

So Suzan asked you to update a page to the new theme or a page is displaying blank?

And you have no idea what to do?

Follow this tutorial

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `engineering.uottawa.ca/en/departments/biomedical_engineering_graduate_studies`. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible at the top. The website header includes the University of Ottawa logo and navigation links like 'uoZone', 'Library', 'Programs', 'Webmail', and 'Quick Picks'. A red banner with the text 'Faculty of Engineering' is prominent. Below this, a sidebar on the left lists navigation options: 'Overview', 'Undergraduate Studies', 'Graduate Studies', 'Research', and 'Professors and Administrative Staff'. The main content area displays the title 'Department of Mechanical Engineering - Graduate Studies' and 'Graduate Studies in Biomedical Engineering'. It contains a paragraph about the Ottawa-Carleton Institute for Biomedical Engineering (OCIBME) and its joint graduate program. A 'Contact information' section on the left provides details for the Office of the Dean, including the address (CBY A306, 161 Louis Pasteur, Ottawa, ON), telephone (613-562-5682), and fax (613-562-5174). The right side of the page lists the 'Graduate Studies Officer' as Dr. M. Labrosse and provides a link for visa students to consult <http://www.ocibme.ca> before contacting the Institute. It also mentions that Canadian students can find application forms on the OCIBME web site or the Faculty of Graduate Studies website.

1-When you face an old template.

The screenshot shows the ExpressionEngine interface. At the top, the version 'ExpressionEngine v 1.6.8' is circled in red. A red arrow points from this version to the 'Modules' tab in the top navigation bar, which is also circled in red. Another red arrow points from the 'Modules' tab to the 'Pages' module in the list below, which is circled in red. The list of modules is as follows:

	Module Name	Description	Version
1	Blacklist/Whitelist	Blacklist and whitelist module	--
2	Blogger API	Blogger API Module	--
3	Comment	User commenting system	1.2
4	Email	User Email Module	--
5	Emoticon	Emoticon (smiley) module	--
6	Freeform	Open-ended form engine	2.7.1
7	Photo Gallery	Photo Gallery Module	1.2
8	IP to Nation	Utility for associating IP addresses with their country	--
9	Mailing List	Mailing List Manager	2.0
10	Member	Member management system	1.3
11	Metaweblog API	Metaweblog API Module	--
12	Moblog	Moblogging Module	--
13	Pages	Uses Section Entries to make Static pages	1.0.1
14	Query	SQL query module for templates	1.0
15	Referrer	Referrer tracking module	1.3
16	RSS	RSS page generating module	1.0
17	Search	Search module	1.2
18	Simple Commerce	Simple, Flexible Commerce Module	--
19	Statistics	Statistics display module	1.0
20	Trackback	Trackback module	1.1
21	Updated Sites	Allows other sites to ping you.	--
22	Section	Section module	1.2
23	Wiki	A Powerful, Integrated Wiki module	1.2

- Take the ending URL, go to Modules then Pages (in expression engine) and search for that URL.

- If you found the URL there, then you are dealing with a page, which is usually straightforward. (go to 2)

/computing_facilities/plotter/	View Page	/dean_letter_2012/	1 of
/computing_facilities/printing/	View Page		<input type="checkbox"/>
/computing_facilities/professor/	View Page		<input type="checkbox"/>
/dean_letter_2012/	View Page		<input type="checkbox"/>
/departments/chemical_and_biological_engineering/grad_studies/	View Page		<input type="checkbox"/>

**Found it in
Modules/Pages?
It's a PAGE! click it:D**

- If you did NOT find the URL in that list, you are probably dealing with a custom template, and these need to be changed manually, on a programming level, in the “templates” tab. (go to 3)

