

Sharon L Krossa, PhD

WEB PROJECT CONSULTANT & DRUPAL TRAINER

Fifteen years experience as a friendly web project consultant & trainer with a passion for finding appropriate solutions to client problems & making those solutions understandable. Skills include a deep understanding of Drupal technology & Drupal best practices, as well as strong verbal communication skills & the ability to guide & coordinate the work of others. Excellent analytical & mentoring ability with a reputation for demystifying technology & producing maintainable solutions with an emphasis on structured data & enter once, display many times architecture.

SUMMARY

I [guide|teach|help|manage
(clients,
including individuals|groups|departments|companies
of experienced web professionals|faculty|technical staff|non-technical staff)
and/or
(teams,
including graphic designers|content contributors|editors|site managers|
site builders|module developers)
to
]
plan|design|build|maintain|improve|update|fix
web sites and web applications, with attention to best practices for
(information architecture|information modeling|data modeling|content strategy|
accessibility|usability|security|sustainability|web standards|Drupal standards|
software development standards|incremental development|organizational identity|
organizational policy compliance)
[via
(in person|virtual) meetings|mentoring|conference sessions|classes
and/or
(written communications,
including email|mailing lists|blogs|handouts|documentation)
]

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

RANDSTAD TECHNOLOGIES, LLC; ASSIGNMENT: SR WEB APPLICATION DEVELOPER, SAMUEL MERRITT UNIVERSITY 2022-2023

Provided deep Drupal expertise to in-house team responsible for Samuel Merritt University's main website; joined in final stages of major migration from Drupal 8 to Drupal 9 of an originally Drupal 7 site.

- Caught & corrected planned step that would have crashed existing site before new site was live.
- Established & documented DevOps workflow allowing both in-house team & third party company to update code & configuration safely; introduced code-based configuration management to in-house team.
- Introduced use of Jira for issue tracking & managing development priorities.
- Provided guidance in evaluating & selecting from cloud hosting providers.
- Assisted with successful rapid one month migration to chosen platform (Pantheon).
- Provided details for roadmap of upcoming development needs, including DevOps workflow automation & preparing for another major upgrade before Drupal 9 end-of-life Nov 2023.
- Converted a Tableau integration from stand-alone app requiring software developers to update content in code & deploy to simple Drupal Paragraph that content editors can easily add & update just like other content.

FOUNDER, SK+ 2009-PRESENT

WEB CONSULTANT & TRAINER, MULTIPLE DEPARTMENTS, STANFORD UNIVERSITY 2008-PRESENT

At Stanford & as SK+, architect & build web sites both alone & coordinating teams, mostly using Drupal but also Adobe Experience Manager. Teach information & data modeling, site design, construction & maintenance to clients. Often use a holistic “training by doing” approach: guiding clients as they work on their own sites rather than textbook exercises, so training time is also development/project time—a kind of “pair programming” for developing sites that enhances learning & retention. See example projects, below.

DESIGNING, BUILDING, & TRAINING/MENTORING – EXAMPLE PROJECTS

- Currently working with domain experts at [Stanford Nanofabrication Facility](#). Created a groundbreaking web site for this academic nanofabrication lab—a true knowledge-base including hundreds of fabrication & characterization tools & equipment, their related materials, chemicals, other parameters, documentation, & projects, all interlinked across commonalities. The design is also structured to allow a gradual transition from thousands of Google Docs (that were copied & pasted from a Wiki on a dying server) to fully Drupalized versions, including providing visitors access to legacy documents without leaving the Drupal site.
- Designed & built web site for [L'Esprit San Francisco](#), a travel company providing tours in French & (soon) multiple other languages. Trained non-technical business owner to update & add content herself. Development of new features is ongoing.
- Designed architecture for & built Stanford Shared FACS Facility site in Drupal 7. Trained facility manager to maintain & expand site content. Hired for Drupal 7 project after previous successful version using Drupal 6.
- Designed architecture for & built unified [Stanford Language Center](#) site to provide consistent & efficient user experience across both twelve single language & three multi-language programs—each with their own editorial team & appearing to be an independent site—while giving all fifty-five languages within both types of programs their own flexible content sections that can be maintained & expanded by non-technical staff.
- Worked for Stanford Associate Vice Provost for Faculty Development & Diversity on the design & initial development of the Faculty Search Toolkit, a web application that facilitates best practices in faculty recruiting. Designed & managed later major feature additions & improvements, including transition from subsection of department's Drupal 6 site to independent Drupal 7 site. Coordinated work of successive Drupal assistants, department staff, & external module developers.
- Designed & managed building of Drupal 6 site for Stanford Faculty Affairs. Directed Drupal assistant. Taught non-technical staff member to create & update content herself. Recommended switch to SWS Jumpstart for Drupal 7; due to prior training, this allowed staff to transition to Drupal 7 without further assistance from me.

