Online Committee Report — June 21, 2020

Chair Brian Kurkoski Members Samir Perlaza, Anand Sarwate, Christian Senger Ex-Officio Members Aylin Yener, Wei Yu

Current Website Expenses for our web site itsoc.org have been high. We spent $70k in 2018–19 on an incomplete upgrade, developer asked for $25k to $33k more. Continuing to put money into the current system Plone makes less and less sense.

Proposal The Online Committee proposes a major web site upgrade. The upgrade is “preserve and extend.” Most existing features and data will be moved to the new site. Much-needed features will be added (see next slide). Web platform will change from Plone to Drupal. New site will go live January 1, 2021.

Costs Competitive estimates were obtained from three developers. To implement the new site with all proposed features, we are requesting $78,000.
www.itcouncil.org

Planned Features for itsoc.org Upgrade

New features are listed on the right. Coordinated with FITS.

Three plans give the BoG some flexibility in deciding how much money to spend.

We recommend Plan 3.

Many more details are in “Proposal to Upgrade itsoc.org” on the BoG Meeting page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan</th>
<th>Feature Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Migrate to Drupal.</strong> New website; existing data and features are migrated from existing site. General improvements, but no new features are added. Existing design is copied. Comparatively easy to add features in the future.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td><strong>New Look and New Features.</strong> Plan 1, plus:</td>
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<td>- A fresh, new look for itsoc.org using modern design approaches.</td>
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<td>- A new section for videos, a library of both Society-produced videos and member-submitted videos. A new section for the Distinguished Lecturer Program.</td>
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<td>- Provide new member-only benefits such as video of seminars and talks, jobs mailing lists via IEEE membership authentication.</td>
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<td>- Improved announcements, email and social media integration.</td>
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<td>- Various much-needed improvements: easy BoG meeting uploads, improve site organization.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Microsites for Journals and Schools.</strong> Plan 2 plus: Host sites for Schools, JSAIT, Transactions, chapters, IT Magazine and other special-focus sites (e.g. WITHITS) using distinctive microsites, sites-within-a-site.</td>
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Information Theory Videos

How space-time codes work (MIMO)
Information Theory Society presents a brief history of wireless communication (radio) leading to the idea of multiple-antenna wireless systems (MIMO) and space-time codes.

Latest Videos

The Art of the Problem

How internet communication works: Network Coding
The Beauty of Lempel-Ziv Compression
How space-time codes work (MIMO)
Hamming & Lee Density Parity Check Codes
The Beauty of Lempel-Ziv Compression

Distinguished Lecturers

Interactive Communications
University of Texas at Dallas, April 11, 2019, PDF
University of Texas at Dallas, April 12, 2019
Nikolaos Demiris (2019/2020)
University of Illinois at Chicago

Minimum Rates of Approximate Sufficient Statistics
University of Rochester, June 11, 2019, PDF
Recent Advances in Ranking: Adversarial Respondents and Lower Bounds on the Bayes Risk
University of Rochester, June 11, 2019
On the Maximum Size of Block Codes Subject to a Distance Criterion
University of Rochester, June 11, 2019

How to Measure Side-Channel Leakage
Texas A&M University, October 7, 2019, PDF
Private Information Retrieval: How to Get Something Without Revealing What You Got
University of Rochester, on April 9, 2019, PDF

All data are equal, but some data are more equal than others
VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland, June 19, 2019, PDF

How to Measure Side-Channel Leakage
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### Three Drupal Developers Provided Competitive Estimates

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<tr>
<th>Developer</th>
<th>Estimate for Plan 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evolving Web</td>
<td>25 employees, Montreal Canada, $125/hour</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specbee</td>
<td>60 employees, Bangalore, India, $40/hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opensense Labs</td>
<td>60 employees, New Delhi, India, $35/hour</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Evolving Web quoted a smaller-scale project and requires more work by Online Committee. Many more details are in “Estimates for Upgrading itsoc.org” on the BoG meeting page.

Six Feet Up estimates $5k needed to prepare data for migration.

Maintenance is an additional ongoing expense. Also negotiating this with developers.

**WARNING** — Web development is difficult to estimate accurately.
The Online Committee requests

1. $73,000 to develop a new site for itsoc.org and
2. $5,000 to migrate data from the old site to the new site

for a total of $78,000.