Upgrading uPortal: myJohnsHopkins

Chris Doyle & Drew Wills

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Presenters

Chris Doyle

- Sr. System Software Engineer, Johns Hopkins University
- Began working with uPortal in 2005 at The University of Maryland

Drew Wills

- Unicon Consultant and uPortal Committer
 - California Polytechnic State University "Cal Poly"
 - California State University, Chico
 - University of Colorado System
 - Yale University
 - Johns Hopkins University
- Developed Import/Export features for uPortal based on Cernunnos

Agenda

- 1. myJohnsHopkins
- 2. Import/Export for uPortal
- 3. From 2.5.2 to 2.6.1+

Epilogue: SmartLdapGroupStore



Guest Layouts

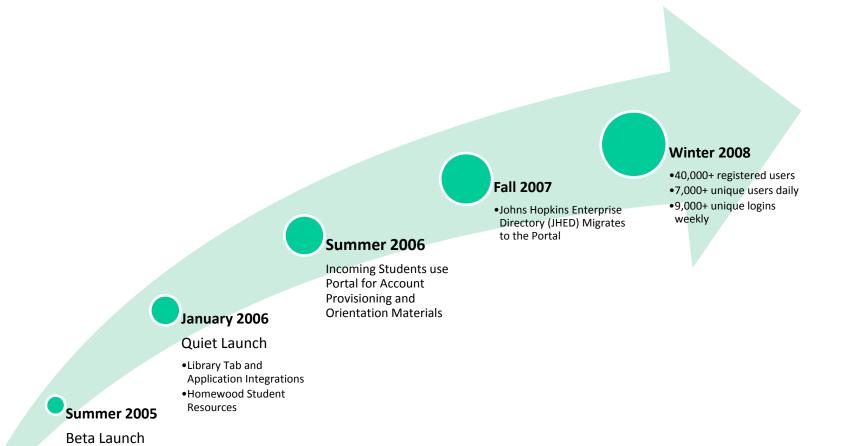


We actually have 3 public facing entry points to our portal (URL-based Personalization):

