

# A Major Research University in Southern California

The Information Technology Services group at this university is the largest provider of technology and telecommunications products and services, serving more than 60,000 faculty, students and staff. The group engaged Six Feet Up to transition its Campus Services Portal from the content management platform Vignette to Plone and provide customizations to retain certain features from Vignette. The group also wanted to offer a Plone based solution with content syndication for all university websites to run on.

## Strategy

In making the transition to Plone, the university wished to preserve several key functional features. Among them:

- Allow content authors and editors to share/syndicate their respective content across multiple sites within the university.
- Allow site managers to control what content is syndicated onto their sites.
- Enable a federated and authorized search across all sites using a Google Search Appliance.



Six Feet Up provided development, deployment, and mentoring services to the internal development team. The partnership began in late 2011, and has been ongoing. Several phases have been rolled out and completed over the course of this engagement with the latest being the addition of custom Content Syndication features which were packaged in 2013 as PushHub.

## PushHub, the Content Syndication Solution



The university's requirements for content syndication included:

- Allow content authors and editors to submit their content to the syndication hub upon publishing.
- When a piece of content is shared, specific metadata about this item should be sent to the global PushHub repository for discovery by other site managers.
- A content item's owner retains all ownership of any shared content, including the ability to continue making edits to the published content, determining how long the content stays published and withdrawing the content item from PushHub. >>>

**"We are really excited about PushHub's ability to manage shared content across hundreds of sites for us. It's going to save time and money while providing better access to our content."**

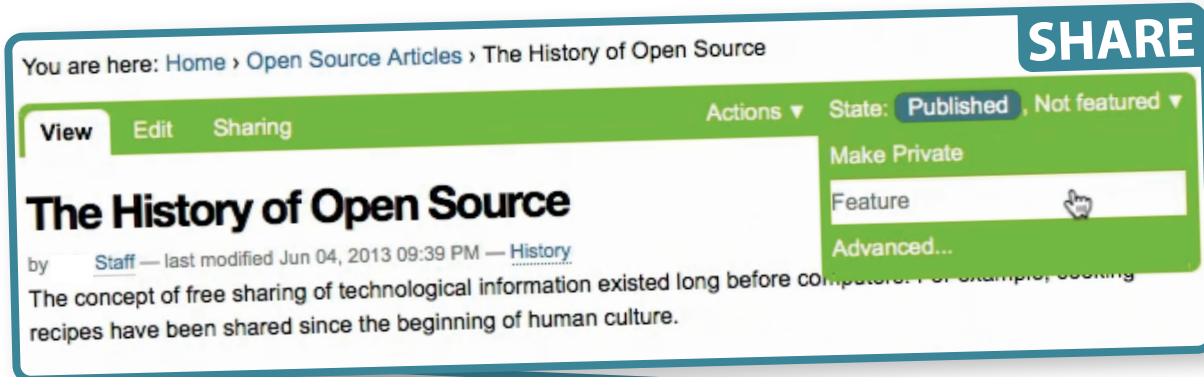
- Albert Wu, Senior Director, Information Management Services at a major research university in Southern California

- A user with permissions can:
  - Browse and search for documents in PushHub by keywords, (i.e. holiday closures), content types (i.e. news items, events) or specific authors.
  - Select items from the global repository to syndicate on their site. The selected items display in a side bar on the selected page or page template.
- When a syndicated content item is removed from PushHub, it is automatically dropped from the listing of available contents in the repository search results.
- When a syndicated content item is updated and a new version is published, PushHub automatically updates its listing to use the latest published version.

