

Star Website Prototype Todo

4/1/2014

Star Home Page Prototype Revisions

Header

I like the gray background on the menu bar. I would prefer the page to not extend infinitely to the right, but instead be a set width and have the page centered in the browser window.

I would like to see 'Contact', 'Feedback', and 'Donate' just in black all caps, but not in bold. I see them in regular, not bold, font, but not in all caps. Done

I would like to increase the spacing around the star logo. The left side of the star logo should align with the 'About' in the menu.

Overall Formatting

I think we should play around with a shadow or a horizontal line underneath the menu bar and above the footer - like in StarCellBio - to divide the top and bottom of the page from the information in the center. I like it! What do you think?

Looks good

I would like to increase the left margin on the About StarCellBio text and increase the right margin for the information on the right side on both the second level pages and home page. Need clarification I can show you. I was just trying to say that I would like there to be margins around the text in the sections that appear underneath the hero images on the home page and second level pages. I'm referring to the left margin of the left section of text and the right margin on the right section of text, in particular.

Done

I think that the 'A' in "About Star" (in the left section of text) should align with the left side of the STAR logo in the hero image. This size of margin would be good for the left margin of the left section and the right margin of the right section of text. I think it would also match the margins near the center vertical dividing line. But if it doesn't, then all the margins should align with one another. These margins also apply to the text on the second level page. Done

We need to decide whether we will use 'star' or 'STAR'. The logo for all of the programs uses 'star'. This means that it should be 'About STAR' in the menu and in the text on the home page as well as 'STAR tools:', and 'STAR in the circles under the hero image. Group decision, not in the header, make it all caps This looks good for now and we can decide as a group whether we should use 'STAR' or 'star'. Although the "STAR" text in the circle below the hero image needs to be a little smaller. Why don't we use the asterisk image from the star logo instead of

'STAR' text?

Done

We need to make sure that 'Software Tools for Academics and Researchers' is always visible on the homepage. While I imagine that it will be present in the description of star in the hero image, this will not be visible as users scroll through the programs. Any ideas as to where to place this? one idea is that we can write in 'Software Tools for Academics and Researchers' next to the star logo at the top of the page. Jamie gave us the font that we would need to use. Although I worry that this will make the header too busy. **Keep as is for now**

Can you add a very fine gray border line around the hero images (on the home page and the second level page) as well as around the sub-menu (on the second-level page). I see the line around the hero images, but not around the menu on the left side of the second level page.

Done

I think that we need to differentiate the background color of the web browser window from the background color for the main portion of the STAR website. Can you make the background color of the web browser window (everything outside of the star website) an even lighter shade of gray? Done **I think this shade of gray looks great, but now I think there needs to be a slight left margin of this background gray on the left side of the menu (on a second level page)**
Done

Homepage

I think that the text in the 'About STAR' section on the homepage is slightly higher than the text in the 'Who we are' section on the right.

Footer

We will need to review the MIT branding requirements. MIT is very specific as to how the logo is used - for example spacing around the logo and also size in comparison to other logos. The website is here: <http://web.mit.edu/graphicidentity/index.html>. If we would like, we can play around with the colors in the MIT logo as long as they contrast sufficiently. Are there requirements about the height of the MIT logo in comparison to the height of the ODL logo? It looks a little off balance to me right now since the ODL logo is bigger.

There aren't clear rules on this (just that they should be close and have equal focus), but I did make the two logos of equal height

We may need to add in our street address here and/or the OEIT logo. I'm not sure about this - we should check before you add it in. No street address, add in Contact window under About Star. Also what about the Contact icon at the top of the page? Does this provide our contact information, including email address,

street address, etc?

I thought this would be a form where they can directly contact, but it could also be a link to the Contact page. Functionality is not necessary for this prototype, only layout and color.

Is the footer wider than the header? If so, can you resize it to match the header?

Done

The shadow near the footer seems more prominent than the header's shadow.

Can you reduce the "height" of the shadow slightly?

Done

Second-level page

Can you add the image that we have on the StarCellBio homepage as the hero image on the second level example page (for StarCellBio) so we can see what it looks like?

I think that we should use the green and blue colors in the star logo for the start and download buttons. Or we can use the green and blue from the StarCellBio program as we know that they pass accessibility restrictions. I like the green/blue from StarCellBio (that you chose) as we know that they pass accessibility requirements.

Done

I like how you have outlined the selected menu item on the second level page. I think that this highlighting color should either be the blue from StarCellBio or the blue in the star logo. Alternatively, it could be dark gray because we won't want the blue in the sub-menu to be confused with the Download button. I like the dark gray. Can you extend the gray bar to match the left and right sides of the white menu section?

Done

Convert the text in the Start & Download buttons to all caps. Can you decrease the font size so that the margins are bigger between the text and the outline of the button?

Done

Increase the left margin of the items in the sub-menu to align with the left side of 'About' in the menu. Need clarification I think you did it. The left side of the menu items aligns with the "A" in "About STAR"

Done

The section in the lower right of this page still looks quite sparse. What happens if we add in 1-2 lines of text to fill in this area. For example: 'StarCellBio is a free, web-based experiment simulator that runs on standard Mac, Windows and Linux computers. StarCellBio is available at starcellbio.mit.edu' (Then you could have

the "START NOW" button that links you directly to the StarCellBio homepage. No download button is needed.) OR 'StarBiochem is a free Java application that is available in two formats, either the Java quick-start or downloadable formats. StarBiochem runs on standard Mac, Windows and Linux computers.' I think we should also have a 'See more >>' link at the end of the text if users would like more information before downloading the application. The "See more" text should be the same size and font as the rest of the text, just be in bold and green.
Done

What would the sub-menu items look like in all caps? Would they still be readable if we have to size them down to fit on one line? I don't see these menu items in all caps. It is in the second version of the second screen - I definitely prefer the all caps version. I think the sub-menu items under About STAR should also in all caps. Done

Can you extend the right side of the menu on the left side of the second level pages to reduce the amount of spacing between the menu and the hero image? The spacing between the menu and the hero image should be comparable to that between the top of the menu and the bottom of the top menu bar. Just so you know, it seems like the longest current menu item is in StarCluster and says "Bugs and Features Requests". We need to make sure that the menu accommodates the largest menu items. It does Another option is to increase the size of the left menu bar and increase the size of the hero image. This would require adjusting the text appropriately too. Done, and the largest StarCluster text does fit.