http://my.johnshopkins.edu/

http://my.jhmi.edu/ http://my.jhu.edu/

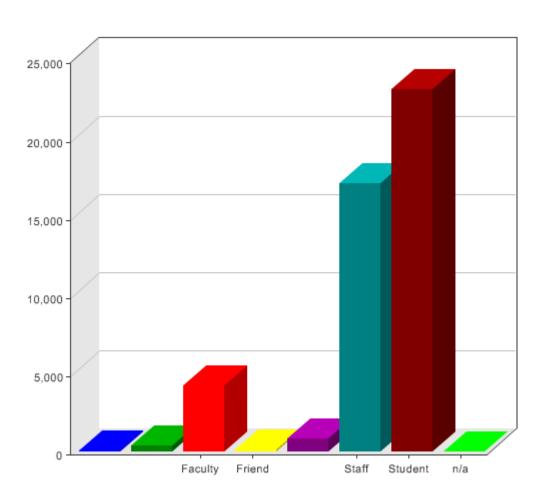
Timeline



 Collaboration between IT@JH and Milton S.
 Eisenhower Library

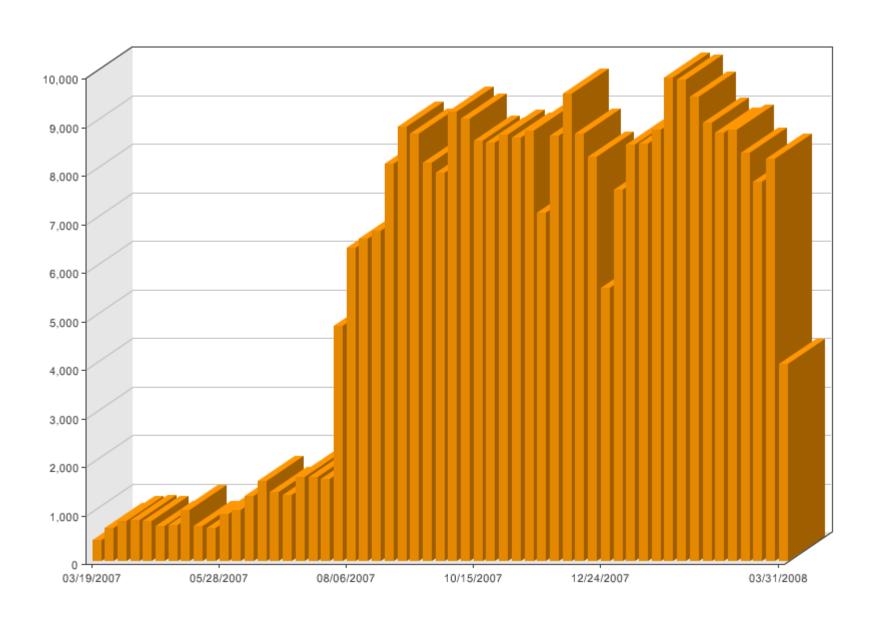
(MSEL)

Statistics – Users by Affiliation



- ~ 46,000 total registered users
- ~ 22,000+ students
- ~ 16,000+ staff

Statistics – Individual Logins



Recent and Upcoming Activities

Winter 2008

- Search Enhancements
- •Upgrade Portal Core to uPortal 2.6.1+
- Divisional Sites
- •Carey Business School
- School of Education
- Personalization
 Enhancements

Summer 2008

- Delegated Administration
- Complete Facelift (Updated Themes and Skins)
- Divisional Site Integrations
- •SharePoint Integration
- Mobile Device Portal









Spring 2008

- Active Directory Integration
- Skinning and Design Updates
- Divisional Site Integrations
- •SSL VPN Launch
- •Microsoft Exchange Integration

Fall 2008

- Homewood Portal Promotion
- Additional Content Integrations
- Additional application integration

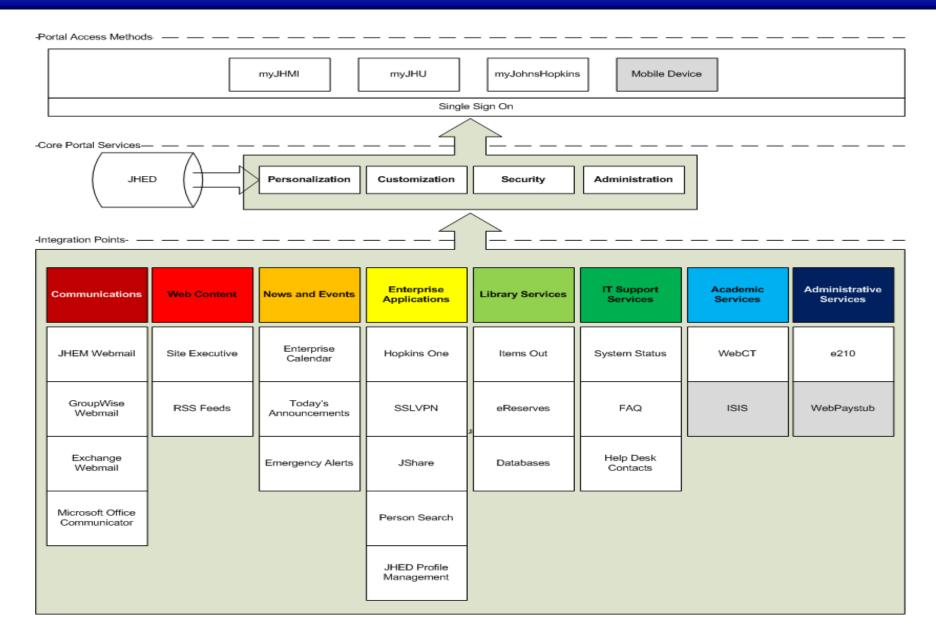
Implementation Strategy

- IT@JH owns and maintains
 - Core portal services
 - Enterprise application integration and syndication
- IT@JH delegates
 - Divisional/Departmental content and applications
 - Management of targeted portal areas

