“Cascading lookup lists for our Trustees were quick & easy to generate thanks to KWizCom!”
Carol Katzman, Vice President for Information Technology
Barnard College, Columbia University

January 2016

Brief Summary

Founded in 1889, Barnard College is a private women’s liberal arts college in the United States and one of the Seven Sisters. Located in the Morningside Heights section of New
York City, Barnard offers undergraduate study for over 2400 women. It has been affiliated with Columbia University since 1900.

Slightly over five years ago, the College set a goal to improve its Information Technology infrastructure. An aspect of this improvement included an optimization of the College’s ERP, which initiated the implementation of Sharepoint as its campus intranet. The constituencies supported by the campus portal include students, faculty, staff and trustees.

The Challenge

The Barnard portal team was challenged with creating a custom solution that can handle drill-down (cascading) dropdown controls, crossing multiple SharePoint lists within the same site collection, and also record changes back to the parent list, as an event receiver would do. With a multitude of active projects and limited resources on site, engaging Barnard’s internal team in custom development was not an option. “We researched third-party products and, after a thorough evaluation, we selected the Cascading Lookup Plus solution created by KWizCom and purchased the add-on in August 2014”, said Carol Katzman, Barnard’s Vice President for Information Technology. At the time Barnard purchased KWizCom’s Cascading Lookup Plus webpart, the College had just launched the new intranet on a SharePoint platform. The entire development team was heavily concentrated on migrating legacy applications onto the new SharePoint portal, therefore limited resources were left for additional custom development.

The Solution

Barnard team installed the trial license of KWizCom’s Cascading Lookup. During the trial period Barnard’s development team partnered with KWizCom support team, and, while Barnard’s continuous feedback helped...
CASE STUDY

the college in getting a product that meets their needs, it also benefit the KWizCom
group by creating more enhanced product for their clients that included additional
functionalities.

Out of the box, SharePoint allows creating events in calendar lists. However, it doesn’t
allow creating sub-events, such as sessions within the same event, and have their own
attendance independent of the main event. “We needed to create a custom calendar with
additional custom fields and cascade them into sub-events. (Like topics in an agenda,
where users can attend only specific topics, not the entire event). KWizCom’s Cascading
Lookup add-on was able to accomplish this with a minimal effort for Barnard team, who
concentrated on customizing the data structure supporting the KWizCom’s web part”,
concludes Katzman.

The Benefits

According to Barnard College,
one of the justifying reasons for
selecting the KWizCom product
was the company’s level of
customer support. KWizCom’s
focused engagement helped
Barnard meet its objectives.
KWizCom’s web part is a
reusable component that can be
applied anywhere throughout the
farm and it can be adjusted to
meet specific business needs on
various functional areas of
Barnard’s intranet (team sites,
constituency and informational sites, or main publishing sites).

Further, the Barnard team explained that KWizCom’s Cascading Lookup Plus transformed
a paper-based process into an electronic one that permits the college members to select
specific topics within the calendar agenda, and mark their attendance to specific sessions. The solution is intuitive to use, easy to access, and it centralizes data and features reporting for administrative staff. It includes security and data validation, which was not an option previously when using paper-based processes.

About Barnard College
Since its founding in 1889, Barnard has been a distinguished leader in higher education, offering a rigorous liberal arts foundation to young women whose curiosity, drive, and exuberance set them apart. Barnard provides the best of all worlds: small, intimate classes in a collaborative liberal arts setting dedicated to the advancement of women with the vast resources of Columbia University just steps away—in the heart of vibrant and electric New York City.

Throughout its history, Barnard graduates have made their mark as leaders in the arts, business, government, and science, and as activists for causes too numerous to name. Barnard women change the world and the way we think about it. To learn more about Barnard College, visit http://barnard.edu

About KWizCom Corporation
Since 2005, KWizCom has provided innovative solutions and services to make SharePoint even better for over 5,000 companies worldwide. KWizCom is a leading provider of SharePoint Forms, Mobile, Wiki solutions, and over 70 other add-ons for SharePoint on-premises and Office 365.

KWizCom, a Gold Certified Microsoft Partner, is headquartered in Toronto, Canada. KWizCom's mission is to provide clients with high quality products geared toward the perfect solution for their business goals, which is always bundled with great service and exceptional customer support. KWizCom Software is available to federal, state & local government agencies through GSA IT Schedule 70 Contract. Please visit www.kwizcom.com to find out more about KWizCom's clients, people, partners and solutions.