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IT Cltrine 4610

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Capstone Reflection

The organization that we worked with for our capstone project was Arkansas Interfaith Power & Light. For this project we worked with Ms. Scharmell to create a modern website with a traditional feel. My role in creating this website was to move the content over to the new site and find ways to condense the information into more manageable chunks. I was also responsible for googling things in wordpress that we were unsure of. In this reflection I will be going into detail on how we organized ourselves, dealt with the challenges we faced, what I learned and what I would do differently.

Our approach to organizing ourselves was to figure out what we were best at individually as well as what each group member had an interest in individually. Personally I did not mind what role I received, but I am glad that I was able to tackle content management and research. Everyone else pretty much chose what they would like best which worked fine for me. In doing so, we ended up with Kayla as project manager, Dara as our designer, and Brian as another content manager/researcher.

Having everyone in a position that they wanted to be in worked really well for us however, that does not mean everything went perfectly.

Initially we had many problems with Wordpress. We couldn't position the content where we wanted it at first, but then we discovered the power of widgets. Later we struggled with our social media icons and couldn't get them to stay positioned on the home page! By some miracle we were able to work out a solution to that problem as well. These issues may have been small but they taught us many different things on how to actually use wordpress effectively.

Once we learned how to position the content in the places we wanted it, our workflow improved significantly. We managed to fill page after page with content. After we met the task of moving the content over we had to get creative and do some research on how to make the content more appealing and improve readability. We found ways to break the different topics in the content up with dividers as well as some scroll bars that effectively displayed the content in it. With the knowledge gained from all these things I think if we had the chance to go back we would have made some changes.

Knowing what I know now, I may have suggested using a different theme in wordpress. Before we had any inkling of what to actually do in wordpress, we were fighting with the theme we chose a lot. I think we would also have been able to further blow our client's mind because we spent much of our time in research. If we could have spent more of that time improving upon the site instead of figuring out how to work it, our already amazing site would have been phenomenal.

In conclusion, we were tasked with making a website for the Arkansas chapter of Interfaith Power & Light. We decided to let each other choose which role they thought would be best at. Even though we were pretty solid all the way around we still found our fair share of challenges. Through these challenges we learned many things that helped us improve as a whole. Although we did a great job with this site, with the knowledge we now have I know that we can do better.