ExpressionEngine v 1.8.8

CP Home > Modules > Pages > Pages Homepage

Module Configuration

Pages

Page	View Page	Delete
/directory/view/atef_fahim/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
/directory/view/martin_bouchard/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
/2011_2016_action_plan/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
/about/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
/accreditation/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
/advanced_standing_request/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
/associations_clubs/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
/brochure/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
/ceremony/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
/chemical_engineering/mission/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
/chemical_engineering/overview/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
/chemical_engineering/research/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
/chemical_engineering/why_choose_us/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
/civil_engineering/overview/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
/civil_engineering/research/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
/code_de_deontologie/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
/complementary_electives/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
/computing_facilities/about_ecf/	View Page	<input type="checkbox"/>

**URL NOT FOUND?
it's a custom
template! :(**

2-Updating a Page to the new template:

- Find the page. You can find it using the custom URL following the first step in (1). If you can't find it that way, try searching for the page in the “Edit” tab in expression engine (make sure u are searching among titles, entries and comments in the drop down menu).

ExpressionEngine v 1.6.8 CP Home User Guide Log-out New Tab

Publish Edit Templates Communicate Modules My Account Admin

CP Home > Edit > Edit entry > News Articles

Publish Form Date Categories Options Revisions Pages

Title
Dean's Letter to the new students 2012

URL Title
dean_letter_2012

Button Mode: Guided ☐ Normal ☒

 </> <u> </u> <bq> </bq> <strike> </strike> Link Email Image Close All

<h2> </h2> <h1> </h1>

Titre (Français)
Instructions: Titre de votre article en français
Message du doyen pour les nouveaux étudiants

Introduction (English)
Instructions: Intro text in English
Good morning. My first three words to you, on behalf of the professors, employees, and students of the Faculty of Engineering: Thank you and Welcome!

Introduction (Français)
Instructions: Introduction de l'article en français
Bonjour. Mes deux premiers mots à vous tous au nom des professeurs, employés et étudiants de la Faculté de génie: Merci et Bienvenue!

Preview Quick Save Update Upload File

- When you found the page, go to options; make sure the status is OPEN.

ExpressionEngine v 1.6.8

Publish Edit Templates Communicate Modules

CP Home > Edit > Edit entry > News Articles

Publish Form Date Categories Options Revisions Pages

Author
Charles

Section
News Articles

Status
Open
Top Featured Story
Featured Story
Story
Open
Closed

Title
Dean's Letter to the new students 2012

URL Title
dean_letter_2012

- Go to Pages (you're still in the "edit" of that page by the way), and look at the page URL, if empty, put a custom url that will define that page forever. Yes, you need to take the habit of having each page have its own url for future facilitation.

ExpressionEngine v 1.6.8

CP Home | User Guide | Log-out

Publish Edit Templates Communicate Modules My Account

CP Home > Edit > Edit entry > News Articles

Publish Form Date Categories Options Revisions Pages

Pages URI: /dean_letter_2012/ **1 Select custom url if empty**

Template: cyber/view **2 select cyber/view normally**

* Title
Dean's Letter to the new students 2012

URL Title
dean_letter_2012

Preview Quick Save Update

Upload File

3 quick save and check if other page updated

4 save and leave

- But don't worry about the url for now, your goal is to change the template, or the "view" of the page. So in the same "pages" section, change whatever template is being used to Cyber/view.
- This solves about 99% of every page problem out there because I redirected all the old templates to use something similar to that... There might be some special cases that you need to handle specially... so always be careful and memorize what template the page was using before you went to cyber/view, in case u needed to revert back to it at some point.
- As seen in my live tutorial last time, there are sometimes pages that have custom urls that LOOK like they were taking from a template, when they aren't. Even worse, sometimes they are 5 year old pages, made by Kevin, using a very outdated way of displaying information. And you would need to find a solution for each based on what exactly is going on. There is no universal answer for Kevin's deprecated pages. You have to see what might cause the symptoms you are seeing, back up your stuff and test some minor changes. If all hell breaks lose? Just create new page, copy the content of kevin's older page, SPECIALLY THE URLs so that other pages that linked to this page don't get broken. Built the new page, using the same data, close the old page and change it's url just slightly like _old, so that you can find it later in case you needed. This solved some of my problems, but not all... again, good luck with that.

