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

November 9, 2007

Present:
Mary Lynn Benninger, Sarah Forgrave, Megan McDermott, Terry Stewart (chair).
Regrets:
Jason Greatrex, Isaac Morland.

1. **Review of Navigation Description in CLF Documentation:**
    1.1. Megan reported that CLF Documentation:
        1.1.1. is not very comprehensive
        1.1.2. does not provide a lot of guidance (eg, 5-7 items, meaningful text, etc)
        1.1.3. has some guidance for Faculty pages (mostly being adhered to)
        1.1.4. has less guidance for Departments (not necessarily adhered to)
        1.1.5. breaks down by third level. In fact, third level is not defined.
        1.1.6. is fairly accessible but does not mention government regulations on accessibility.
    1.2. Discussion centered around whether we should rewrite this for current CLF or write it for next generation website, which would be based upon what Research subcommittee found. Decided to ask the group as a whole.
    1.3. The group decided to try to meet one more time before next committee of the whole.
    1.4. It was decided that the first three tasks could be addressed in parallel now and needed to be addressed before the last two tasks.
    1.5. Action items are listed below.

2. **Review of Other Sites:**
    2.1. Megan reported on Canadian University sites (and some US ones)
        2.1.1. many approaches being taken
        2.1.2. none of Canadian sites overly impressive (U Calgary notable)
        2.1.3. some tend to use navigation that is "everything but the kitchen sink approach"
        2.1.4. at most, subsites are different and don't carry through with the same look and feel
        2.1.5. most sites tend to segment audience early on (one exception NYU)
    2.2. Mary Lynn reported on bank sites:
        2.2.1. tended to be holistic in approach and not necessarily concerned about who you are
        2.2.2. "are we segmenting too much?"

3. **Other Discussion Points:**

3.1. Should we consider one web server for all official websites?
3.2. How do we improve communication among web maintainers? How do we know when links change, etc.
3.3. Should we be improving our training for the web beyond SAW and SEW courses, including best practices?