

Project

UC NeXt

<https://www.ucnext.org>

Submitted by

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Team Members - alphabetical

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Project Narrative

Describe the problem being solved and the project goals

The UC NeXt platform aims to make progress on the three critical fronts of collaboration, innovation and engagement for IT staff at the UC system. As a platform, UC NeXt is designed to facilitate the autonomous networking¹ of users on both the demand and supply side of IT innovation and service delivery.

Collaboration: Throughout the UC system, we have around 7000 IT staff with expertise in everything from large enterprise operations to agile mobile deployments to high performance research computing clusters. Yet, we rarely collaborate with other teams on our own campus let alone across the system. This wasted opportunity to leverage UC's existing intellectual capital stunts our collective ability to deliver innovative valuable and successful IT services to the campus constituents.

Innovation: The Corporate Executive Board (CEB), a best practice insight and technology company, states that keeping ahead of innovation is one of the top two most important priorities for CIOs right now². One of their many suggestions is to create a culture of ideation, and collect ideas from all levels, from leadership to front-line engineers and support staff.

Engagement: For decades, many leading companies (Google³, Atlassian⁴, Adobe⁵, Readytalk) give their staff dedicated time to work on projects of their choosing. This promotes autonomy and purpose, which are known prerequisites for creating intrinsic motivation⁶.

Emphasize the solution and innovation, rather than technical detail

¹ <https://hbr.org/2016/04/products-to-platforms-making-the-leap>

² <https://www.cebglobal.com/member/cio/research/study/14/from-ideation-to-idea-exploitation.html>

³ http://www.nytimes.com/2007/10/21/jobs/21pre.html?_r=0

⁴ <https://www.atlassian.com/company/shipit>

⁵ <https://kickbox.adobe.com/>

⁶ http://www.ted.com/talks/dan_pink_on_motivation

UC NeXt is an ideation platform that allow staff to submit and gain support for their technical ideas, find IT expertise throughout the UC system, and participate in ideas that interest them. UC NeXt incorporates gamification of ideation and collaboration in order to provide additional motivation to participate.

Tell how the solution has impacted customers/users

At the meta level, UC NeXt provides a potential idea feeder platform for systemwide efforts to find the next Shared Service through integration with the UCITI program. At the individual level, staff have been able to work in technologies that are outside of their job description, creating greater satisfaction and motivation.

Explain how project success was measured

Project success was measured internally by our ability to execute and create our vision quickly. From the beginning, we set out to create MVP (Minimally Viable Product) milestones in order to get feedback from users and executives. This allowed us to invest appropriate resources in planning and development and keep in touch with important stakeholders as we progressed.

Highlight collaborations with other locations, departments, or teams

The development of UC NeXt at it's core has been highly collaborative. The original idea for the platform included one person from UCSD, two from UCLA, one from UCSC and one from UC Hastings. Moving forward, we recruited additional expertise from UCSC, UCLA, UCSD and UC Hastings.

Provide the timeframe of deployment

We were able to provide an “alpha” application for demonstration in 3 months (Nov 2014 - Feb 2015) with around 60 hours of development time. We released a beta version at UCCSC in July 2015. Since July 2016, we have fixed bugs, added additional functionality, and operationalized UC NeXt.

Briefly describe the technology utilized

UC NeXt is built on Amazon Web Services (AWS) and utilizes Ruby on Rails, Chef, Jenkins and Github. This has allowed developers from throughout the system to work on their own section of code

independently of each other. Code is submitted and reviewed by team before automatically being deployed to the production server at AWS.

UC NeXt was built with open source software and is itself open source (AGPL). Other schools, organizations or individuals can download the code themselves, modify and/or run a local version of the software. The platform was built with mobility and accessibility compatibility from the beginning. UC NeXt utilizes UC Trust to allow all 10 campuses the ability to login via their local campus Shibboleth account.

The team led by Rose Rocchio at UCLA's Office of IT has done a fantastic job leading strategy, development and operations for the UC NeXt platform.

Provide relevant screenshots or urls

URL: <http://ucnext.org>

Home Page

The screenshot shows the UC NeXt Home Page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the UC NeXt logo (Catch the wave of collaboration), a search bar, and a 'My Account' link. Below the navigation bar is a blue menu with icons for About, Ideas, Projects, Events, People, Groups, and Badges. The main content area features a banner image of people at a conference. Below the banner are two sections: 'TRENDING UC-WIDE PROJECTS' and 'TRENDING UC-WIDE IDEAS'. Each section has a 'TOTAL' count and a list of items with their respective 'VOTES'.