Edit Template | biomedical_en | Faculty of Engineering

www.engineering.uottawa.ca/en/departments/biomedical_engineering_graduate_studies

Refresh the user page to view final changes

uOttawa University of Ottawa

uoZone | Library | Programs | Webmail | Quick Picks | Français

Faculty of Engineering

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Future Students

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Graduate Students

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K1N 6N5
Tel. 613-562-5682
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Department of Mechanical Engineering - Graduate Studies
Graduate Studies in Biomedical Engineering

Congratulations!
Page updated to new theme.

The Faculty of Mechanical Engineering is pleased to announce that the Department of Mechanical Engineering (OCIME), with its new look and graduate program in Biomedical Engineering, is now part of the University of Ottawa.

Programs leading to a Master's degree (M.Sc.) are available through the Institute. PhD studies in Biomedical Engineering may be done in the regular Mechanical Engineering graduate program. Requests for information and applications for admission may be made to the Director of the Institute or to the Graduate Studies Officer of either of the participating departments. For further details, consult the OCIME web page <http://www.ocime.ca> or the Mechanical Engineering web page <http://www.mech.uottawa.ca>.

Graduate Studies Officer
Visa students: please consult <http://www.ocime.ca> before contacting the Institute

Canadian Students: application forms are available on the OCIME web site or on the web site of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies.

Teaching assistantships are regulated by a Collective Agreement with CUPE Local 2626.

Financial Support: for information on support offered by the University and the Department, please see Funding [link]. The University offers Canadian or permanent resident Students with admission averages of 8.0 or greater guaranteed funding. The total package is about \$14 000 / year for two years for an M.Sc. (\$17 000 for a PhD) and includes a guarantee of at least one TA per year. For holders of NSERC or FQRNT scholarships the Department guarantees an additional TA. For details see <http://www.grad.uottawa.ca/>

Program

3- Updating a custom template

- OH NOOO! It's a template, custom made, hardcoded, that is used only to display one page... what are you going to do? >_<
- Ok, go to Templates tab.

ExpressionEngine v 1.6.8

Locate template

CP Home > Templates > Template Management

Global Variables | Global Template Preferences | Edit Group Order

Choose Group	departments	Template Name / Edit	Hits	View
students	Preferences	biomedical_engineering_graduate_studies	3924	View
programs	New Template	chemical_engineering	60806	View
research_old	Edit Group	chemical_engineering-960	41	View
alumni	Delete Group	chemical_engineering_960_backup	0	View
academic_units	Export Templates	chemical_engineering_admission	4226	View
publications		chemical_engineering_directory	12541	View
search		chemical_engineering_directory_960_backup	0	View
undergraduate		chemical_engineering_directory_old	16270	View
departments		chemical_engineering_grad_info_backup	4103	View
portraits		chemical_engineering_grad_info_old	3809	View
flash_gallery		chemical_engineering_grad_programs	5140	View
events_gallery		chemical_engineering_research	7116	View
facilities				
awards				
support_staff				

