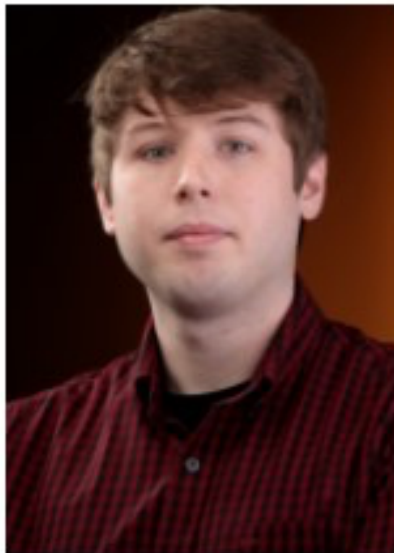


NO LOGIN NEEDED

DEVELOPING A NEW LIBRARY WEBSITE ON YOUR OWN



Chris Deems

Systems and Technology Librarian

Technical Services

419-772-2183

c-deems@onu.edu

BIO

- Systems Librarian at Ohio Northern University
 - Heterick Memorial Library
 - 2,855 FTE (Fall 2019)
- BA in History
 - The Ohio State University
- MS in Information Studies
 - University of Texas at Austin
- Newest TEDSIG Co-Chair



PROJECT BACKGROUND

- University website update in Fall 2019
 - New two website structure
 - Internal website (my.onu.edu) for current students, faculty, and staff
 - External website (onu.edu) for prospective students, parents, and alumni
- Access to library web content became extremely limited
 - Library catalog, databases, and Archives' content placed on internal website
 - Additional login step required for members of Ohio Northern University to access
 - Public content made inaccessible to users outside of the University

BEGINNING OF A NEW LIBRARY WEBSITE

- New University website structure could not support essential library structures, features, and tools
- Sought to petition University stakeholders to allow Heterick Library have it's own website
- Examined and highlighted peer university libraries managing their own websites as examples. Including:
 - Ohio Wesleyan University (<https://library.owu.edu/home>)
 - Wittenberg University (<https://www.wittenberg.edu/lib>)
- Created short document containing findings to share with stakeholders
- Stakeholders agreed to allow new separate library website following meeting and discussion with librarians
 - External University website would retain splash page for the library

DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

- Document created to detail development and design process. Contained:
 - List of goals and priorities
 - Areas requiring additional support and expertise from other library faculty and staff
 - Outline for user testing
 - Timetable for completion
- New website hosted in LibGuides CMS
 - Heterick Library already had access to platform prior to new website development
 - Development of website structures was similar to creating research guides

DESIGN PROCESS

- Design followed University guidelines and matched with new website's overall design
- Heavy focus on web accessibility throughout design process for website
 - Web accessibility extension used periodically during process to check for potential errors
- New CSS needed to be developed for library website
 - Trial and error process
 - Examined code from other peer institution libraries for inspiration and ideas
 - Created using code from University's external website
 - Some accessibility coding found freely online

USER TESTING

- Three phases of testing
 - First phase: internal testing with Heterick Library faculty and staff in Spring 2020
 - Second phase: select students and faculty outside of the Heterick Library in Spring 2020
 - Third phase: all members of Ohio Northern University in Fall 2020
- Original plan included in-person and asynchronous tests
 - COVID-19 required all testing to be asynchronous
- Results of tests were compiled and discussed internally among library faculty and staff
- Suggestions and fixes were applied where necessary

LAUNCH & LOOKING FORWARD

- New Heterick Library website launched in June 2020
 - <https://library.onu.edu/>
 - Followed successful completion of second phase of user testing
 - Met with positive response from University upon start of Fall 2020 semester
- Plans for the future
 - Completion of third phase of user testing
 - In-depth accessibility testing of entire website
 - Creation of routine testing schedule for both website users and website accessibility

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Documentation on the Creation of the New Heterick Library Website
 - https://docs.google.com/document/d/IsxWgQOA6pDfuN4qPTDx8WlazKJzZ6A_tEwiXm8lZajU/edit?usp=sharing
- Heterick Memorial Library Website Files
 - https://github.com/c-deems/hml_website.git
- LibCal Colorblindness Resolver CSS
 - <https://www.dropbox.com/s/h2ym2cjpgk9jkwuq/fix-color-alone-convey-availability.css?dl=0>
- Total Iy: an accessibility visualization toolkit
 - <https://khan.github.io/totalIy/>
- User Test Questions Compilation
 - https://docs.google.com/document/d/lq_sbPdR-7GRqVlrscl0Spu3Ae60myg62-Bv2vyTW3fE/edit?usp=sharing
- WAVE - Web Accessibility Evaluation Tool
 - <https://wave.webaim.org/>