ACCESSIBILITY

Another Piece of the Puzzle

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Building an Accessibility Initiative

What pieces of the puzzle do you start with?

1) Understanding the Business Cases and Requirements of projects;

2) Regular meetings with the key players working on the projects;

3) Create easy-to-use documentation to help ease accessibility into the project.

4) Build testing into the processes that are already being used, rather than creating new work.

5) Be a support to the key players as well as manage the overall progress of the overall project.

Working Together

- Understanding the people you work with, the hurdles in which they may run into and finding common solutions that benefit multiple areas.

- Accessibility
- Mobile Design
- SEO
- Universal Design
- ESL

Document areas from various groups to create a Bridge Document showing where accessibility can be achieved versus areas of difficulty and why.

Roles and Responsibilities

It is never just one person's job to ensure accessibility

- Accessibility Support helps to outline roles and responsibilities within accessibility.

  - An Accessibility Group, Guidelines, Consistent Communication with Key Stakeholders, etc.

- Upper Management support.

- Defined requirements through policy and procedure.

- Overall support of an Accessibility Plan.

- Hands-on Individuals (Developers, Content Managers, etc.) need consistent communication to create accessible projects .

Breaking down information is always helpful

Web Accessibility

Your Roles and Responsibilities ▼

- **Research and Academic Faculty**

- **Web Developers/Content Managers**

- **Administrative Staff**

- **Purchasing and Procurement**

- **Students**

Web Accessibility Testing
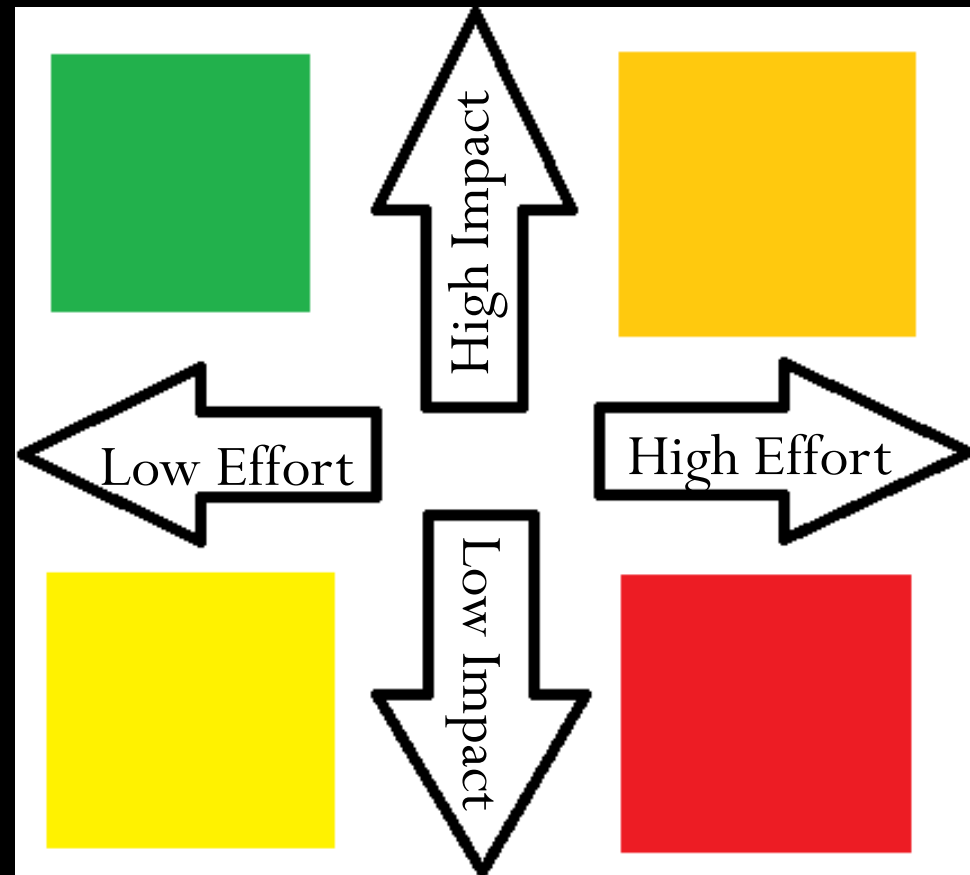
Your Roles and Responsibilities

Everyone in the Mason community has some responsibility when it comes to accessible web content. The role of the ATI is to help you understand what your part is and to work collaboratively with units throughout the University to provide resources and training. Our responsibility is to hold ourselves accountable to the standards in which we ask the Mason community to follow regarding web content and documents. Our goal is to provide a university-wide awareness of what web accessibility is and how it may affect yourself, a student or a co-worker.

High Impact/High Priority

The higher the impact the higher the priority.

Finding low effort areas
that also have a high impact
are essential for easy wins.