Default Group: site

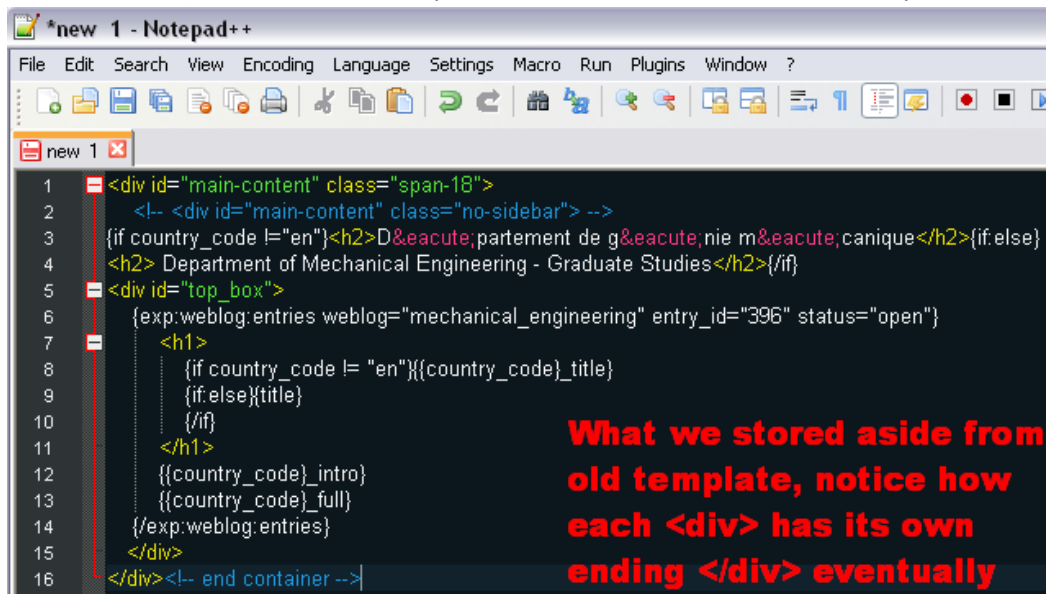
Search

Search

Remember where this is, you're going to use it twice

- You need to first find the template that is being used. 99% of the time, the template location is shown by the url itself. Look at the url, for example, let's say that the page to fix was www.engineering.uottawa.ca/departments/biomedical_engineering_graduate_studies Knowing that it's a template, you can already tell that the custom template is in the "departments" template group, and more specifically, the template used is the "biomedical_engineering_graduate_studies" (wow, stupid long name for a template isn't it? Get used to it.)
- So now, you found the template that you need to change. Before doing anything, make sure you backup that template. You can do so by creating a new template and duplicate the content of this one. To do that, make sure you are still in that "departments" group, or whatever group that the template is in. Now search on the page for "New template", click on that.

- This is where we are gonna start copying. Now you need to find the ending `</div>` for that division. Use Notepad++ or dreamweaver or whatnot to make your life easier since it colors the tags for you. If you can't do that, just try matching each `<div>` with the `</div>` closest to it, and try to find the one corresponding to "main-content"
- Now copy that entire code, everything between and inclusive to main-content div and its ending tag.
- Store that "main-content" data aside in a notepad for safe keeping. The reason we are doing this is because the old templates need to be changed, but not the actual content of it. We are worried only about the design, since the data is dynamically generated or custom built in that main-content. (Picture shows a sample code within main-content, not always the same)



```

1 <div id="main-content" class="span-18">
2 <!-- <div id="main-content" class="no-sidebar"> -->
3 {if country_code != "en"}<h2>D&eacute;partement de g&eacute;nie m&eacute;canique</h2>{if else}
4 <h2> Department of Mechanical Engineering - Graduate Studies</h2>{/if}
5 <div id="top_box">
6 {exp:weblog:entries weblog="mechanical_engineering" entry_id="396" status="open"}
7 <h1>
8 {if country_code != "en"}{(country_code)_title}
9 {if else}{title}
10 {/if}
11 </h1>
12 {{country_code}_intro}
13 {{country_code}_full}
14 {/exp:weblog:entries}
15 </div>
16 </div><!-- end container -->

```

What we stored aside from old template, notice how each <div> has its own ending </div> eventually

- Now the tricky part. Go to the Cyber group in the same templates tab.
- Remember how you backed up your template earlier? Do the same thing, but this time, we are planning on duplicating a miraculous template that I made, called "view" in the Cyber group. So we need to duplicate it by the following process again.
- You go again to New Template, in the Cyber group, and you chose a name for the new template. Please follow convention used in my templates, just to make everyone's life easier? The format is whatever_name_the_old_template_was_template.
In other words, our new template is now named
biomedical_engineering_graduate_studies_template.

ExpressionEngine v 1.6.8

Go here to duplicate "view" template first

Publish Edit **Templates** Communicate Modules

CP Home > Templates > Template Management

Template Management

Global Variables | Global Template Preferences | Edit Gr...

