

Competitive Analysis

Main Navigation

MIT	UC Merced	U of Oklahoma	Stanford	UMass
about	About	Academics	About Stanford	About
admissions	Admissions	About OU	Admission	Visit Campus
education	Academics	Admissions and Aid	Academics	Admissions
research	Research	Athletics	Research	Academics
community	Campus Life	Life at OU	Campus Life	Student Life
life@MIT		News and Events		Research
initiatives		Outreach		Arts
impacts		Campus Safety		Athletics
		Research		Community
				Give

Top Level Navigation Count

Element	Count
About	XXXXX
Admissions	XXXXX
Research	XXXXX
Campus Life	XXXXX
Community	XX
Academics	XXXXX
Athletics	XX

News and Events	X
Arts	X
Impacts	X
Safety	X
Donate	X
Outreach	X

Of these 5 websites, we found the the most commonly used topics were About, Admissions, Research, Campus Life, and Academics. It's safe to say that using these same 5 topics would be a good idea for our redesign. However, we decided not to have the About but still have the other 4. "Admissions" is necessary for those that wish to apply to the school (we would have at least both graduate and undergraduate links). "Research" is vital to those interested in what the university has had breakthroughs and development in and is important those looking into doing research at or with the university. "Campus Life" gives relevant information to either prospective students and current students on the happenings and culture around campus and student life. And lastly, "Academics" would have all the information about the different programs, majors, minors, etc. at the school.

User Types

MIT	UC Merced	U of Oklahoma	Stanford	UMass
Students	Students	Future Students	Students	Future Students
Faculty	Faculty	Current Students	Faculty/Staff	Current Students
Staff	Staff	Parents	Parents	International
Alumni	Alumni	Faculty & Staff	Alumni	Faculty and Staff
	Parents	Alumni & friends		Alumni

User Types Count

User Type	MIT	UC Merced	U of Oklahoma	Stanford	UMass	Total Count
Students	x	x	x	x	x	5
Future Students			x		x	2
Current Students			x		x	2
Faculty	x	x	x	x	x	5
Faculty & Staff (grouped together)			x	x	x	3
Staff	x	x	x	x	x	5
Alumni	x	x	x	x	x	5
Parents		x	x	x		3
International					x	1

The top 4 user types with the most counts (5) is Students, Faculty, Staff, and Alumni. And so these were the 4 that we chose as the user types to be represented in our redesign.

Other Main Labels

MIT	UC Merced	U of Oklahoma	Stanford	UMass
Visiting	Students	Future Students	Students	Future Students
Maps	Faculty	Current Students	Faculty / Staff	Current Students
Undergrad	Staff	Alumni & Friends	Parents	International
Graduate	Alumni	Parents	Alumni	Faculty and Staff
lab+center	Parents	Faculty & Staff		Continuing Education
Students	Academic			Alumni

	Calendar			
Faculty	Maps			
	About			
	Admissions			
	Academics			
	Research			

We also thought about what other main labels we could use and decided that the campus map as well as the index (directory) of the main site are important labels to have. The map is useful for those who are visiting the campus and also to students who are looking for certain buildings and areas. The index is also really useful for navigating throughout the website and for looking specific things up. We want to put these two resources next to the search bar since it falls under a similar category.

Homepage Concepts

<u>MIT</u>	<u>UC Merced</u>	<u>U of Oklahoma</u>	<u>Stanford</u>	<u>UMass</u>
News	Featured News	News	Top Stories	News
Events	Events Calendar	Tweets	At Stanford	Events
Today's image	Research Highlights	Facebook	Events	Stay Connected
Give to MIT	Video Spotlight	OU Location	Athletics	Popular Now
Today's Spotlight				

<u>Concept</u>	<u>Count</u>
News	5
Events	4
Social Media	2
Topic Highlights	3

We think that the home page should have some sort of news as well as an events calendar, but that the social media doesn't have to be explicit and can just be seen in the bottom footer that would be on every page.