Incorporating Digital Accessibility with Project Management in Jira

Presented by Ann Greazel, Sarah Carney and Angela McMahon
Our team.
Let’s meet.

Ann Greazel
Project Manager

Angela McMahon
Developer

Sarah Carney
Front-end Developer
A little bit about BIT.

We are a small team of excellent people.

www.biology-it.iastate.edu/
Our work.

We build websites using Drupal.

What is Drupal?
Drupal is content management software that is secure, flexible, modular and open source.

www.biology-it.iastate.edu/
Our work.

Our code makes up a platform called Luggage.

What is Luggage?
Luggage is website code that uses Drupal as a base, which includes features specific to academic websites.

GitHub and website example
Our work.

Find us on GitHub

Iowa State University - Biology IT
Example of a Luggage website
Our work.

**Features**
- Blog
- Events
- News
- People profiles
- Podcasts
- Projects
- Resources
- Video

**Highlights**
- WCAG 2.0 AA compliant
- Responsive
- Faceted search
- Scaleable

Let’s learn more.

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**Iowa State University**
Biology Information Technology

[www.biology-it.iastate.edu/](http://www.biology-it.iastate.edu/)
Our work.

Illustration of a blog feature.

A single blog post becomes part of a team blog.

And an individual blog, automatically.
Today’s topics.

1. Steps to raise accessibility awareness
2. How to include documentation in Jira
3. How to encourage team motivation
Awareness

Discovery.
Individual awareness.
Team awareness.
Discovery

Where were you?

• Personal experiences with barriers?
• Curiosity in your area of expertise?
• Part of your training?
• Requirement at work?

The beginning of our story.
A mentor empowers a person to see a possible future, and believe it can be obtained.

- Shawn Hitchcock
Discovery

Our mentor.

Dr. Zayira Jordan
Web Accessibility Coordinator
Iowa State University
digitalaccess.iastate.edu
## Individual Awareness

### Resources

WUHCCAG Checklist: wuhcag.com

**WCAG 2.0 checklist Level AA (Intermediate)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guideline</th>
<th>Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.2.4 - Captions (Live)</td>
<td>Live videos have captions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.5 - Audio Description (Pre-recorded)</td>
<td>Users have access to audio description for video content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4.3 - Contrast (Minimum)</td>
<td>Contrast ratio between text and background is at least 4.5:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4.4 - Resize Text</td>
<td>Text can be resized to 200% without loss of content or function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4.5 - Images of Text</td>
<td>Don’t use images of text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4.5 - Multiple Ways</td>
<td>Offer several ways to find pages</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Individual Awareness

Resources
Section 508: section508.gov
Individual Awareness

Community

- Colleagues, internal and external
- Drupal Slack #accessibility channel
- Central Iowa Drupal Users Group
- UX Meet-up - Des Moines, IA
Team Awareness

Everyone on the team contributes

• Back-end developers
• Front-end developers
• Designers
• Site builders
• Project managers
• Clients
• End users
Accessibility is a team effort.

Developers
create accessible foundations.
Accessible code is clean.
- Enable keyboard navigation
- Code accessible forms
- Provide image alt text field

Designers
create accessible visible experiences.
Accessible design is beautiful.
- Design legible text
- Plan for mobile devices
- Implement clear navigation

Creators
create accessible pages, media, and data.
Accessible design is inclusive.
- Use meaningful headings
- Provide text versions of media
- Create contextual links

www.biology-it.iastate.edu/
End Users access websites through a variety of means.

Accessible websites benefit all users.

• Use different devices and tech
• Have diverse needs
• Are all equally worth building for
Team Awareness

Everyone on the team participates

• Campus presentations
• Webinars
• In-person trainings
Team Awareness

A note about involvement

• Small steps add up quickly
• Take each step gradually
• To be a change agent, the team must take a breath and believe in themselves
• Share as you learn, don’t wait
• There is always going to be more to learn
Documentation

Workflow.
Jira.
Process.
What is Jira?
Jira is a project management system (ticketing system) that includes developer-specific features.

Let’s look at an example of a Jira ticket.
https://www.atlassian.com/software/jira
### Jira ticket example

**DB / D8-120**

**Page Requirement: Image captions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type: Communication</th>
<th>Status: UNRESOLVED (View workflow)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority: Major</td>
<td>Resolution: Unresolved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Component/s: None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labels: None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epic Link: Page</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sprint: BIT Sprint 6-29-2017, D8 Sprint for DEMO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope: Scope 2: Requirements for Features (Lead: Ann Greazel)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effort Points: 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCAG 2.0 AA: 1.1 Text Alternatives, 1.4 Distinguishable, 3.1 Readable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**

- **Requirement**: Ability for site owners to add image captions.
- **Rationale**: Site owners would like to be able to add context to their images that are inserted on the page.