Choose Group

- awards
- support_staff
- careers
- in_the_news
- graduate
- health_safety
- test
- 2010INCLUDES
- slider_gallery
- 960
- main_2012
- future_students
- undergraduate_201
- graduate_2012
- cyber**

Default Group: sit

Search

Search

cyber

- Preferences
- New Template**
- Edit Group
- Delete Group
- Export Templates

Template Name / Edit	Hits
content	2
index	36
mechanical_engineering_graduate_studies_template	2
mechanical_engineering_template	6
news_articles_long_list_template	3
people_ovg_template	4
professors_template	19213
programs_template	526
programs_view_old_template	2
search_template_en	1
search_template_fr	1
sub-banner-menu-en	0
sub-banner-menu-fr	0
view	4154

Remember where these are, specially the "view", just for general knowledge

Not a coincidence, these are also custom made templates i made before you.

Keep in mind that this new template is not located in departments anymore, it is located in "cyber/" group. Now you chose that name for the template? Nice, now let's duplicate our Cyber/view template. (do the same thing you did to back up the old template.)

ExpressionEngine v 1.6.8

Publish Edit **Templates** Communicate Modules My Acc

CP Home > Templates > New Template Form

New Template Form

Template Name
The name must be a single word with no spaces (underscores and dashes are allowed)

ical_engineering_graduate_studies_template

Template Type Web Page

Default Template Data

☐ None - create an empty template

☐ Use a template from your library

☒ Duplicate an existing template

includes/assets/css/default

cyber/view

this duplicates the cyber/view to a custom template named after old template but ending with template for convention purposes

- </div> <!-- end of middle-body-->



- Oh, you found it? Of course you would! Why would I lie to you? Now look carefully. This is the section that contains the custom text for each page. All pages have the same banner, same sidebar, same footer, but this is where each template has it's own content.
Notice the `{embed="cyber/content"}` statement. This is basically saying , for now, that you want to display whatever is contained into the "content" template, located in Cyber group. "Content" is a template that contains Expression Engine code written and modified by yours truly, and is basically behind applying the "template theme" on the pages described in 2. It is dynamic and pulls the content of pages and displays them in its location.
- Yeah yeah this is awesome, but I don't need that now. Do it? No, you don't. You actually need to replace something here, with something else.
- Delete Notice the `{embed="cyber/content"}` statement completely in that code. DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING ELSE or I will haunt you for eternity!!! >_<
- Remember that "main-content" stuff you stored earlier in notepad? Yeah, go get it! Copy the entire thing, that includes the

```
<div id="main-content blah blah blah">
Blah
Blah
Something something
Blah blah
</div>
```
- Copy it all, and now paste it EXACTLY where the `{embed="cyber/content"}` statement used to be.

The screenshot shows the 'Edit Template' interface for 'cyber/biomedical_engineering_graduate_studies_template'. The 'middle-body' tab is selected. The code editor shows the following structure:

```
</div>
<div id="middle-body">
<!-- this is where custom text will be pulled from pages.-->

<div id="main-content" class="span-18">
  <!-- <div id="main-content" class="no-sidebar" -->
  {if country_code != "en"}<h2>D&eacute;partement de g&eacute;nie m&eacute;canique</h2>{if/else}
  <h2> Department of Mechanical Engineering - Graduate Studies</h2>{if/}
  <div id="top_box">
    {exp:weblog:entries weblog="mechanical_engineering" entry_id="396" status="open"}
    <h1>
      {if country_code != "en"}{(country_code)_title}
      {if/else}{title}
      {if/}
    </h1>
    {{country_code}_intro}
    {{country_code}_full}
    {exp:weblog:entries}
  </div>
</div> <!-- end container -->
</div> <!-- end of middle-body -->
</div>
</div>
```

A pink box highlights the custom content area, with a note: "This replaced the embed cyber/content with custom content that we need. note that you always keep it all inside middle-body." A blue arrow points from this note to the 'View Rendered Template' button.

