A

CONTENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

FOR THE SLU MARYHEIGHTS SECURITY WEBSITE

PROJECT PROPOSAL

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BACKGROUND

The group is tasked with the creation of a website with a Content Management System (CMS) for the Saint Louis University Mary Heights Campus Security.

SIGNIFICANCE

The proposed Content Management System (CMS) for campus security will help website administrators of the Saint Louis University Mary Heights campus manage the campus security website more efficiently.

The proposed Content Management System is to be created also in fulfillment of the requirement in the course IT-324L, Web Systems and Technologies Laboratory.

CMS FRAMEWORK

It was agreed upon by the group that the CMS Framework which will be used in the project will be Joomla!

The said framework was selected as it was one of the most popular open-source CMS frameworks readily available. We see Joomla! as the best framework for our project as it is simple to set-up and is versatile seeing as there are numerous extensions that can be used in conjunction with the core package of the framework. This enables us more flexibility since there are more customization options available for the application. The functions offered by the Joomla! CMS package is also simple to use and straightforward as well.

FEATURES

The most relevant features of the selected Content Management System which will be utilized are listed in this section:

- Core Functionalities
  - *Redirect* allows to redirect broken or non-existent web pages to working ones.

  - *Banners* will be used to display advertisements.

  - *Contact* allows the display of contact information or contact forms to the website.

  - *Tags* can be added to articles which makes finding relative web content more intuitive for users find relative web content.

  - *Search* bar is to be used to help with finding content on the website.

- Joomla! Templates

   Website visual customization on Joomla! emphasizes the use of Templates in changing the look and feel of the website.

- Extensions

   There are numerous extensions and add-ons available for Joomla! that can be used to add more features and functions to the website being served.

   - *JCE Content Editor* – A content creation and editing extension which has more useful functions than the default content editor Joomla! provides.

   - *JCH Optimize* – A plugin which enhances webpage load time mainly by reduction of http requests as well as page size.

- Content Management Functionalities

   Joomla! provides various content management tools that can assist the administrator with the presentation of content on the website.

   - *Article Scheduling* gives the administrator the ability to schedule when an article will start and end being displayed on the website.

   - *Content Versioning* provides a convenient way to manage content version on the website.

   - *Article Management* in Joomla! provides numerous functions in management of articles which is where most content on the website will be.

   - *Media Manager* allows adding through media uploads such as images, videos, and other similar files.