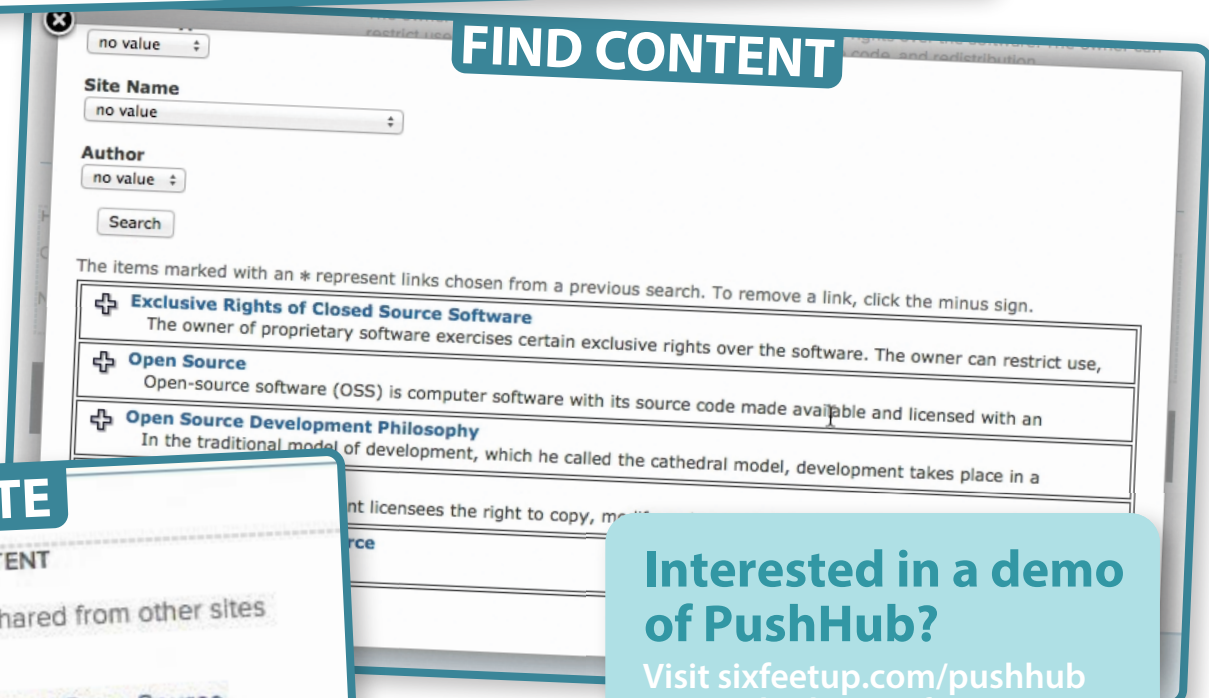
PushHub was setup to work with a specific set of content types in the university's Plone sites. PushHub currently supports Plone and Drupal, with WordPress coming next. Custom connectors can also be built for other systems.

## Results:

- All of the university's websites can be linked through the PushHub repository.
- Thousands of contributors can share content in a controlled and synchronized manner.



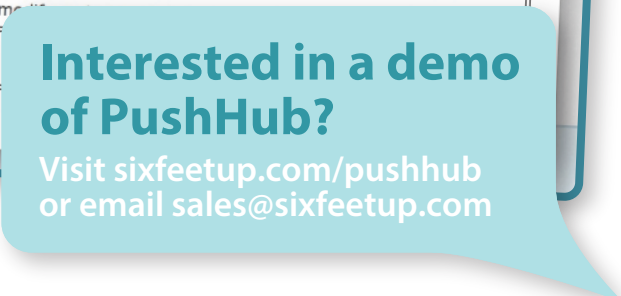
The screenshot shows a content management system interface. At the top, there is a breadcrumb trail: "You are here: Home > Open Source Articles > The History of Open Source". Below this is a green navigation bar with "View", "Edit", and "Sharing" options. To the right, there are "Actions" and "State" dropdowns, with "State" currently set to "Published" and "Not featured". A "SHARE" button is visible in the top right corner. Below the navigation bar, the title "The History of Open Source" is displayed, followed by "by Staff" and "last modified Jun 04, 2013 09:39 PM". A dropdown menu is open, showing options: "Make Private", "Feature" (with a mouse cursor over it), and "Advanced...". Below the menu, the start of the article text is visible: "The concept of free sharing of technological information existed long before computers. For example, cooking recipes have been shared since the beginning of human culture."



The screenshot shows a search interface. At the top, there is a search bar with "no value" entered. Below the search bar, there are dropdown menus for "Site Name" and "Author", both also containing "no value". A "Search" button is located below these dropdowns. A "FIND CONTENT" overlay is positioned over the search results area. Below the search bar, there is a note: "The items marked with an \* represent links chosen from a previous search. To remove a link, click the minus sign." Below this note, there are three search results, each with a plus sign icon and a title: "Exclusive Rights of Closed Source Software", "Open Source", and "Open Source Development Philosophy".



The screenshot shows a "PROMOTE" interface. At the top, there is a "HUB CONTENT" section. Below this, there is a text input field containing "Content shared from other sites". Below the text input field, there is a link "The History of Open Source" with a blue underline.



**Interested in a demo of PushHub?**  
Visit [sixfeetup.com/pushhub](http://sixfeetup.com/pushhub) or email [sales@sixfeetup.com](mailto:sales@sixfeetup.com)