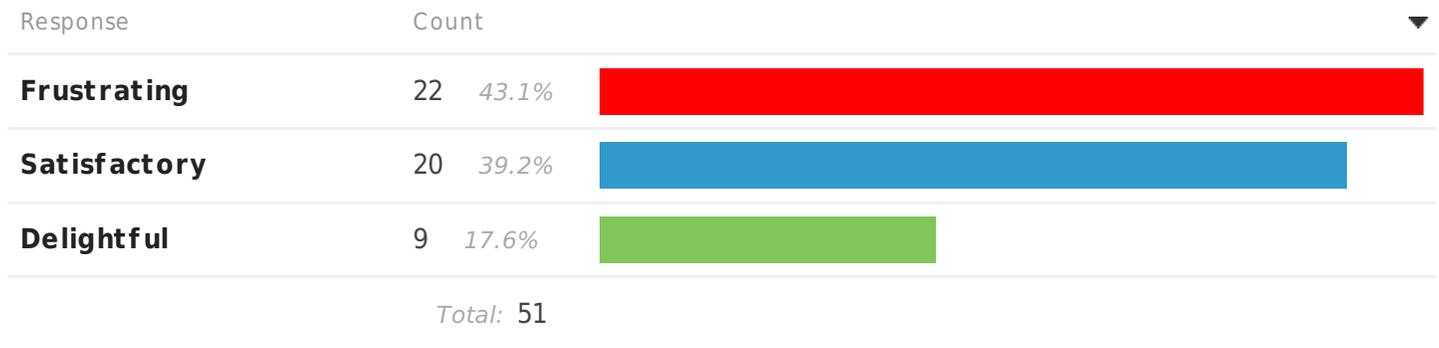


# alpha.usask.ca: Version 1

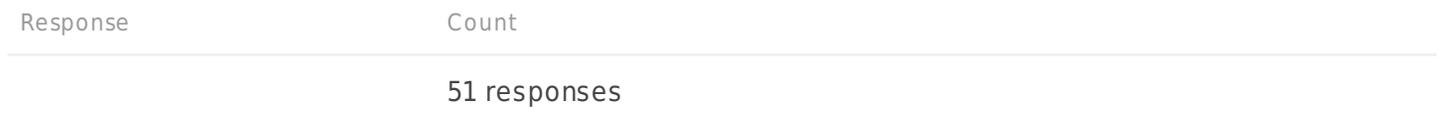
How would you rate your experience with alpha.usask.ca?

\* Filtered: v1



What would have made your experience better?

\* Filtered: v1



Would you like to provide any other feedback?

\* Filtered: v1



It was great as is

does feel very much like a landing page that I will visit just to go elsewhere. News is down so low that I didn't care about it. I'd rather see it above the About section.

On the current homepage, there is a link to the Library at the upper right. The link is gone on the alpha site. I'm not sure how people are supposed to find it without searching for it through the search box. Also people don't necessarily fall into neat boxes -- faculty don't necessarily want to see jobs and HR information, etc.

I had to scroll down to find the links. They were clear once I found them, but I am used to seeing them right away (like on the top of the page). I actually just click the link on the first banner at first because I thought it was one of those pages where you have to hit enter to enter (I don't like those pages), but then I realized I just had to scroll down, ha.

Analytics show that the Library is one of the top 5 reasons people visit the site - I don't see it on the homepage? As well, since so many students access library resources offsite, it should be available directly from the homepage. Why make them go a level deeper?

As a staff member, I frequently use "Class Search" under students on the existing site. I don't see a link to class search on the new one

I think you should have 'initial caps' for the headers (e.g. Prospective Students); I may be biased, but I think International Students feature prominently at our university. You should have something about them (just like the First Nations).

Lots of wasted space in opening screen, move some of the news up. But I loved the fact new students, alumni, and faculty sections were visible in opening screen.

It's simple

I do not feel any improvement, You may consider adding a link to the library webpage

I find when webpages are redesigned they often sacrifice content for looks. The links I click on the most are "research", and "library". I know these will most likely disappear with the "better looking" webpage and I think the new webpage will be more difficult to navigate because of this.

There are no calls to action on this page and it uses terminology that those unfamiliar with universities may not know or immediately identify with. It also feels unplanned currently, with a series of unrelated bands of words and no headings to provide context.

There's a lot of words on here, but I can't tell what you can click and can't. And can't tell what this page is supposed to get people to do.

NA

While I get the direction the website design is going and that the data collected is helping shape the design, it is very short sighted to not be able to get to the library from the University homepage. I do realize that not everything can be on the main page but an academic library is the heart of a campus and once shouldn't have to search long and hard to find a link to the library.

No easy way to do this from the home page.

Couldn't find info on donating anywhere. Perhaps a DONATE button next to the Paws button on the top right of the page?

