

Notes from the Navigation Sub-committee of the UW Web Advisory Committee

November 26, 2007

Present:

Jason Greatrex, Megan McDermott, Terry Stewart (chair).

Regrets:

Mary Lynn Benninger, Sarah Forgrave, Isaac Morland, Jason Greatrex.

Meeting was shortened due to poor turnout.

1. Review of Other Sites:

- 1.1. Jason reported on U.S. and U.K. university and college sites:
 - 1.1.1. Almost all used breadcrumbs, site maps and search tools
 - 1.1.2. Many were heavy with body links
 - 1.1.3. Sites to take note of:
 - 1.1.3.1. Notre Dame. Use of top menu bar as well as left and right menus. Also note the use of hidden navigation in top right of home page. <http://www.nd.edu/>
 - 1.1.3.2. Northwestern. Links within body with little use of menus. <http://www.northwestern.edu/>
 - 1.1.3.3. UCLA. Heavy with body links. <http://www.ucla.edu>
 - 1.1.3.4. London School of Economics. Home Page a mosaic. <http://www.lse.ac.uk/>
 - 1.1.3.5. Cambridge. Busy home page.
 - 1.1.3.6. Vassar. Many menus before getting to content but well laid out. <http://www.vassar.edu/>
 - 1.1.3.7. Dartmouth. Menus at top and right. Well laid out. <http://www.dartmouth.edu/>
 - 1.1.3.8. Brown University Home page all menus with hidden content. <http://www.brown.edu/>

2. Current Problems with CLF:

- 2.1. There was a broad discussion on current problems with the CLF. A report strategy was discussed which included listing these problems and suggesting solutions with examples from other sites on how to approach it. Some of the problems discussed: disconnection between sites, space for navigation text, flexibility, third level navigation, what should be a nav item and what shouldn't, guidelines for terminology, a way to group left menu items.