

# Integrating An Open Source Content Management System with Existing Campus Architectures

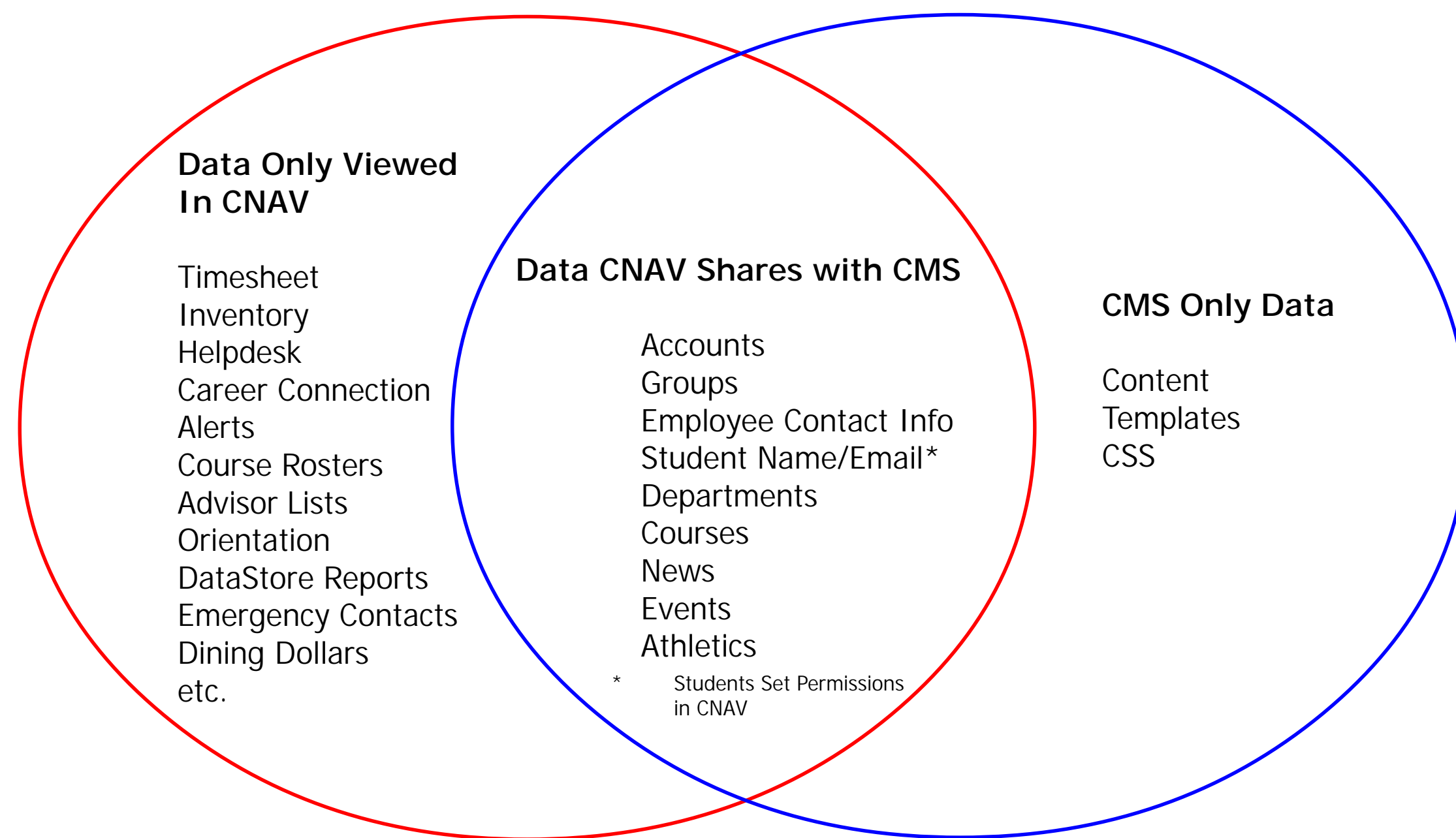
Rodney Tosten Ph.D., William Wilson Ph.D., Mark R. Albert

## ABSTRACT

In the fall of 2004, Gettysburg College was faced with a major decision to select a content management system (CMS) to integrate with our campus system architectures. After investigating several vendor-based systems, we selected an open-source CMS. The open-source solution gave us the initial advantage to incorporate the best of breed functionality from the other vendor-based systems. We integrated the CMS with our home-grown portal (CNAV), and through it data stored in our ERP system (PeopleSoft) and our events system (R25). Our success also placed our campus in a position to leverage these systems into a future customer relationship management system.