Divisional Collaborations

- Johns Hopkins Medical Institution
 - Clinical applications
 - Clinical System Education
 - Marketing and Communications
 - Welch Medical Library
- Johns Hopkins University
 - Carey Business School
 - School of Education
 - School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS)
 - Graduate Representative Organization (GRO)
 - Homewood Students' Association (HAS)
 - School of Medicine
 - Milton S. Eisenhower Library (MSEL)
 - Government, Communications, and Public Affairs

Integration Summary



Production Environment

JVM	Java 1.6.0_03 (32-bit)
Container	Tomcat 5.5.25
Hosts	6 servers total, redundant across 2 data centers (3 + 3) Intel Xeon CPU 3.00GHz 3.50 GB of RAM Windows Server 2003 Enterprise Edition, Service Pack 2 (Yes, Microsoft)
Web Server	Microsoft Internet Information Server 6.0
Database	Microsoft SQL Server 2005
Single Sign-On	Netegrity SiteMinder
uPortal Configuration	 DLM PAGS SmartLdapGroupStore personDirectory (Microsoft Active Directory, Sun LDAP, other custom DAOs)

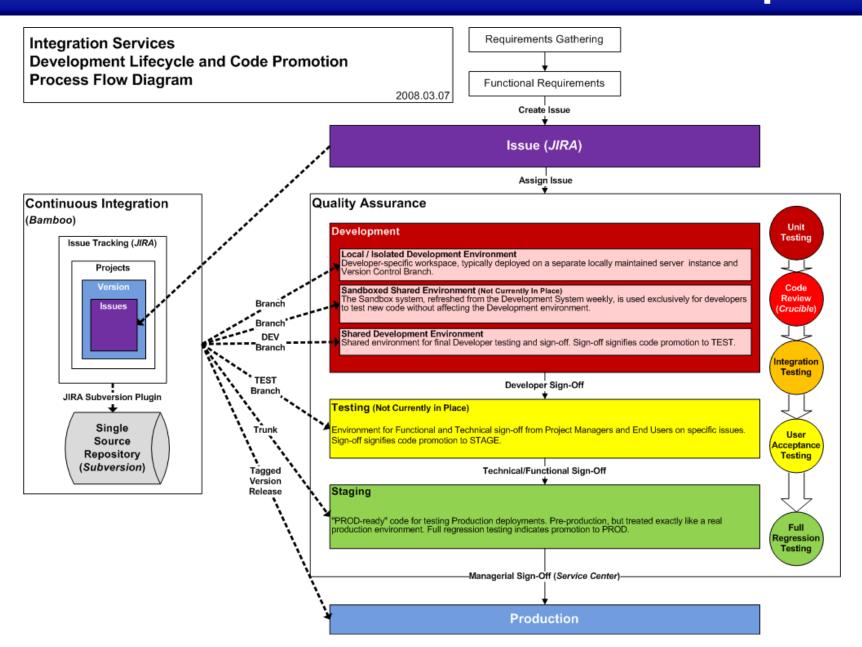
Current Environment Map

Environment	Description
Local	Developer-specific branch, typically deployed on a separate locally maintained server instance.
Development	Shared environment for final Developer testing and sign-off. Sign-off signifies code promotion to TEST.
Staging	"PROD-ready" code for testing Production deployments. Pre-production, but treated exactly like a real production environment. Full regression testing indicates promotion to PROD.
Production	Live, from New York

Other Environments to Consider...

Environment	Description
Testing	Environment for Functional and Technical sign-off from Project Managers and End Users on specific issues. Sign-off signifies code promotion to STAGE.
Demonstration	The Demo environment demonstrates the environment for end-users. This environment is refreshed by Production with each version release.
Pre-Production	An "offline" Production environment used to individually isolate, test, and verify a Production Move.
Sandbox	The Sandbox system, refreshed from the Development System weekly, is used exclusively for developers to test new code without affecting the Development environment.