At the bottom, a green arrow points to the 'Update' button with the text "SAVE THE CHANGES". Another blue arrow points to the 'View' button with the text "view the changes AFTER saving.".

The 'Template Notes' section at the bottom shows options for 'Save Revision' (checked), 'Save Template as File', and buttons for 'Update' and 'Update and Finished'.

- Update the template changes (as in SAVE IT)
- And click on Render template (big oval green button top right.)
- It will open a page for you showing you the new page, with the new template.
- Did it work? Well if you followed this right, it should display the same content as the old template, on the new theme.
- Toggle the French and English button to make sure both languages work.
- BUT WAIT, you aren't done yet. Sure you created a nice new template, but what a waste because NO PAGE IS USING IT.
- Now you need to go back to where the old template was. For our example, you need to go back to "Directory" group.
- Now open up the old template that was there. Yes, in our example I'm talking about "departments/biomedical_engineering_graduate_studies"

The screenshot shows a web application interface for editing a template. At the top, a navigation bar includes links for 'Publish', 'Edit', 'Templates' (highlighted with a red circle), 'Communicate', 'Modules', 'My Account', and 'Admin'. Below this, a breadcrumb trail reads 'CP Home > Templates > Edit Template'. A green button labeled 'View Rendered Template' is in the top right. The main content area has a header 'Go back to old template' in red, with a red arrow pointing to the template name 'departments/biomedical_engineering_graduate_studies' in the 'Template Name' field. Below the name, the edit history shows 'Edit: 09/20/11 02:44 pm by administrator'. The template content area contains the code '{embed="cyber/biomedical_engineering_graduate_studies_template"}', with a pink arrow pointing to it and the instruction '1- Replace all content with an "embed" statement SIMILAR to this'. A green arrow points from the 'View' button in the top right to the 'View Rendered Template' button, with the instruction '3- View the rendered page AFTER saving.' in green. At the bottom, the 'Template Notes' section has checkboxes for 'Save Revision' and 'Save Template as File' (both checked), a 'Template Size' of 28, and 'Update' and 'Update and Finished' buttons. A blue arrow points from the 'Update' button to the instruction '2- save changes' in blue. The URL at the bottom is 'www.engineering.uottawa.ca/?URL=h...'.

Publish Edit **Templates** Communicate Modules My Account Admin

CP Home > Templates > Edit Template

Go back to old template

View Rendered Template

View Revision History View

Template Name: departments/biomedical_engineering_graduate_studies (Last Edit: 09/20/11 02:44 pm by administrator)

{embed="cyber/biomedical_engineering_graduate_studies_template"}

1- Replace all content with an "embed" statement SIMILAR to this

3- View the rendered page AFTER saving.

2- save changes

Template Notes

☒ Save Revision 28 Template Size

☒ Save Template as File

Update Update and Finished

www.engineering.uottawa.ca/?URL=h...

- Now delete EVERYTHING in it, (you see why I asked you to back up the template first??? I'm psychic!)

Instead, replace it all with the following logic

`{embed="cyber/your_newly_created_template_name"}`

In our example , we basically replaced the entire content of that with

`{embed="cyber/ biomedical_engineering_graduate_studies_template"}`

- Why did I do that for??!!
- Well, the simple reason is because I like you guys, and I want to reduce the amount of workload you need to do. There are thousands and thousands of pages in this site, some of them were using that departments/biomedical_engineering_graduate_studies template, or whatever your current problematic template is.