DESIGNING & TRAINING/MENTORING – EXAMPLE PROJECTS

- Rapidly trained an experienced web developer who was new to Drupal to convert the Stanford Entrepreneurship Network site from static HTML to Drupal under a tight deadline. With less than 40 hours of one-to-one custom training over the course of two calendar months, the web developer was able to launch the new site on time & with enhanced features.
- Trained a team of three (project manager, server administrator, & graphic designer—all new to Drupal) to build an earlier version of the Stanford Shared FACS Facility site using Drupal 6. With less than 20 hours of custom training over the course of about a calendar year, the team was able to create & launch the new site at their own pace, fitting in training & development as their schedules allowed.
- Trained someone new to both web development & Drupal to convert a static HTML site to Drupal—Stanford Office of Audit, Compliance & Privacy—with improved content structure & management. Trained another to build a new bilingual site, [USDKexpats.org](#).
- Acted as technical consultant to half a dozen mostly non-technical stakeholders from multiple departments for a grass-roots, collaborative site design & development project for the Stanford Student Affairs Drupal site launched in 2009.

TEACHING – EXAMPLE PROJECTS

- With Robert Black, taught customized four day workshop on Drupal site building & module development best practices to a large group of experienced developers at Cisco who were new to Drupal.
- Taught a customized introductory Drupal course to the University of San Francisco web team in preparation for the transition of the university's site to Drupal.
- Taught a team of key staff from Stanford Alumni & Development Information Systems about Drupal as part of a technology evaluation & selection process.
- Developed & taught two half-day hands-on Drupal training courses for Techie Festival 2010 for Stanford ITS Technology Training Services.
- Developed & taught a series of six 90-minute hands-on Drupal workshops at Tech Briefings Summer 2009-Summer 2010, commissioned by Stanford ITS Technology Training Services.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY (CONTINUED)

COORDINATOR, INNOVATIVE RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS, ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY SPECIALISTS PROGRAM, STANFORD UNIVERSITY 2007–2008

Worked with ATS Program to assist faculty to collaborate with other researchers at Stanford & around the world, primarily in the humanities & social sciences. Used Drupal 5 for projects including the Human Spatial Dynamics Lab, the Cultural Heritage Resource, & the Spatial History Network. Contributed documentation to Stanford Technology Commons.

INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT 2004–2007

Projects ranged from onomastics technical editor for *Baby Names for Dummies* by Margaret Rose (Wiley Publishing Inc., 2005) to technical consultant & programmer for an online archaeological database developed using HTML, PHP, & MySQL.

ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST, DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS, STANFORD UNIVERSITY 1999 - 2000

Provided technical expertise & training to faculty & students on a variety of research & teaching projects. These included web sites, databases, corpora, & evaluations of hardware & software. Collaborated with other ATSEs & Academic Computing staff on division- & university-wide projects. Supervised a student worker.

RELEVANT VOLUNTEER WORK & HOBBIES

DRUPALLERS DROP-IN HELP 2011-PRESENT

Founded & continue to organize monthly free gathering for Stanford community & general public to drop in & be helped with any Drupal questions they have (or to drop in & help others). Since starting in January 2011, attendance has usually been between four & twelve people per month, with some attendees helping but most seeking help.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- *Information Modeling & Data Modeling* presented at Stanford Web Camp [2019](#) (video available) & [2020](#) (video available)
- *Top Modules for Drupal 7* presented at Stanford Drupal Camp 2015.
- *Live, Test, & Dev for (Nearly) Everyone* presented at Stanford Drupal Camp 2014 & 2015.
- *Drupal Modules 101: Introduction, installation, & removal* presented at Stanford Drupal Camp [2012](#), [2013](#), & [2014](#), Stanford Tech Briefings Fall 2011, BAD Camp 2011 & [2013](#).
- *Top Modules for Drupal 6.x* presented at Stanford Drupal Camp [2011](#), Drupal Camp Sacramento Area 2011.

DRUPALLETS BLOG

“Droplets of Drupal & Drupal-related wisdom...” from philosophy to how-tos to hiring.

EDUCATION

PHD, UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN, ABERDEEN, SCOTLAND, UK 2006

Dissertation: *A Study of Expectations: Women in the Burgh of Aberdeen in the Later Middle Ages* (Department of History)

Used computer technology to analyze historical records. Designed & developed a complex historical documents text & analysis system with a high degree of intelligent automation. Results enabled unprecedented analysis of source documents for Scottish medieval social history. Explained workings of database program to non-technical audience in dissertation.

AB, MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE, SOUTH HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

Majors: Physics & Medieval Studies

RELATED TECHNICAL SKILLS

Drupal (9/8/7/6/5), Composer, Drush, UNIX/Linux shell scripting, PHP, MySQL, HTML 5, CSS 3, Git, Jira, Entity Reference Diagrams (ERD), Pantheon, DDEV, Docker, Adobe Experience Manager (AEM), Dreamweaver

ONLINE PROFILES

- Drupal.org drupal.org/u/skrossa
- LinkedIn [linkedin.com/in/skrossa](https://www.linkedin.com/in/skrossa)