TRENDING UC-WIDE PROJECTS		TOTAL PROJECTS
RANK		13
	VOTES	
1.	IT Staff & Community Development, Mentorshi...	16
2.	SSO User Interface	7
3.	Financial Aid Estimator Libraries	2
4.	NeXt Ideation Platform	13
5.	Shopping Sheet	1

TRENDING UC-WIDE IDEAS		TOTAL IDEAS
RANK		17
	VOTES	
1.	Uberize IT resources	17
2.	Streamline ability of UC IT to contribute to Ope...	8
3.	Localize UC Next for Individual Campuses, Medi...	5
4.	Systemwide Tech Talks	12

Buttons: MORE PROJECTS, MORE IDEAS







Ideas

UC NEXT IDEAS

<p>Kudos</p> <p>Digital thank you coupled with a funded rewards and recognition program that allows peer to peer recognition and public acknowledgment.</p> <p>Proposed by Matthew Hall on January 25, 2016</p> <p>UC-WIDE</p> <p>+1</p> <p>SUPPORTERS 4 WOULD PARTICIPATE 1</p>	<p>Distributed On Demand Research Computing Across UC</p> <p>High Performance Computing (HPC) is the backbone of many disciplines and accelerates research. At this time, UC has a hodge podge of computing support in the HPC area. There is tremendous redundancy and therefore waste of resources.</p> <p>Proposed by Stephen Hauskins on January 15, 2016</p> <p>UC-WIDE</p> <p>+1</p> <p>SUPPORTERS 2 WOULD PARTICIPATE 1</p>	<p>UCITI Idea: Student Election System</p> <p>Proposed by Charles McIntyre on October 09, 2015</p> <p>UC-WIDE</p> <p>+1</p> <p>SUPPORTERS 0 WOULD PARTICIPATE 0</p>
<p>Enable commenting on UC NEXT ideas and projects</p> <p>Commenting would make UC NEXT a better team building tool and help move ideas beyond conceptualization.</p> <p>Proposed by Cynthia Pionkowski on September 30, 2015</p> <p>UC-WIDE</p> <p>+1</p> <p>SUPPORTERS 3 WOULD PARTICIPATE 1</p>	<p>Cross-Campus Source Code Repository</p> <p>View, use, and contribute to code repositories.</p> <p>Proposed by Alex Wu on September 22, 2015</p> <p>UC-WIDE</p> <p>+1</p> <p>SUPPORTERS 2 WOULD PARTICIPATE 1</p>	<p>Technologies for Student Affairs and Enrollment Services</p> <p>The purpose of this group is to provide a space for SA/Enrollment Services IT professionals and other IT folks interested in the topic of technology innovation, collaboration, and implementation towards student success.</p> <p>Proposed by Joe Sabado on September 22, 2015</p> <p>UC-WIDE</p> <p>+1</p> <p>SUPPORTERS 2 WOULD PARTICIPATE 0</p>

Badges

 Badges

<p>2015 UCCSC ATTENDEE</p> <p>Begun as a grass-roots effort by UC campuses to sh...</p> <p></p>	<p>2015 UCCSC PRESENTER</p> <p>Begun as a grass-roots effort by UC campuses to sh...</p> <p></p>	<p>UC NEXT DEVELOPER</p> <p>UC Next is a CrowdResourced project, it has been t...</p> <p></p>
<p>EDIT</p>	<p>EDIT</p>	<p>EDIT</p>
<p>DELETE</p>	<p>DELETE</p>	<p>DELETE</p>
<p>UC NEXT CORPS</p> <p>To deliver on change and innovation it takes an ar...</p> <p></p>	<p>FIRST 100 IDEA GENERATOR IN UC NEXT</p> <p>It takes effort and courage to put an idea out the...</p> <p></p>	<p>FIRST 100 UC NEXT PROJECT COLLABORATOR</p> <p>It takes vision and and leadership to convince co...</p> <p></p>
<p>EDIT</p>	<p>EDIT</p>	<p>EDIT</p>
<p>DELETE</p>	<p>DELETE</p>	<p>DELETE</p>