Theses Website

CS4624
CRN: 13179
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061
4/29/2021

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Instructor: Edward A. Fox
Outline

● Background
  ○ The Original Site

● Work Completed
  ○ Setting up the VM
  ○ Evolution of Website Design
  ○ Current Build

● Steps to Finish

● Acknowledgements
Background

What is it about?

- Migrating the content and pages, of the existing Thesis website to a new Platform

Why?

- The previous hosting platform was no longer viable to support the site

Important Decisions

- Deciding new Hosting Platform, reformatting content, setting up server to host new platform of choice, and redesigning site on new platform.
Save the Date: ETD 2021 in Abu Dhabi on Nov. 16-17, 2021

ETD2021 will be hosted by the United Arab Emirates University in Abu Dhabi, UAE on November 16th to 17th November 2021 with pre and post conference sessions on Monday 15th, Thursday 17th and Saturday 19th November.

The conference is likely to be a hybrid virtual conference with the expectation that we will be able to welcome on-site visitors to the UAE including Dubai during the EXPO 2020, which was deferred from 2020 due to the global travel restrictions necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

We are re-convening the ETD Conference Committee soon and if you would like to be involved, contact:

Janette Wright, Conference Committee Chair, UAEU

Janette.wright@uaeu.ac.ae
Work Completed

- Continue Biweekly meetings with our client and other NDLTD members
  - Held Weekly meetings throughout the month of April

- We have finalized our decision to utilize WordPress on a LAMP Stack
  - Which is an Apache based server using WordPress with MySQL

- Created/sketched potential future designs
  - Presented these designs to NDLTD Board
  - Implemented feedback on designs
  - Utilizing Designs in current Site Migration.

- Finalized selection on a theme that fit our client’s needs.

- Learned to operate WordPress
  - Including its widgets, pages, menu, and themes.

- Analyzed the key elements of theses.org to be migrated
  - Migrated all Pages of the site.

- Implemented widgets and plugins for events and news elements.
Setting up the VM

- Logging in required utilizing either a VPN to the Virginia Tech network or SSH from the rlogin cluster.
- Using Apache 2 with MySQL then loaded WordPress onto that
- WordPress required setup for each of the team members to be users
Mock Designs

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Selecting a Theme

- Themes on WordPress involve PHP, CSS, and JavaScript.
  - Many are maintained and available for free
- Selecting a theme that is maintained and flexible was a goal
- We are currently using the The Bootstrap Blog theme to meet our client’s expectations for the site
Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations

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Steps to Finish

- Provide clean Logo Element on the Site
- Implement Breadcrumb Plugin
- Create instruction on adding Events
- Create instruction on how to statically export site
- Edit search bar and social media elements currently on the site
Acknowledgements

Client: Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) including The NDLTD Board of Directors as well as Dr. Fox

Client Contact: Bill Ingram

Additional Information on Website that will be migrated: