<UofL Research and Innovation Website>

Vision (Small Project)

Version <2.0>

Revision History

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| **Date** | **Version** | **Description** | **Author** |
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| 19//Feb/20 | 2.0 | Added economic argument spreadsheet | Joseph Baxter |

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# Introduction

The purpose of this document is to collect, analyze, and define high-level needs and features of the University of Louisville Research and Innovation websites. It focuses on the capabilities needed by the stakeholders and the target user, and why these needs exist. The details of how the University of Louisville Research and innovation fulfills these needs and are detailed in the use-case and supplementary specification.

## References

1.Problems statements

2.Business case

3.Feasibility consideration

4.As is model

5.To be model

6.Vision document

7. Agile story

8.Team charter

# Positioning

## Problem Statement

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| The problem of | The University of Louisville Office of Research and Innovations is currently running and operating on a system with limited capabilities that lacks its ease of use which includes, information overload, spending statistics and inactive social media accounts. |
| affects | Student, Faculty and Staff. |
| the impact of which is | Lack of ease of use between the data and the users |
| a successful solution would be | Development of an organized website with a simple and fast processing methodology. |

## Product Position Statement

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| For | Students, Faculty, Staff and Researchers |
| Who | Can benefit from the new implemented organized |
| The (product name) | University of Louisville Office of Research and Innovation Website |
| That | Will benefit from our organized design |
| Unlike | Having website that includes difficulty of use and information overload |
| Our product | Will include simple methodology for ease of use, which will allow our stakeholders to benefit from our organized web design. |

# Stakeholder and User Descriptions

## Stakeholder Summary

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name Name** | **Description** | **Responsibilities** |
| Students | Student users who are interested in learning more about, or volunteering for research and innovation projects | Student needs will help shape the site into being more user friendly as well as determining site content |
| Researchers | Research staff who use the site to access systems | Researcher needs will shape the site into being more user friendly as well as determining site content |
| Staff | R&I staff, including non-researchers | Faculty will monitor project progress and help decide the final design and provide content |
| Community | Larger body of individuals who gather information from the site | Community needs will help shape site content; different communities will result in different types of content being presented |
| Administrators | High level employees | Approves product design. |

## User Summary

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Description** | **Responsibilities** | **Stakeholder** |
| Students | UofL students who wish to know more | No direct responsibilities, but their needs help shape the website | Students |
| Researchers | Research and Innovations staff directly associated with projects | Help Provide content for site | Researchers |
| Staff | Those in charge of the site | Requested system, provide content and information, monitor project progress. | Staff |
| Community | Internal and external communities | Drive revenues, target customers | Community |

## User Environment

Main time sink of the site is editing content to match current state of Research and Innovation Projects and potential grants or opportunities. Exact amount of time spent making these edits cannot be ascertained, however it is our goal to reduce these times.

Site mainly needs to work on desktop versions of popular web browsers, a mobile version is not a high priority.

Current Content management system is Plone, however, the site currently does not employ a payment management system.

## Summary of Key Stakeholder or User Needs

* · Issue of a lack of navigational ability on the website due to poor organization and structuring. The solution would be to redesign and organize the website to make it more accessible for user which also aligns with the desired stakeholder solution.
* Issue regarding a lack of a Payment Management System as when the site was constructed the implementation of a PMS was forgone. This solution would be solved by finding a PMS that integrates well with our CMS and would solve the stakeholder’s desire to incorporate a way to handle money through the site.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Need** | **Priority** | **Concerns** | **Current Solution** | **Proposed Solutions** | |
| Reorganization of website | High | Lack of organization causes user issues | No actions have currently been taken towards solving this issue | | Restructure and reorganize the website to enhance navigation and usability |
| Institution of Payment Management System (PMS) | Medium | Lack of method of handling monetary transactions for website | No actions have been taken currently to address this issue | | Find a PMS that is compatible with our CMS and integrate it into the website to allow payment management |

## Alternatives and Competition

* Stakeholders may choose to go with a design produced by our colleagues. Perhaps the design of the other teams meets their business goals more effectively. However, all teams are working off the same information so true differences between them cannot be seen until further along in the process.
* Stakeholders may decide to maintain the website as is, however this would mean ignoring the problems the website has in favor of the status quo.
* Stakeholders may decide to go with an external entity to have the website redesigned. The site would have a greater chance of meeting their business goals, but this outcome would be significantly more costly.

# Product Overview

## Product Perspective

The system would be very similar to other Research and Innovation websites from universities across the nation. It would also offer many of the same services and information that they would, but only related to the R&I department at UofL. It would consist of a content management system and a payment system that enables the website to compete with other schools in terms of usability and function.

## Assumptions and Dependencies

It would be assumed that users find the current R&I website frustrating. That is why many of the suggested changes are being brought forward. Those at R&I want a functional website that is easy to navigate and fits the theme of “research and innovation” and “cutting edge.”

# Product Features

* Allows faculty and others to find available grants in an easy way. Will have a section dedicated to funding and grants with all the relevant information stored there as well so it’s accessible.
* Allows users to find other people and departments to collaborate with. A section or form that lists people with the relevant contact information to facilitate partnerships and collaborations.
* Allows for donations/grants. Payment system will allow people to make the grants and donations easily. It won’t be hidden anywhere or hard to find.
* Forms that are available to be filled out and submitted in one place
* It will contain a social media widget. This will show recent posts and updates made across different social media platforms, most likely on the landing page. It’s a simple way of plugging the R&I social media accounts to any users that may come across the website.
* Overall navigation that’s simple and easy to follow. No unnecessary links and information scattered all over the place. Should quickly facilitate users to where they want to go.

# Other Product Requirements

* Would have to meet the physical appearance requirements. School colors only and all the other appropriate branding.
* A content management system to build and host the website.
* A payment system to take care of grants
* Meet any of the technical standards that are required of the website

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# Economic Argument

These spreadsheets lay out the economic feasibility of the project using real numbers. The costs and benefits are laid out and totaled over the course of five years and adjusted for inflation. The spreadsheets are for Low, High and realistic expectations.





