Project Two Individual Critique

One thing I did not expect was to complete my portion of the project first. I entered the closing process of my project phase faster than my other group members, and as such I believe I returned to the planning process to try and add some functionality to products that already met the goals ascribed in the project charter. Specifically, I wanted an email archive page aggregated by the Views module to collect and display emails sent using Mass Contact. I also considered implementing the Facebook login option on the site. After reviewing the project charter and communicating with my group, I realized that the client did not request these features. If anything, looking at the client's notes, he wants to move away from elaborate emails as his primary method of contact and wants to create a community space with personalized information on his customers (rather than just the login information provided through the Facebook API).

One of the things I learned from this experience is to complete the closing process and close out a project phase when it meets the requirements established in the planning documents. Adding additional functionality, in this case, would not have specifically addressed any of the client's goals; in fact, it may have been counter to the direction that the client wanted to go in. In terms of critiquing my process, I would allow additional time for interpreting and executing the information contained in the documentation for modules. It did not adversely affect our project management or product in any way, but when I was configuring the Drupal for Facebook module I was astounded as to the spartan documentation for how to install the module. One particular operation (modifying the default/settings.php file) required some research on how to do this without breaking the site or causing a major security issue. Using the time management suggestions in PMBOK, I think I would use the Drupal for Facebook module configuration time as my pessimistic time frame.

A minor issue that occurred with time management was my misconception that modifying the theme files for Drupal for Facebook would be a finish-to-start activity, so I was holding off on doing it. However, once I made the modifications, I found (to my delight) that the modifications were applied to all themes, negating my concern of having to reconfigure future themes.