Hello, welcome to creating a widget in MyUW. We only have 300 seconds, so let's get going.
And … I’ve included a slide about me. You might wonder why, since I only have five minutes, but don’t worry. Widgets are quick.

I’m Tim Vertein. I graduated from the UW more than just a few years ago. I left for a while, but I’ve been back for about 4 years now.
So, why would you want to put something in MyUW? There are a couple of reasons. The first is that MyUW is highly regarded. In satisfaction surveys of campus services, MyUW is continually a top ranked service. MyUW believes in a consistent top notch user experience, user testing, industry standards, accessibility, and providing resources for students, staff, faculty, and all the members of the University community.

MyUW is also highly used. Nearly everyone that is paid or is a student uses MyUW frequently. I don’t have times to go into the millions of logins we receive yearly, or the active events that happen in MyUW, showing that users not only log in, but also interact when inside.

Last point I want to make is that services and teams that do user testing and interviews on campus, consistently report that MyUW is where users expect to find things and expect to perform tasks. This doesn’t mean that applications need to move into MyUW, but users do expect to find the content they’re looking for from MyUW.

So, I’m going to show you some simple ways where applications you write can have a presence in MyUW.
What are widgets?

Widget are quick pieces of information or usable content.

It’s important that widgets have a consistent look and feel to them. That doesn’t mean that they can’t be different, but when a user is clicking a button, or typing, the behavior should be the same.
Sometimes widgets are simple. They’re just an icon and a link.

So here’s one way to create a widget. Let us know an icon, a url, and a title.

That’s it. Let us know some information. And that’s how to create widget.

How am I doing for time? Got some more? Well, let’s keep going.
Most widgets follow a pattern. We have many templates. Templates are a great way to keep the widgets looking and behaving similar. The styling is updated automatically, so you won’t have to worry about your widget looking out of date in the future. All you need to do is to supply some configuration.
Here’s an rss widget. Configuration needed? Just an rss feed. If you really want, you can change some presentation options like how many news feeds show, but there’s a sensible default.
Another template is widget of links. You supply the list of urls, icons wanted, and the widget will handle the styling, spacing, and markup. The widget will show anything from one link to up to seven, although if you supply more, it will just truncate the end of the list.
We have lot of different templates, but sometimes you need something completely different.

Widgets support custom HTML. They support data feeds. Your imagination is the limit.
So in summary, you supply some configuration, widgets handle the styling.

Well, now how do you get started?

Well, go to the it.wisc.edu site and search MyUW. We have an entire page dedicated to our service. We have a form that you can fill out.
The form is a choose-your-own adventure story asking what kind of widget you would like to have and asks for the url, description, search keywords, etc. It’s only a start of a conversation. We get back to everyone who uses the form.
Maybe you’re a little bit more technically savvy. Well, all of our code is open source. You can take a look at how it all works.
Well, maybe you don’t want to read code. We’re a respectable project, we have lots of up-to-date, versioned, documentation. You can read all about the nitty gritty and the exact configuration needed.
Well, maybe you want to play with your configuration or custom widgets. Useful for testing and coding, we have even built a live widget creator. You can go create a widget right now.

The widget creator allows you to play with what your title and links will look like. It has examples, links to documentation, and links to sample exercises to help you get started.
We want your content linked in MyUW. We want users to find what they’re looking for. Help us meet the needs of your users. We’re continually trying to make the barrier of entry pretty low. Hopefully we have.
Thank
You