

Monday Matters - Website Redesign & Migration

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To: Dodge, Gail <gdodge@odu.edu>

Cc: Whitfield, Tiffany L. <twhitfi@odu.edu>

Dear Colleagues:

Tiffany Whitfield, the strategic communications and market coordinator for the College of Sciences, has provided an update for us on the Website Redesign and Migration.

You may have noticed a new look on the main website homepage for ODU as well as for the College of Sciences. Tiffany and our college web liaison prepared for our college (which is the only college) to be included in the first migration to the new website redesign. After delays and lots of consolidating and updating pages, the new redesign launched on October 31. Our new website, along with 29 other websites, now resides on Drupal, moving us away from Adobe Experience Manager (AEM).

Drupal was selected as the new platform because it is a growing Content Management System in the higher-education community with many institutions like Stanford, Duke, Arizona State, Oregon State, Harvard, Chicago, Yale, and Ohio State currently using it. The University Communications Digital Team and the ITS Web Support Team will be assisting each unit in planning their migration, constructing their site navigation, as well as training then to use Drupal.

We hope the new look will improve the first interaction with ODU for prospective students and their families. The redesign is more modern and accessible – it is mobile first, and responsive to our target audience.

NEW WEBSITE OVERVIEW:

- The list of sites included in the initial launch are listed here: [Wave 1](#).
- You can view the new looks to be included in each Wave on this site: [Website Redesign Project Website](#).
- Regardless of when your unit's pages are migrated, the entire website will receive an exciting face-lift!
 - New header, footer, and side navigation on all pages of the odu.edu website
 - A brand new Mega menu
 - Updated site-specific side navigation menus

YOU CAN ENSURE WEB USERS SEE THE NEWEST PAGES:

- When you copy and share the URL for your web pages, **please leave off the [www./ww1](#)**. that comes before the "odu." Get in the habit of sharing only the odu.edu and everything that follows. This is because our website will live on two content management systems (CMS) until all waves have been migrated to our new Drupal website (summer 2023).
 - EXAMPLE: If the URL in the address bar is <https://www.odu.edu/admission>, moving forward you would only share [odu.edu/admission](#).

YOU CAN HELP TO UPDATE INFORMATION:

- Update any and all outdated information
- Confirm that personal information on your [Directory Page](#) is correct and up to date. If it isn't, make updates using [Monarch Profile Manager](#).

As the web team/ITS, digital team, and Tiffany work through each wave/phase you will be given ample notice as to when the departments and any entities tied to the College of Sciences will prepare to launch onto Drupal.

Best Regards,

Gail

Upcoming Events:

- Science Fridays: 4 pm in PSB 1100
 - Nov. 11: Sandipan Dutta (Math & Stat) & Jeff Olenick (Psych)
- Opportunity Networking Event (research, internship, and volunteer opportunities)
 - Nov. 9, 11 am – 3 pm, Big Blue Room in the Chartway Arena
- College of Sciences Holiday Party: Dec. 8, 12 – 2 pm, Big Blue Room in the Chartway Arena

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