More overt links/buttons to highly used links such as course search, apply, library, and the colleges. I often advise students and use these links constantly. I had to click 4 times to get to course search whereas now I just click 2x. As well, if I were telling someone how to find links to follow along like I do now in a phone appointment, it's much less clear of a path.

no negative feedback

no negative feedback

While the new website looks nice and like the white space, there's a couple changes I'd suggest: 1. You have to scroll down to get to key information/links while with the current website, you don't have to scroll down much and key links are at the top of the page. 2. Miss having tabs such as Library, Colleges & Schools, and Maps at the very top of the page.

The U of S logo at the bottom needs to be vector and slightly larger. It seems little small.

Link to library

A library link. If we are going to include a statement that we are a "research-intensive institution" then we should provide a link to where that research starts.

Too simplistic and where is the information specifically for Aboriginal students, staff and faculty?

The site needs to do a better job at highlighting the importance of becoming the best place that we possibly can be for Indigenous students and their communities. The only thing that mentions/alludes to this is the land acknowledgement. The imagery of Gordon Oakes is only temporary, and I doubt that the Weekend Welcome would ever make the homepage (and, in fact, I would recommend that it doesn't as the audience for it is so small). I think that the top jumbotron should be an image of campus with a brief, fluffy sentence about the U of S. Something that would make me want to come to school here. And then three buttons: "Explore undergrad programs" "Explore graduate programs" and "Apply now" The links under "Prospective students" in the second jumbotron should just link to the main explore and grad.usask pages. There should be an additional jumbotron after the green one that tells me a bit about the university. Here, I would recommend Indigenous imagery. I would also get rid of "Campus services" in the 2nd jumbotron and put "Aboriginal initiatives" in its place. "Campus services" is far too broad to be useful. Perhaps a link to a page that lists what the U of S can do for community members could be included in the new jumbotron when it mentions the U of S's priorities surrounding serving/bettering the province.

where are the small menu links on the top, particularly the direct links to the academic calendar and course offerings. Accessing those two links are the only reason I ever visit the UofS main page

I like how the target audiences are outlined on the main page (ie Prospective vs Current students, Faculty, etc.). I also like how the University's signature research areas are highlighted fairly prominently. However I hope there are plans to be able to click on each signature area for a more detailed description as well as links to the relevant colleges/research programs. I'm wondering if 'Agriculture' should be 'Agriculture and Bioresources,' not simply to align with the College, but because the signature research area encompasses much more than just strictly agricultural topics. I also like the wide banner 'Get familiar with campus' - hopefully this will rotate through several relevant news or announcement banners and not just be consistently the same one. Or, alternatively, be updated very frequently to new content.

more links - I regularly use the row of shortcuts in usask e.g. library

I would have liked to see events listed on the homepage either in calendar format of just of what's ahead this week. This is good for students, staff and visitors I think

this week. This is good for students, staff and visitors alike.

Not enough information available at first glance without scrolling down; no listing of colleges and schools with links; no a-z listing

Though it may not show up in user research, having a "give now" link on the university's home page is an important indicator that we are a charitable organization and always need alumni and community support.

A link to the university library home page and a navbar near the top of the screen would be helpful. The borders and elements of the top half of the page are too large; you don't realize there is more content lower down. The wide green top border of the About menu makes you think you're already at the bottom of the page.

Nothing.

the home page looks wonderful, unfortunately when you click on a link you are sent to the current pages that still look archaic and dated

had to search for and then click three times to get to the main library site, on the current site it is clickable from the university home page

Get rid of the annoying warning that it is an alpha site.

more menus

Somehow we have to integrate continuing professional education into the site, in a way that provides effective and efficient access to CE programming in education, engineering, agriculture, vet med, nursing, medicine, pharmacy and nutrition, physio therapy and so on. CE always struggles to get exposure and finds their programming always embedded sometimes deeply in siloed College websites. Currently CE programs have to direct market and guide would-be participants through sites to find information, and then again through to registration sites. This complexity is adverse to the simplicity of access to our private/open competition and is significantly inefficient. We cannot forget that CE is an extension of UG and PG education, the first logical step for alumni in continuing professional development, and the ongoing link to our students' success in the professional realm.

There is a recent trend with most web pages switching to this minimalist and scrolling type design. While this design makes viewing websites easier on tablets and phones, it significantly limits the amount of relevant information that can be provided to users in their first contact with the website. I don't believe this web-design is suitable for academic institutions, as most students either current or prospective will likely be visiting the website on computer browsers as opposed to touch screen devices. Furthermore, if touch friendly design is to be used it can be better implemented. The University of British Columbia and the University of Toronto also have minimalistic, downward scrolling, web designs, however although the style is minimalistic there is still sufficient information provided on the homepage to give students an update on what is happening at the universities and what those universities are striving towards. I know this is an alpha version and the criticism may seem harsh, but if I were not a student at USASK and visited this homepage I would have a very negative opinion on the University. I was hoping that the website design would be

would have a very negative opinion on the University. I was hoping that the website design would be refreshed, but sometimes stagnation is better than regression.