Portal SDLC and Environment Map





Import/Export Overview

- The Import/Export "Stack"
 - XML
 - Portal entities are represented in domain-specific schema
 - Apache Ant
 - Portal administrators leverage Import/Export through a target-based interface
 - Cernunnos
 - Diverse subsystems & technology components are systhesized with Cernunnos
 - uPortal
 - Import/Export leverages uPortal's own Java technology wherever possible

The Cernunnos Project

- Cernunnos enhances software projects (and professionals) by reducing the burden that code components place on one another
- Project Home Page:
 - http://cernunnos.googlecode.com
- "Managing Diverse & Complex uPortal Deployments with Cernunnos"
 - Drew Wills & Andy Gherna
 - Monday, April 28, 2008 4:45PM-5:45PM



Import/Export Features

- Offers Ant-based create/update/delete operations on most portal objects
- Supports the following object types:
 - Entity Types
 - Structures
 - Themes
 - Users
 - Groups
 - Channel Types
- Does not support:
 - ALM
 - Multiple user profiles
 - Duplicate Group Names

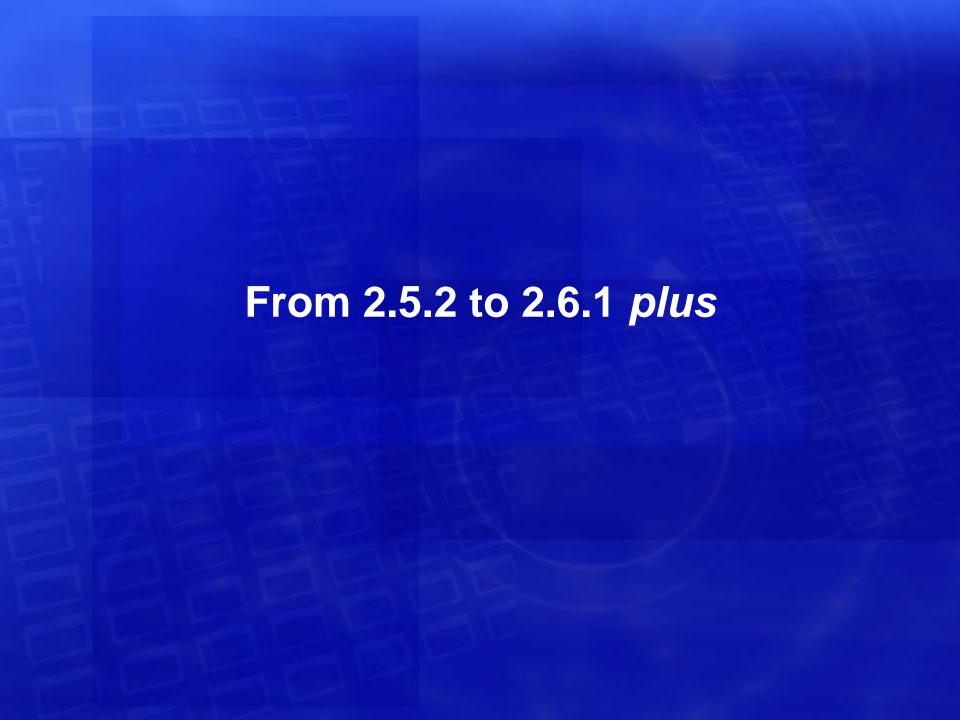
- Channels
- Memberships
- Permissions
- Layouts
- Batches (combinations)

How to Get Import/Export

- Available in these uPortal versions:
 - 2.5.4 (not released)
 - 2.6.2 (not released)
 - -3.0.0
- Using Import/Export with previous versions:
 - Option 1: Patch Import/Export into your existing portal codebase
 - Option 2: Use Import/Export with a fresh checkout

