



**SDSU**  
presents  
a thesis defense for  
Master of Science  
degree in  
Computer Science

Wednesday,  
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9:00am  
GMCS 405

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# Rima Shah

*Building a Web Content Management System*

## Abstract

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This thesis investigates different existing open-source Web Content Management Systems (WCMS) and their features. The main objective of WCMS is to allow non-technical users to easily update and manage a website's content. But WCMS products available on the market today have integrated many other complex functionalities, which makes the user interface difficult to understand and use. All WCMS require some amount of training on installation and where to start. After integration users need to read the manual or take lessons to use other available advanced features. The research question explored here is whether to implement a WCMS from existing options compared with the feasibility of building a new one from scratch. For this project, Simple CMS, an easy to administer web content management system was designed and developed. This paper discusses the considerations of developing a new WCMS, including the advantages and disadvantages relative to an off-the-shelf product.

## Thesis Committee

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Alan Riggins, Thesis Chair, Department of Computer Science  
Joseph Lewis, Department of Computer Science  
Michael O'Sullivan, Department of Mathematics & Statistics

