Building an Online Calendar

This presentation will show how BCIT created and managed the project team, got buy-in and involvement from our stakeholders, created and stuck to our timelines, built our database and successfully implemented an on-line calendar within two years. I will also log into BCIT's website to demonstrate the enhancements we have added since the original project was completed.

A bit about BCIT

- > 5 main campuses and 20 satellite locations
- > 16,000 full time and 32,500 part time students
- Over 400 programs in the areas of Business and Media, Computing and Information Technology, Engineering, Applied and Natural Sciences, Health Sciences and Trades, Vocational and Apprenticeship.
- 14,910 courses
- > 6,411 sections taught in Winter 2006 term
- > 5000+ graduates per year



Introduction - BCIT Online Calendar Project
 System Analysis and Design

 Data Collection
 Data Extraction

 Implementation
 Benefits

Introducing the... Online Calendar project

CAPP - Curriculum Advising Program Planning

- BANNER module for tracking student progress in a program
- WPD Web/Publication Database project
 - Web solution extracting CAPP information for publication purposes
- In the big picture....
 - Increase internal efficiencies
 - Improve customer service



History

- Project began as a concept.
- > External vendor ran away from the project.
- > Internal expertise and a will to get this done persevered.
- Project endorsed by the Web Steering Group and began to make progress. (2001)
- Over 6 months was spent on determining how to make the system work. (2001/02)
- Another 6 months was spent ensuring data was loaded and it could be pulled out in a useable format. (2002)
- Presentation to ET/IT Committee to ensure communication of project (2002)
- Final stage was involving schools in a gigantic 'spring cleaning'. (2003)

Timeline





Data collection

Program Verification

- Verified program matrix and course information
- Applied applicable education policies

> VP Education Office final approval and announcement to BCIT community



WPD

BCIT TeamWeb provides the foundation for web data extraction

HTML coding is applied to text in CAPP to further format the data

• , <i>, ,
....

- Print codes are used to determine where text is displayed in a program matrix
 - WEBA (after section), WEBB (before section), WEBC (beside section)...

Program Matrix Structure



Non-matrix information

Free form text sections developed to allow non-matrix program information to be added into CAPP

 eg. Introduction, Entrance Requirements, Grad Employment Outcomes, etc.

HTML coding used with text to enhance formatting on the web

Publications

> Program Finder <u>http://www.bcit.ca/study/</u>
> Path Finder
> Run-off brochures
> Part-time flyer – coming soon



Creation of Program Finder



Program Changes



Benefits

- Data stored in ONE source available for MULTIPLE uses:
 - Publications
 - Direct marketing for courses and/or programs...
 - Reporting capabilities
 - Track student progress through Compliance
- > Archiving of program requirements
- Standard look for programs and courses
- Reusable data
- 30 minute turnaround for changes made in CAPP to be seen on the online calendar

The System and the People

- "It's not a software project...it's a people project."
- Project had as much to do with a shift in culture and process as it did with systems
- Departments working together
- VP Education involvement
- Continues to be a true team effort

What's Next?

> We've made a huge step...
> ...and we've just started...!
> Part-time information - flyer
> CAPP used for students to run self evaluation

CAPP used internally for graduation audit