While working on some of the
high impact, high effort areas
may be more long term projects.

Areas of Accessibility

Training and Awareness

Policy and Procurement

Websites and Applications

Examples of Accessibility in Higher Education

- Web Compliance
  - Ex: NC State Global Accessibility Awareness Day Website Challenge
- Policy
  - Ex: Example policies in higher education
- Procurement
  - Ex: George Mason University Procurement – ASC Review Board
- Training/Awareness
  - Ex: University of Wisconsin-Madison Web Accessibility 101
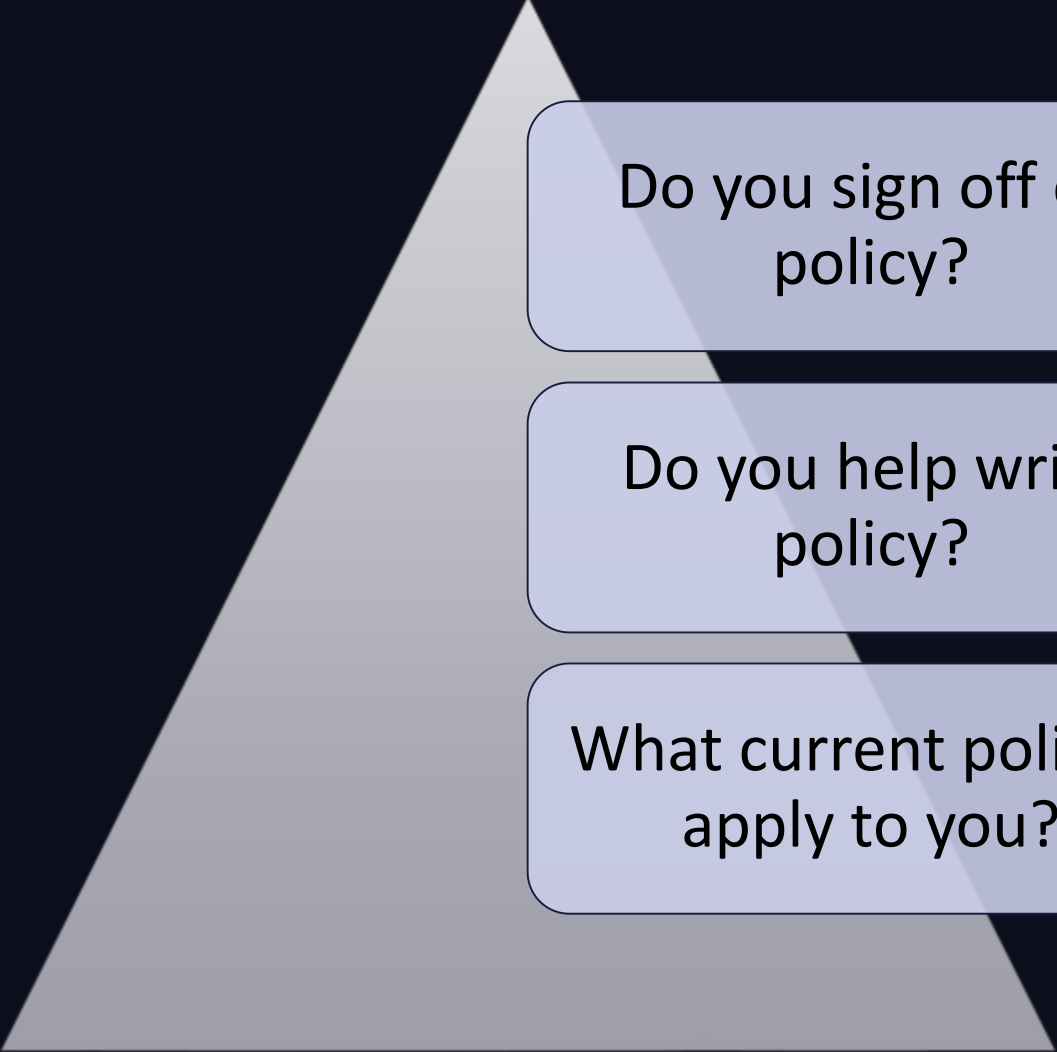- Buy-In
  - Ex: Are you the next example?

Web Compliance

- Accessibility of websites
- Content
- Documents
- Videos
- Applications
- E-learning

Policy

Do you sign off on policy?

Do you help write policy?

What current policies apply to you?

Procurement

Do you sign off on purchases?

Do you make suggestions for purchases?

Do you participate in RFP or other contract meetings?

Training and Awareness

What does accessibility mean to you?

If you'd ask coworkers what accessibility meant, how many different answers would you hear?

When we share knowledge – we can all have a better understanding of accessibility.

Buy-In

High Level Support

- Communication
- Consistent Language
- Accessibility Support