

# Open Source Mission

**Moving Open Source from the Machine Room to the Mission Statement**



# Our mission today

- ▶ **How do we choose technology?**
- ▶ **What is our mission?**
- ▶ **Is our mission part of our technology strategy?**
- ▶ **Is technology strategy a part of our mission?**
- ▶ **Does open source belong in our technology strategy?**
- ▶ **Does open source belong in our mission?**



# How do you choose technology now?

- ▶ **Throw darts?**
- ▶ **Take kickbacks?**
- ▶ **Buy what's cheap?**
- ▶ **Keep buying the same ol' same ol'?**
- ▶ **Functional bake offs?**
- ▶ **Campus-wide committee vote?**

# What is your strategy now?

- ▶ To “give the lady what she wants”?
- ▶ To roll out the latest cool stuff that the provost/president/CIO heard about?
- ▶ To keep it all from falling apart?
- ▶ To not make anybody mad?
- ▶ To deliver the right functionality at the lowest possible price?

# How would you like to choose technology?



# If you fail to plan, you plan to fail

- ▶ **First...**
  - ▶ **Creating technology strategies**
- ▶ **But then...**
  - ▶ **Using technology strategies**

# Put some mission in your strategy

- ▶ **Why?**
- ▶ **How?**
- ▶ **Make it real**

# What is your institution's mission?

- ▶ **To educate**
- ▶ **To improve**
- ▶ **To empower**
- ▶ **To enrich**
- ▶ **To discover**
- ▶ **To invent**
- ▶ **To preserve**





# Harvard's mission

- ▶ **“Harvard strives to create knowledge, to open the minds of students to that knowledge, and to enable students to take best advantage of their educational opportunities.”**



# How does open source help your mission?



# Choose tools designed for education

- ▶ **You don't build classrooms out of cubicles**

# Integrate learning with hands-on experience

- ▶ **Technology = tools**
- ▶ **In every discipline**
- ▶ **Open tools lead people forward**



# Support local economic development

- ▶ **Partnerships**
- ▶ **Incubation**
- ▶ **Workforce**

# Help design and build tools that change educational practices worldwide

▶ **Get famous**



# How does open source help your technology strategy?



# Increase control over your technological and financial destiny





# Build experts instead of renting software



# Get centered on common technologies



# Optimize maintenance and development



# Integrate systems



# Improve data integration and dissemination



# Adhere more closely to technology standards



# Improve usability and accessibility



# Where does an open source mission belong?

- ▶ **Institutional mission**
- ▶ **IT mission**
- ▶ **IT strategic plan**
- ▶ **Operational tactic**



# Harvard's mission, open-sourced

- ▶ **“Harvard strives to create knowledge, to open the minds of students to that knowledge, and to enable students to take best advantage of their educational opportunities, supported by a pervasive open source technology environment.”**



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