices such as cell phones.

The benefits and advantages that the content management system brings to the students of Montana State University cannot be overstated.

*The CMS is directly in-line with the MSU IT priorities in regards to the MSU Web domain:*

1. Increase effectiveness of online communications by making it more efficient and easier for students to receive high quality content through academic department pages, faculty pages, course pages, course catalog, academic and non-academic calendars and many other resources that students consume in high volumes daily.
2. Broaden the scope of how our students can view and use our content through alternate display devices such as cell phones.
3. Enforce accessibility for students with disabilities to all of our online content to a degree that is currently impossible in our existing environment.
4. Increases student involvement with the Web domain by facilitating access to Web management tools, availability of a common authoring platform and a management structure that will allow more student involvement in content creation.
5. Create internships and student positions working with a content management system.
6. Provide greater oversight of the entire Web domain to ensure the highest quality of messaging and information integrity.
7. Tighten the security of the Web domain from both sensitive information inadvertently published and outside threats looking for security holes.

*How will students use the Content Management System?*

All MSU students will directly benefit from the CMS. All MSU students will either directly or indirectly use the CMS.

Students will directly use the CMS when managing any Web content on the MSU Web domain from internships, student employment, class projects, and student organizations.

Students will indirectly use the CMS with every interaction they have with the MSU Web domain from course content (anything outside of the Desire2Learn) to university communications,

More information about content management systems is in the attached Appendix.

3. Proposals with a time horizon of up to three years will be given consideration. Please indicate the time horizon for this proposal

1 Year  2 Years  3 Years

4. Provide a prioritized list of HARDWARE/EQUIPMENT and the estimated yearly cost for each requested item. Can this request be satisfied by existing systems that would be reallocated from the global computing labs? Explain why the existing global computing labs cannot be used to satisfy the needs in this request. Is the requested equipment replacing existing equipment? If so, please describe the age and condition of the existing equipment.

Server (server costs, data storage)	\$15,000.00
FY10 Budget	\$15,000.00
FY11 Budget	\$0.00
FY12 Budget	\$0.00

There is the potential that this project may be hosted on a virtual server and the hardware costs may be lowered considerably.

5. List SOFTWARE requested and the estimated yearly cost. Include upgrade costs and information regarding software licenses on an ongoing basis.

Content Management System (licensing, training and implementation)	\$115,000.00
Annual ongoing costs (includes upgrades, vendor support and licensing)	\$20,000.00
FY10 Budget	\$115,000.00
FY11 Budget	\$20,000.00
FY12 Budget	\$20,000.00

6. What yearly MAINTENANCE funding is needed for hardware servicing? Will any space modifications be required to house the equipment? Describe your existing staff and/or staffing needs required to ensure that the equipment and software is maintained to meet course goals and the needs of the students. Please describe.

There are no projected hardware maintenance costs.

No additional personnel are required to manage the CMS; however, to ease the implementation and management of the Web domain, a support position is being requested in a plan for centralizing university communications from Vice President Conover.

## **APPENDIX**

### *What is a Content Management System?*

Content Management System (CMS) software facilitates the creation and management of HTML content. The software provides tools designed to allow users with little or no knowledge of programming languages to create and manage content with relative ease of use.

The CMS will provide tools to perform the following key functionalities: automated templates, easily editable content, scalable feature sets, web standards upgrades, workflow management, delegation/user access control, document management, and content virtualization.

### *Why do we need a Content Management System?*

Consisting of over 100,000 Web pages, over 400 individual Web sites and more than 200 developers publishing content, the MSU Web domain is extremely large and difficult to manage. Due to the size and complexity of our Web domain, we currently have almost no ability to ensure effective communications and accessibility to content. Many cost prohibitive (to the point of complete infeasibility) yet necessary developments become trivial with the CMS. The advantages of the CMS far outweigh the costs as each day the advantages grow and the costs of not deploying the CMS increase.