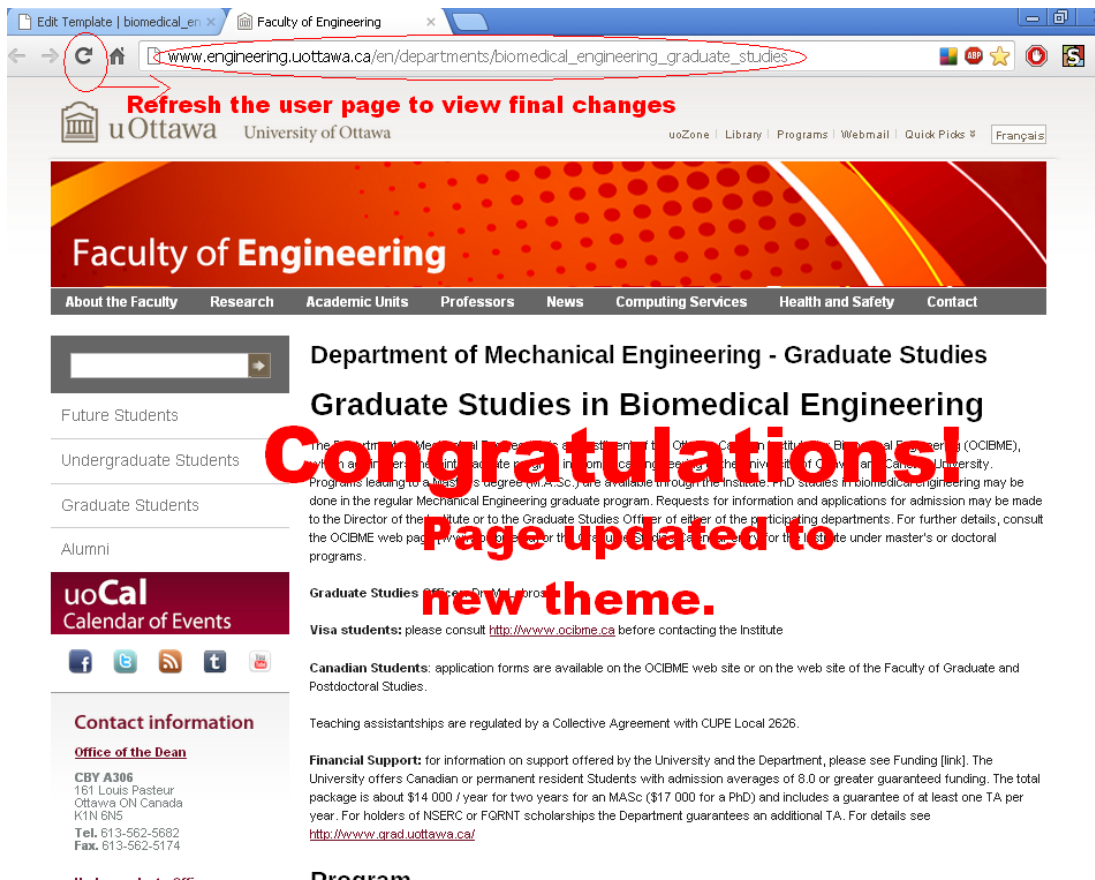
Instead of going through your entire website, page by page, letter by letter, trying to update all the old templates to the new one (and to avoid having "cyber" in the url because it is unprofessional), I figured I would make it easier for you by leaving the pages as is.

The pages will still go to the old template that you had, which is departments/biomedical_engineering_graduate_studies.

But the trick is that this old template now REDIRECTS to the NEW template that you just created.

This will automatically update thousands and thousands of pages without having to go through them one by one (you're welcome Suzan!!:))

- So you replaced the text? PERFECT.
- Now click UPDATE (save the template), and click again on the big green "Render template" button, and see if it is displaying your new page properly via redirect.
- THAT WAS IS! You're done!
- To make sure everything went perfectly, go back to www.engineering.uottawa.ca/departments/biomedical_engineering_graduate_studies and refresh the page. Notice how it changed theme on its own!
- Congratulation, have a cookie!



- If you were still confused, contact suzan. I can also be emailed cmalo@uottawa.ca (I don't login every day), and you can send me a quick question. IF I know how to solve it or advise you, then I will reply back as soon as possible. Who knows, I might be back working here one day, and if I see that you screwed things up, I am not going to be happy! It took me forever to organize everything in a logical manner! Good luck with the rest of your work 😊

Charles Malo.

Summer 2012.