Using a Fresh Checkout

- This approach makes sense if you're upgrading to a newer uPortal release
- Configuration Instructions:
 - configure files in properties/
 - personDirectory.xml
 - rdbm.properties
 - configure files in properties/groups/
 - compositeGroupServices.xml
 - PAGSGroupStoreConfig.xml (if applicable)
 - Add you jdbc driver to lib/ (2.5.x) or lib/containercommon/ (2.6.x)



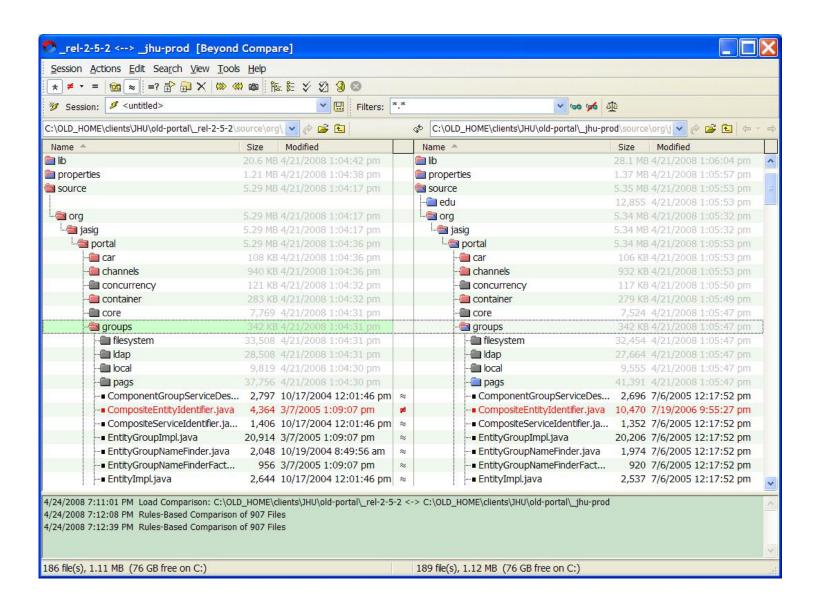
Sizing Up the Task

- 2.5.2 to 2.6.1+ (i.e. 2.6.1 with Import/Export & JHU contributions)
- Same Layout Manager: DLM
- Same Structure/Theme/Skin
- Same Database

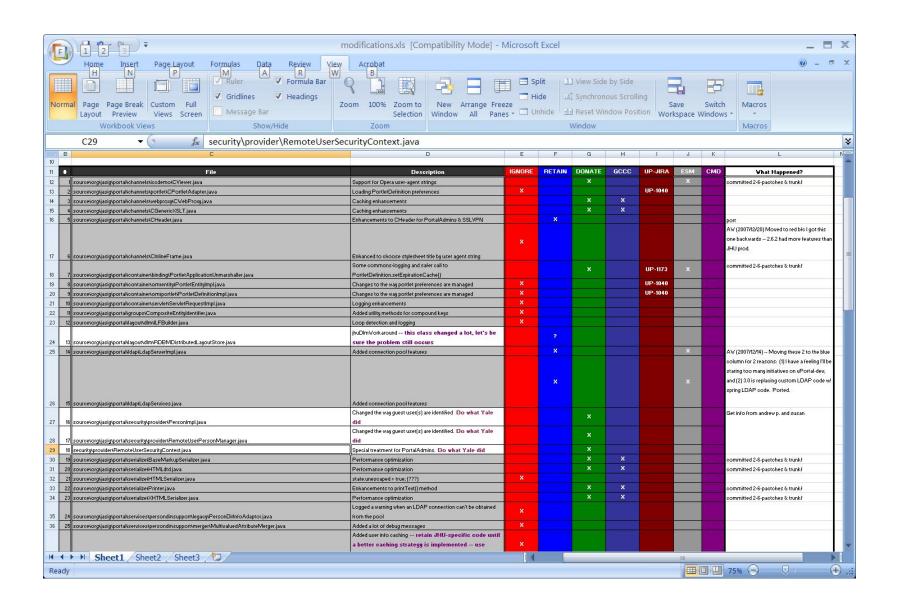
First Step: Catalog Local Modifications

- >svn export my.johnshopkins.edu
- >svn export https://www.ja-sig.org/svn/uPortal/tags/rel-2-5-2/
- Use Beyond Compare to uncover changes
- Make a list (spreadsheet) of everything substantive
 - Yes...
 - Behavioral enhancements in Java
 - Channel XSL
 - But not...
 - Configuration
 - Whitespace

