

Working towards compliance: digital projects + accessibility

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Digital Accessibility at Kent State

- What is Digital Accessibility?
- Why is Digital Accessibility important?
- Kent State approach
 - EIT Policy (impacts staff, faculty, 3rd party vendors)
 - Website compliance (standards/remediation/monitoring)
 - Training and development (faculty and staff)
 - Procurement review (evaluation of products, Voluntary Product Accessibility Templates)
 - Digital content creation and remediation (Administrative and Academic)
 - Support and resources
- Campus partnerships

SAS meets Digital Projects

- Identifying knowledge gap & seek education
 - Reach out to those at the institution, or in the area with skill sets
 - Identify training opportunities locally/virtually
 - Ask for assistance when you need it
 - Hands on working sessions were an invaluable in-house asset from SAS and IS departments

Baking accessibility into project

- Changing mindset
 - Moving from thinking about accessibility as a problem/chore to ingraining into existing production workflow
- Address additional staff/student needs involved with accessibility processes

Pilot

- At KSU, we started with a student media publication of a project that was in the digitization queue
 - Start small- Baby steps!
 - Start easy vs. hard (Heavy graphics/historic media vs. more simple layout & design)
 - (Mind you, I did not follow any of my own advice...)

Nuts and Bolts

- Working accessibility into workflow
 - Text: Adobe Acrobat
 - Full version of Adobe needed
 - Audio: Piloting transcription services and comparison
 - Happy Scribe (automated) vs. the Unhappy Scribe (unautomated)
 - Video
 - 3play (subscription service integrated with Kaltura)

PDF Remediation

- Identify tasks
 - At KSU, we separated out work for students vs. staff/faculty
 - Student accessibility tasks: Tag document; Alt-text; Title
 - Staff level: Color contrast; Bookmarks; Tables (if present); Assign Reading Order

Next steps: Looking ahead

- How to address the existing content in digital collections?
- Accessibility decisions that impact content design/editorial aspects?
- Funds for outside vendors to complete accessibility remediation?
- And lastly, identify limitations within current staffing models

Resources

- Kent State University Digital Accessibility: <http://www.kent.edu/ict>
- AHEAD (Association on Higher Ed and Disability): Webinars (\$\$) + resources <https://www.ahead.org/events-programming/webinars>
- W3C (World Wide Web Consortium): Standards, practices + more <https://www.w3.org/>
 - WCAG 2.0 <https://www.w3.org/WAI/intro/wcag>
- VPAT (Voluntary Product Accessibility Template): <https://www.itic.org/policy/accessibility/vpat>

Thank you!!

Questions/Comments?

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