College of Education Website Redesign and Deployment
Project Status Report

November 3rd, 2010

Why Do It?

- The current COE website is built using outdated technologies that make it difficult to maintain in a uniform and standardized manner.
- Site is difficult to navigate and use due to excessive menus and an unorganized structure.
- Information is difficult to find as there is no clear organized content structure.
- Templates prevent easy reading of content and access to information due to poor text font, color and size.
- Site is not accessible by visitors with visual or physical disabilities.
- Site layout and style is outdated.

How Was the New Website Designed and Implemented?

1. Usability studies were conducted on current site highlighting the most critical issues and challenges to overcome.
2. Data from traffic logs, Google search and analytics, site search tools, and external and internal surveys were analyzed and used to create a new organizational structure to better accommodate content.
3. Several templates were created to address the issues found and to ensure future expansion and requirements could be more easily accommodated.
4. COE faculty and Staff were invited to vote on their preferred selection. Winning template was used to deploy new site.
5. Content was moved from current website to new one. All department and program chairs and directors were notified when migration was complete to ensure content and organization was properly migrated to their satisfaction. Changes requested by Chairs were completed as needed.
6. Content migration continues and will be ongoing even beyond launch date to ensure all information on the website is as accurate and complete as possible.

Current Status of the Project

- Approximately 90% of the current website has been moved to the new one. A few Faculty and Staff sections as well as Research still need to be copied.
- All Faculty pages still need to be copied. A proper template for all faculty pages will be created and pages will begin to migrate soon after.
- Migration of IP addresses and DNS names will take place after graduation to minimize downtime during critical times.

Once above steps have been taken, and upon approval of content by the department chairs and final review and approval by the Dean's office, site will be migrated to new system. Content will continue to be updated as requested by all department and program heads.