Beyond Compare



Customizations Spreadsheet



Step Two: Make Some Decisions

Decide what to do with each item on the list

Drop: 56 items

Contribute: 19 items

- Retain (Port): 20 items

Step Three: Make Contributions

- JIRA tickets resolved by JHU in the course of this upgrade:
 - UP-1893: Some .user docs in properties/db/entities/ incorrectly reference the ALM structure
 - UP-1892: Enhance CacheFactoryLocator so it won't swallow the stack trace if it can't get the cache from the app context
 - UP-1888: Commit Global Channel Content
 Caching (GCCC) patch developed by rutgers

- JIRA tickets (Cont.)
 - UP-1889: Add support for java.sql.Types.CLOB to DbUnload
 - UP-1173: CPortletAdapter doesn't check for empty string ("") EXPIRATION_CACHE
 - UP-1887: Add Opera/7 and Opera/8 to whitelist of 'IFrameSuppoirt' in iccdemo channel

Step Four: New Project

- >svn export https://www.ja-sig.org/svn/uPortal/branches/rel-2-6-patches/ (Note Revision!)
- >svn import myJohnsHopkins/sandbox
- Drop in JHU properties/
- Drop in JHU structure, theme, and skin resources
- Apply retained modifications (20 files)

Step Five: Data

- Even though we were keeping the same database, we elected to replace uPortal default data with JHU data
- This approach allows us to deploy new environments like DEV, TEST, or local portal instances quickly
- This approach also makes integrating new data elements painless

Export and Organize Records

- >ant -f import-export.xml make-data-xml
- replace data.xml in properties/db/ with the version in the root directory
- >ant -f import-export.xml export Ddir=export -Dtype=[...]
 - all-channels
 - all-groups
 - all-permissions
 - all-memberships

Export and Organize (Cont.)

- >ant -f import-export.xml export Ddir=export -Dtype=user -Dsysid=[...]
 - admin, guest, staff, student, etc.
 - all DLM fragment owners
- >ant -f import-export.xml export Ddir=export -Dtype=layout -Dsysid=[...]
 - same as above
- prune .permission files for excluded users
- prune .membership files for excluded users
- replace the contents of properties/db/entities/ with export/

Step Six: Chase Bugs

- There will be issues that you simply have to find by looking
- Some of these are related to portlet/channel resources: DB tables, XML/XSL files, etc.
- Some of these are related to new/changed features in uPortal (e.g. admin.navigation.links)



Overview

- Discovers groups maintained in an LDAP directory and makes them available for use in the portal
- Blog Post:

http://www.unicon.net/node/994

uPortal Wiki:

http://www.ja-sig.org/wiki/x/3QPI

Source code attached in confluence

SmartLdapGroupStore Setup

- Add Java implementation to classpath
- Add SmartLdapGroupStore to Composite Group Services
- Configure SmartLdapGroupStoreConfig.xml
 - directory connection information
 - Base DN for group records
 - Filter expression that returns the group records you want
 - Person Attribute that contains the distinguishedName of each group he/she belongs to (e.g. 'memberOf')
 - LDAP attribute on each group that contains its distinguishedName (e.g. 'distinguishedName')
 - LDAP attribute on each group that contains its human-readable name (e.g. 'cn')
 - LDAP attribute on each group that contains the distinguishedName of each of its members (e.g. 'member')
- Configure personDirectory.xml (distinguishedName of each group)

Questions?

