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Final Project Report

This project turned out to be very close to a "real-world' experience. Upon contact with the sun dome staff, it was explained to us that currently there was not anyone assigned to managing the website. This task was one function of a position that was not filled at the time, so there was really no one in charge of updating the site.

After meeting with the acting administrator, we were basically given 'full reign' to modify the site as we saw fit. Of course it was made clear that any changes would be implemented only for our project, and the sun dome staff would review the changes for potential 'live' implementation. The staff also said they might consider a complete web site revision if they liked what we did.

One element that made this, in our opinion, a 'real-life' experience, was that due to the staffing constraints, we really did not have a true "client' to work with. We were however, promised by the interim administrator that we would be furnished with the latest graphics and content that was intended to be used for the 'real' web site revisions. We wanted to incorporate these in to our initial modifications, but there were unforeseen delays obtaining the new material and difficulties reaching our contact. We could have almost predicted that as soon as our revisions were complete, our contact reached us and we were provided the new material.

Due to the timing constraints of this project and the extensive revisions that would have been required, we opted not to include any of the client's new material in the final web site design. Most of our revisions were derived from our colleagues' feedback on the rubrics we received. Below is a description of the items that were revised:

- ➢ 'ALT' text was added to all the graphics on all pages to improve accessibility.
- ➢ We added disclaimers to all non-functioning elements of the site. This was to indicate to users (peer reviewers) that the element was purposely left inoperable due to project constraints.
- ➢ We received some feedback regarding browser compatibility issues (primarily with Mozzila Firefox), but after we investigated this, we did not feel there were any significant changes that would improve compatibility.
- ➢ The content in the 'upcoming events' page was modified to allow appropriate resizing.
- ➢ In the 'Venu Info' page, typos were corrected. Also, the overall content of the page was reviewed and then reorganized and condensed to achieve higher standards of readability.

- ➤ There was mention of an issue with one link from the home page (events) that opened in a separate window while others opened in the same window. This was corrected so that the 'event' page now opens in the same window – consistent with all other links.
- ➤ It was also mentioned that there was no 'home' link on the home page. Samantha and David both agreed that this is not necessary, but to improve the users' ability to know what page they are on throughout the site, we incorporated a 'home' link on the home page, but made the link static when on the home page. We also modified links on the other pages to do the same. Now, whatever page you are on, the link to that page becomes a highlighted static button – all others remain active. This improves the users' ability to know which page they are on, and, at the same time, provides for the navigation buttons to be consistent from one page to another.
- ➤ Lastly, it was also recommended that the 'photos' and 'directions' page content be modified for resizing. This was done, but only to a limited extent due to the size constraints of the images.

Overall, this proved to be a good learning experience in both web page design and experiencing the trials and tribulations of working on a 'real-world' type project.