



Milestone 1 Report

Team Mexico

ASUM.community
a WordPress website

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Project Abstract

Our client company is **Autonomous University of Social Movements (AUSM)**. They are a non-profit organization located in Albany Park IL.

Right now our main goal is to create a better application system to handle our clients study abroad program. Along with that, there is a need to have an updated facelift to their main website and initial work for their secondary website about their local activities in a latino neighborhood. We also plan on implementing a request system for future volunteers to be able to work on any web related issues.

Intended Progress

Team Mexico's main focus for this first milestones was to have a better understanding of the use of Wordpress and the implementation of php. We also hoped to receive everything needed on our end from the company to begin playing with and to create a base skeletal website and have a short list of planned plugins to install. We wanted to have some content from the old website transfered over to provide a rough visual on what the the new site could look like. What we chose to have in the prototype were the parts of the website we predict would be reviewed and iterated most often.

Progress to Date

Base Skeletal Website using Wordpress

As of right now we have an established working template accessible by our team on a cloud 9 ide. By using a cloud 9 private workspace, we have been able to have a working wordpress system without installing it on the multiple computers that each of our members have access. Right now in our rapid crunch period, this has been a very helpful solution. We currently has a template for the home page and two of the three main pages. We have been looking through possible plugins to use for our application process and Facebook integration.

Project roadblocks

Since our client is an non-profit foreign exchange provider, there are instances when they may be suddenly inaccessible for a days at a time. This occurred a few weeks ago right at the time we felt ready to use some of the personal information that we needed access too. This led to a delay of a few days and misunderstandings when we would be meeting up online.

We are modifying or exchanging an existing ip and client information, there has been difficulty knowing when and what we would require for particular tasks. What we still need from our client will be continued feedback on the website base features. Quality images that are not ripped from facebook for the initial pictures of the website. We are also getting familiar with the community tech support that they work with. While Kevin and Nesh are getting down and dirty

with the wordpress site, Jason is looking into future issues and looking at possible plugins and logging possible solutions.

Personal Schedules have also been an issue for our team. Due to the nature of having internships and extremely busy weekdays, we have decided to enforce a stricter weekend schedule to help keep everyone up to date before the week starts and to put out any project related fires instead of spending time during the more casual project meetings.

Feedback on other requests

Rather than implementing a specific request sheet we have decided to create a online to-do list that would exist for the AUSM Website. That would be accessible for future volunteer developers. We have done nothing but getting approval for this solution by our client and have only recently begun going over possible plans for this system.

Established

- Main page
- Footer
- Donate
- Mexico Exchange Template
- Cuba Exchange Template

Initial Successful Plugins Used

- Ninja Forms
- Facebook Plugins

Things we need to work on

- Plugin List
 - We should get to a point soon where the client would need features with specifications that would require us to delve into the wordpress plugin api.
- General Wordpress skillset
- Application Process
 - Beyond the small scale prototypes, we have not looked too deep into this part of the project. Now during the more official weekend meetings, we plan on resolving these kinks and iterating versions of the website.

Updated Schedule

- MileStone 2 (updated)
 - Application Feature Prototyped
 - Training system implemented for our client to start generating and editing their own content.
 - 2nd Dev site implemented for client use.
 - Request Board implemented
- MileStone 3
 - Confirmation of client training
 - All working features implemented

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Conclusion

Our progress on the initial website has been fairly successful, we still foresee issues dealing with the more complicated aspects of this project. Thankfully the scheduling issues that we had with our client will be easier compared to February as one of our contacts will be returning to his home office. There is also the aspect of the open endedness of this project and what we particularly as a team want to work on. Possible features that the client would heavily endorse would be related to more artistic that a web designer would handle, but we might be more interested in implementing developer features. This balance of time commitment will be the biggest foreseen problem.

We as a team, are also learning about the issues related to the channeling of communication to our client and the difference between communicating what the client wants and what the client should actually get. This and professionally relaying mistakes and issuing when problems occur were some of the bigger time-sinks during this period of the project.

