

NCURA Region IV Website Task Force

Report to the Region IV Board, Spring 2011

Task Force Committee:

Kirsten Yehl, Northwestern University, Committee Chair

Patience Graybill, Southern Illinois University

Sue Kelch, University of Michigan

Amy Kitzman, Northwestern University

Report

Please find attached:

- a) Recommendation for general design of Region IV website
- b) Recommendation for new outline and navigation list
- c) Review of current host site and content management software along with two good alternatives.

In addition, the committee proposes:

- a) Facebook and twitter pages announced at the regional business meeting. Both are created and currently under construction.
- b) At the regional business meeting announce a contest to design banner image/graphic.
- c) The board creates a task force to review website content.
- d) The website task force remains active for 6 months through the website roll-out and transitions the new website to the communications committee.
- e) Rollout new website in fall.

General Design

Banner - change font, not in script. Redesign banner with new graphic. We'll announce contest to design banner image/graphic at the spring business meeting. (states should be prominent)

Use blue & gold colors (match region newsletter) as accent colors. Use other, more neutral colors (gray, green, tan) throughout the main areas of website

Need to take up a full page. Currently, the website only uses about half a page; everything is on the left side of the screen.

2 column format on home page (third column is left hand navigation).

Condense information with navigation.

Lefthand navigation

The top menu should only have **Home** and **sites to navigate away from** like the NCURA home web page. The exceptions could be **Search our Site** and **Calendar**. This would avoid confusion.

For the "navigate away" menu – have those open in a new window

Use more photos on all the pages. We have accumulated many photos and I think we could include many of these on the website, Sue would be happy to help with that. For example, we have photos of award winners and could put those with the award recipient web pages.

Sponsorship on meeting page

Newsletters: Communications committee is looking into different format options for the newsletter. (wordpress?)

White space—too much, but more images or some better use of central space would help

Text size—increase

General Navigation

Menu options on the left side. "drop out" links to the different menu options. Left Menu: good to keep this short and simple

Right column on home page: quick links for announcements, contact us, job postings, volunteering

Major sections/menu options

- Home
- Announcement & News
 - Current News/Announcements
 - Newsletter
 - News Archive

- Conferences
 - Upcoming Meetings
 - Previous Meetings
 - Meeting Minutes
- Awards/Honors
 - Current Call for Nominees
 - Current Recipients
 - Past Recipients
- Membership/Volunteer
 - Volunteer Opportunities
 - Become a member of NCURA
- About
 - About Region IV
 - Leadership
 - Committees
 - By-Laws (Governance)
 - Previous Committee Officers
 - Contact us
- Careers & Resources
 - Job Postings
 - How to post and remove a position
 - Professional development
 - Resources

Home Page

Rotating photos

Watermark map of the region

Center/top of home page: vision and goals of Region IV

Letter from the current president on top right, above calendar

Calendar of events & quick links in the right hand column

News and Announcements as a header to organize the information

Current Job Postings - quick link in righthand column to career page

Content Notes

Under membership: How to sign up for regional list-serve? (navigation issue?)

Links to NCURA TV

Seeking Consultants? (Match consultants page...biostatisticians, evaluators, research centers, etc.)

Keep information general enough that it doesn't have to be updated very often

Strategic plan (similar to region 6)

Biosketches of officers

Hosting Website	MONTHLY FEE	DISK SPACE	BANDWIDTH	EMAIL	DOMAIN	SECURITY SUITE	SITE BUILDING TOOLS	RELIABILITY	ONLINE STORE	YAHOO! & FACEBOOK MARKETING CREDITS	EXTRAS	SUPPORT
iPage	\$4.25/month	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Free	Free	Free Tools	Offers pooled servers	Free	Free	Powered by 100% by Wind Energy	24/7 via live chat, phone and email
FatCow	\$3.67/month	Free	Free	Free	Unlimited	Free	Free	Daily server backups	Free	Google \$50 credit/Facebook; Yahoo/Bing \$25 credit	Powered by 100% by Wind Energy; 30 day money back	Live Chat; toll free numbers
GoDaddy.com	\$4.99/month	10 GB	Unlimited	100				Own their own data centers and monitored around the clock				24/7 (but not toll free)
	\$7.99	150 GB	Unlimited	500								
	\$14.99	Unlimited	Unlimited	1000								

Hosting Website	PRICE VALUE	PERFORMANCE	RELIABILITY	CONTROL PANEL	CUSTOMER SUPPORT	USER FEEDBACK	TOTAL
iPage	9.5	9.5	9.5	8.5	9.5	9.5	94%
FatCow	9.5	9.5	9.5	9	9	9.5	92%
GoDaddy.com	8.5	8.5	9	8	8.5	8.5	85%