Put the menu bar back at the top on the home page

Site was very underwhelming both visually and content-wise. Talks about signature areas of research sends you to get lost in the college websites. Seems to act as a simple landing page rather than giving you a reason to come back to the site. It also relies heavily on other sites for information which could prove problematic if those sites are not maintained. The way the news items are presented is old and stale and is almost causes a person to avoid it altogether. It could be the most interesting story and I still wouldn't give it a second glance.

more information (i.e. direct access links provided through navigation bars, especially a header navigation bar)

content, combination, very simple design, nothing eye catchy

nothing - it took me the same amount of time to find the right page on both the old site and alpha site

Move the search box to centre stage...larger and more prominent.

<https://xkcd.com/773/>

The home page is too long. You should not have to scroll through a home page. Everything should fit onto one page without having to scroll.

Where's information for International students (ie. ISSAC & USLC) and Aboriginal students?

-

Home page should have easy links to university colleges and departments, and services

Most websites I have used would always have a type of menu either on the side of the page or on the top of the page. The new websites shows this in the middle - which may take time getting used to. However, if you open the website with a minimized window, you would not immediately see the menu options. It would be better if these can be easily seen regardless if you have a full screen or not.

Looks so nice and clean!!

I found a bit of the green on green text (links in the about block) a bit hard to read.

Categories were clear/straight-forward. The news section seemed a bit buried at the bottom, but maybe that's ok.

The links on the front page seem a bit vague. There's no link to the library or maps of campus at the top of the page.

I have reason to visit other U's homepages and notice that in some cases, the Library is not directly linked

from the homepage. This is a disturbing trend!

Also, much of the information under the Undergraduate student link is also pertinent to Graduate students, such as registration information. Such information should be under a general student tab.

Sure.

Stop wasting money redesigning websites and spend more money on your students experience!

See if you can play a video on the homepage about the university

The content in the green bar with the university's Aboriginal symbols seems particularly "weird". Maybe it's the layout, or choice of font or something, but the little call to action that is there seems unrelated to the content.

There isn't even a photo of campus on this page. The best thing about this university is our community pride and that's not evident on here at all.

Filling out this survey on my phone is horrid. You can't go back and add to or edit your text once you leave a text box. :(

The proposed layout for the usask website looks good - clean and straightforward.

Please don't make it harder to find things, make it easier. Hiding things does make it look cleaner and neater but also makes it more time intensive and confusing when doing advising.

Didn't like the picture featured. Would prefer something that relates to UofS

Again, I cannot stress enough how important it is for the Aboriginal portfolio to have an absolute presence! We need the Aboriginal Initiatives button back.

I wonder where research information will be presented in this new template? I appreciate this is student focused but prospective graduate students and collaborators will look for research. Alphas approach seems to change the college identity approach which is ok but for current students and staff looking for departmental or college information, this creates a few extra steps.

The general info about the university including signature areas which is about half way down the page would be better at the top, with news below

I like the way the that indigenization is woven into the site, but worry that when the feature image and news stories don't have a Aboriginal focus, this might get lost.

Pages loaded quickly. I got to the correct page sooner, with less clicks than before. Great job!!!

would be nice to see samples of the new updates for the linked pages, if there is such a thing

wait till I look more :-)

A line about the university at the very top of the page would be helpful - initially, it seemed like the page was for weekend welcome

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Thought the site was very uninspiring. It may be functional (barely) but lacks any compelling reason to revisit it in the future. If this is the initial face of our institution, it is a bad first impression.

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Though in developing stages, the page is extremely simple - though the clean look is very much appreciated, more complexity and information are recommended. A very innovative graphic may also help in the introductory bar, which showcase information about the institution as a whole (which appears in green half way through the page here). The clean and easy to navigate template has been a U of S strength thus far!

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make it more content specific, focus on user experience, more eye catching, show it in a way that most of the user wants to see. Don't make it messy and uncomfortable

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Graphics look so much better on the alpha homepage. Much better use of width of the page and a lot cleaner (not as cluttered and fussy) than the old version.

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Focus more on the user experience, not the university pushing information out...

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Provide more relevant information that people would actually look for

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Improve the search to reflect existing search data, add facets or filters.

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Overall look is better...really need a lot more work on the content that this page should house and the way it is published.

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Vido Intervac is an important research organization on campus also.

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The old design was much better - easier and faster to find links to the pages we need

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