- **Requirement**: Ability for site owners to add links within image captions.
- **Rationale**: Ann prediction here: site owners will want to put a link in the caption because they may be highlighting a specific program or group, such as the “Learning Communities” on campus and would like to be able to link to more information on learning communities.

**Attachments**

- Drop files to attach, or browse.

**Time Tracking**

- Estimated: 1h
- Remaining: 1h
- Logged: Not Specified

**Development**

- Create branch

**Agile**

- Active sprint: BIT Sprint for DEMO ends 16/Nov/17
- Completed sprint: BIT Sprint 6-29-2017 ended 06/Jul/17
Documentation

Jira ticket example

WCAG 2.0 AA

- [x] 1.1 Text Alternatives
- [ ] 1.2 Time-based Media
- [ ] 1.3 Adaptable
- [x] 1.4 Distinguishable
- [ ] 2.1 Keyboard Accessible
- [ ] 2.2 Enough Time
- [ ] 2.3 Seizures
- [ ] 2.4 Navigable
- [x] 3.1 Readable
- [ ] 3.2 Predictable
- [ ] 3.3 Input Assistance
- [ ] 4.1 Compatible

Please select which standard(s) apply to this ticket.
To learn more about the AA standards visit: https://www.w3.org/WAI/WCAG20/quickref/?currentsidebar=%23col_customize&levels=aaa
Scope: Scope 2: Requirements for Features (Lead: Ann Greazel)

Effort Points: 2

WCAG 2.0 AA: 1.1 Text Alternatives, 1.4 Distinguishable, 3.1 Readable

Description

Requirement: Ability for site owners to add image captions.
Rationale: Site owners would like to be able to add context to their images that are inserted on the page.

Requirement: Ability for site owners to add links within image captions.
Rationale: Ann prediction here: site owners will want to put a link in the caption because they may be highlighting a specific program or group, such as the “Learning Communities” on campus and would like to be able to link to more information on learning communities.

Attachments

Drop files to attach, or browse.
Benefit to marking standards in tickets:

Notes in tasks about accessibility help save time later.
Benefit to marking standards in tickets:

Improve efficiency - easy to see other open tickets related to a standard.
Documentation

Benefit to marking standards in tickets:

Encourages team that it is okay to take time on a task for accessibility.
Documentation
Sharing information online

Accessibility - Color Contrast

When generating text using the colors above, it is also important to make sure that the color contrast is acceptable according to the WCAG 2.0 AA standard. To learn more about why this is important, visit section508.gov. To test a contrast ratio, you may use an online tool, such as the WebAIM Color Contrast Checker. Let’s take a look at some examples and see if they Pass or Fail for normal text.

PASS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Normal text</th>
<th>Normal text</th>
<th>Normal text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Background color: #cc0000</td>
<td>Background color: #006BA6</td>
<td>Background color: #524727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreground color: #ffffff</td>
<td>Foreground color: #ffffff</td>
<td>Foreground color: #ffffff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PASS</td>
<td>PASS</td>
<td>PASS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Motivation

Team.
Encouragement.
Knowledge.
Motivation

Leadership

- Encouraged collaboration by presenting
  - campus groups
  - local meet-ups
- Shared resources
- Stay connected with end users
  - usability studies
  - focus groups
Motivation

New Project
Create new sites for faculty members on campus

- Fresh start - allowed better possibilities
- Bigger potential audience
- Federal regulations
Motivation

New Project Development

• Great potential for utilizing Drupal 8
• Appreciate built-in accessibility
• Ability to contribute back
Motivation

The Work - jump start

• Ran websites through accessibility checkers
• Logged problems and solutions in ticketing system
• Fixed mistakes in our platform

The work made us seen as an example on campus
Motivation

Making Spaces

- Make time for the accessibility work
- Track inclusive code in a ticketing system
- Document website accessibility choices
- Highlight accomplishments
Motivation

Maintenance

• There’s always more work to do, but any progress improves accessibility
• Continue to work with mentors, other change agents and peers
• Incorporate accessibility checking into the development process, always
• Think about user experience
Take aways

1. Keep discovering.
2. Continue collaborating.

www.biology-it.iastate.edu/
Thank You
Find us at www.biology-it.iastate.edu/