## HOW WE DID IT

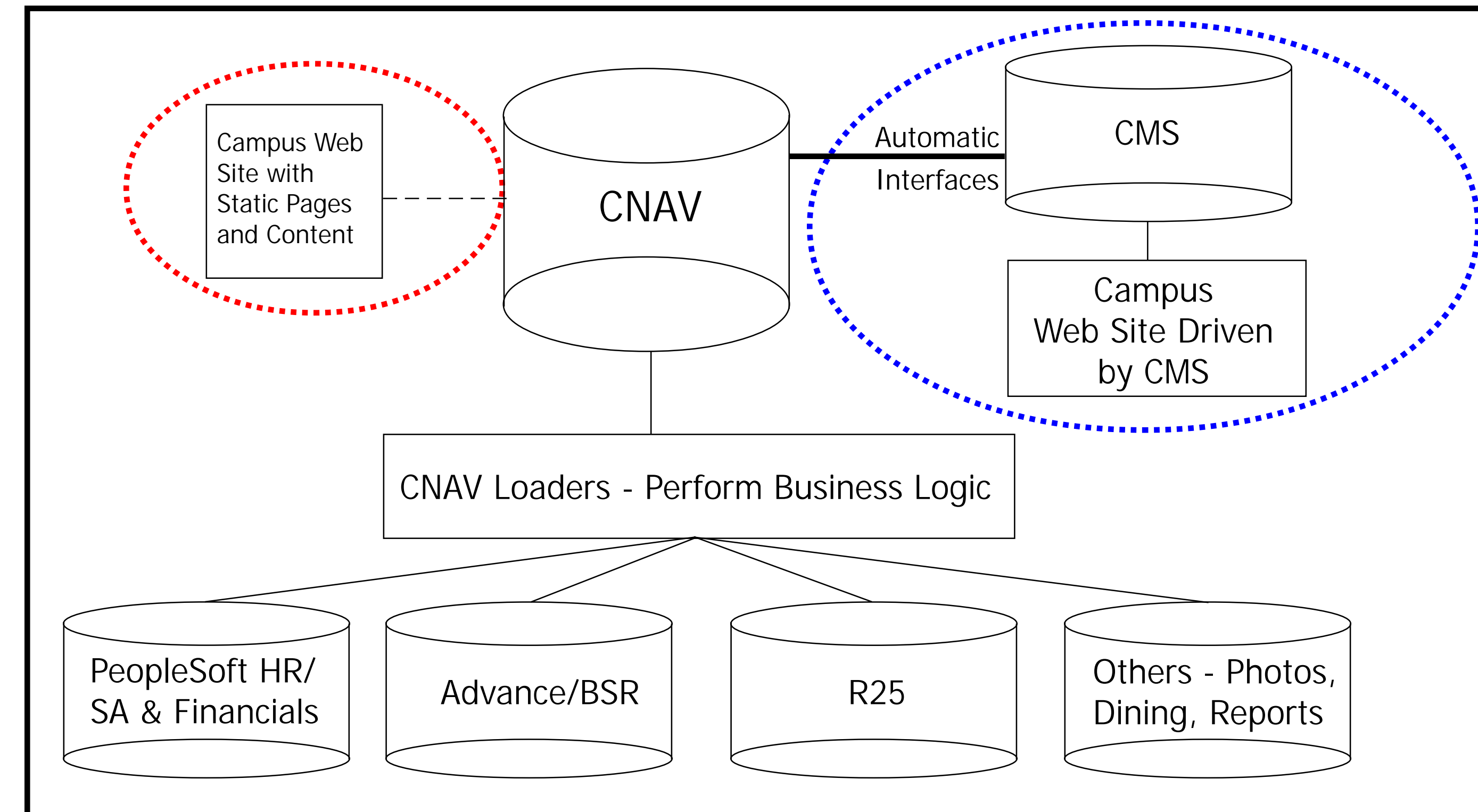
Working with DotMarketing, we were trying to decide how to accomplish this data sharing between CNAV and the CMS system. The initial plan was to create a series of interfaces that would move data from one system to another. While this would work, it would result in a delay of data delivery, since we were not looking at developing real-time interfaces. What we implemented was using synonyms on the databases so that CMS could look directly at CNAV data. This eliminated the need for interfaces, gave us real-time updating of data and achieved our initial goal of not having to duplicate effort.



## WHY WE DID IT

The benefit of putting CNAV in between the ERP and the CMS is that the ERP can be modified or replaced without our impacting the public-facing websites. By leveraging the business logic already developed it positioned both CNAV and CMS to be independent of the ERP vendor.

## WHAT WE HAD/WANTED



## WHAT WE GOT

