Evaluated Websites
www.vaclavsmil.com
www.sleepdiplomat.com

Compare and Contrast
Both sites are clean, simple, and straightforward. Both are well designed overall with a few minor issues and one major issue. Both sites appear to leverage website creation software in some form. The main differences between the two sites involve the presentation. The first website (www.vaclavsmil.com) is very clean and professional in appearance. It does an excellent job conveying the authors expertise and knowledge. However, it offers little media content and may appear uninteresting to some users. The second website (www.sleepdiplomat.com) uses a more dynamic approach, offering a modern design with a background and objects that promote the main subject. The site does an excellent job of conveying the authors expertise, but may come off as a less professional. Both sites did not do a good job of placing contact information. In contrast, I believe the first site could have been improved by adding more media, and the second website could have improved by implementing more simplified or professional design.

Strengths and Weaknesses
Both sites performed well in providing clean and easy to use navigation. However, the second web page suffered from having a home page that lacked any information and would have been better utilized a transition to content or, removal from navigation as there was no reason to return to the page. The second website also suffered from some of the links not working correctly (sending the user to test.com) or showing text as a hyperlink but not being active. The first website suffered from the necessity of scrolling to view content on several pages, something the second website avoided which aided its design. Other weaknesses for the first website include: inconsistent page titles, no alt tags in images, and no dates displayed when updating content. Weaknesses for the second website include: poor contrast between the background and hyperlinked text, no clear information on website updates, and obfuscated contact information. I could not find any issues with spelling, grammar, accessibility, or failure/issues with loading or viewing media on either website.

Scenarios

User 1 general information seeker:

In this scenario the user has general information interests in myself (such as a student, or peer) or the subject of Microsoft Access. They may have found the website through a general search or a business card. The general user lands on the home page and is given a brief overview about myself using text and images. The user is presented with a navigation bar at the top of the page, and below the header. The user clicks the Bio link which is the first option in the navigation bar. The link provides a CV with details about my work. After reviewing the information, the user clicks the link for the Projects page using the same navigation bar. This page contains a brief explanation of my current and past projects with external links to outside pages such as the items page on Amazon.com or the event website or publishers page. This page may also contain embedded media if applicable. The user then clicks the last link of the navigation bar

"Contact". The page provides a simple email form with a side bar containing external links to my LinkedIn and school instructor page. The user clicks my LinkedIn hyperlink, views my profile, then navigates away from both pages.

User 2 hiring agent:

In this scenario the user is interested in reviewing my information and reaching out to contact me about a job or event. The user lands on the home page and is given a brief overview about myself using text and images. The user is presented with a navigation bar at the top of the page, and below the header. The user clicks the Bio link which is the first option in the navigation bar. The link provides a CV with details about my work. After reviewing the information, the user clicks the link for the Projects page using the same navigation bar. This page contains a brief explanation of my current and past projects with external links to outside pages such as the items page on Amazon.com or the event website or publishers page. The user clicks several of these links which open in new tabs. After a quick review, the user closes these tabs and proceeds to click the last link of the navigation bar "Contact". The user email hyperlink opening their default email client with my email address inserted. The user completes their inquiry, sends the email, then navigates away from the site.

Jennifer Boren commented:

Hello, Ian. You've provided a thorough review of the websites and I understand your perspectives. I agree that the strengths of www.vaclavsmil.com include highlighting expertise and coming across as clean and professional. I did notice the copyright date showed 2018 which makes it seem relatively up to date. Also, the rightmost column on the home page contains dates so that is also helpful. I liked how the author categorized his books into pre-1990 and post. You make a good point about potentially requiring too much scrolling and I think this is a top area for improvement.

Regarding www.sleepdiplomat.com, I found the home page very boring - even making me wonder how recent the site is and if it's even active. But, when digging into the site, I did see why you said it was dynamic, modern and showcased the author's expertise. The images really do make the pages more interesting. It is very easy to get back home at any time.

Like you, I found it interesting that neither author provided contact information. You would think they'd both want to make it easy for visitors to reach out to them.