

Information Technology Support Services

The Medical College of Georgia Web Enhancement Project

WEP service implementation overview

The MCG Web Enhancement Project (WEP) was initiated to migrate the current university web presence from the Microsoft IIS platform to an alternate platform. The enhancements to be gleaned from this migration were improvements in web server administration, security, content management, and performance.

The WEP model incorporates the use of a third party web content management system, the Contribute Publishing Server (CPS), to manage web content publisher workflow. Use of a single, secure, electronic identity store for all authentication and authorization aspects of the WEP services is required. Secure eDirectory based authentication services are leveraged by all WEP components. CPS authenticates publishing users and authorizes their publishing roles securely against eDirectory using LDAP. The Adobe Contribute application serves as a managed publishing client consuming both CPS services and eDirectory authentication services. The Adobe Dreamweaver application acts as a stand alone web authoring application also consuming eDirectory authentication services. This same infrastructure also provides all other required authorization services natively and securely without duplicating the electronic identity store.

The key architecture components used to provide the WEP services are the Apache 2 web server and Novell Open Enterprise Server (OES) for Linux.

Other WEP technologies used are:

- XML transforms (XSLT) services
- PHP services
- CURL services

Although not a requirement for the WEP model the WEP services are also made highly available using Novell Cluster Services (NCS).

