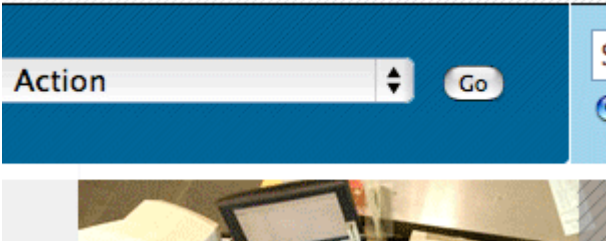# ATIC Professional Web Accessibility Review
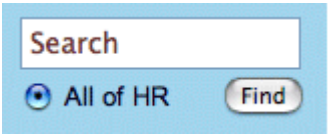
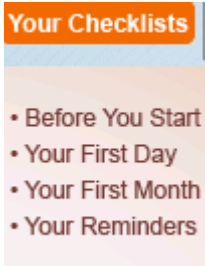|	
Project:	HR New Employee Orientation Design Review
DCAD Rep:	Ranjani Saigal
Reviewed by:	Kathy Cahill on 6.23.08 (additional comments by Stephani Roberts)
Review Type:	Design review (round 2) of 3 design options located at https://wikis.mit.edu/confluence/display/NEO/NEO+Design

The visual accessibility review that follows takes into account the surface of the web site, the text, colors, buttons, images, etc. in terms of accessibility to the broadest spectrum of users and their various abilities.
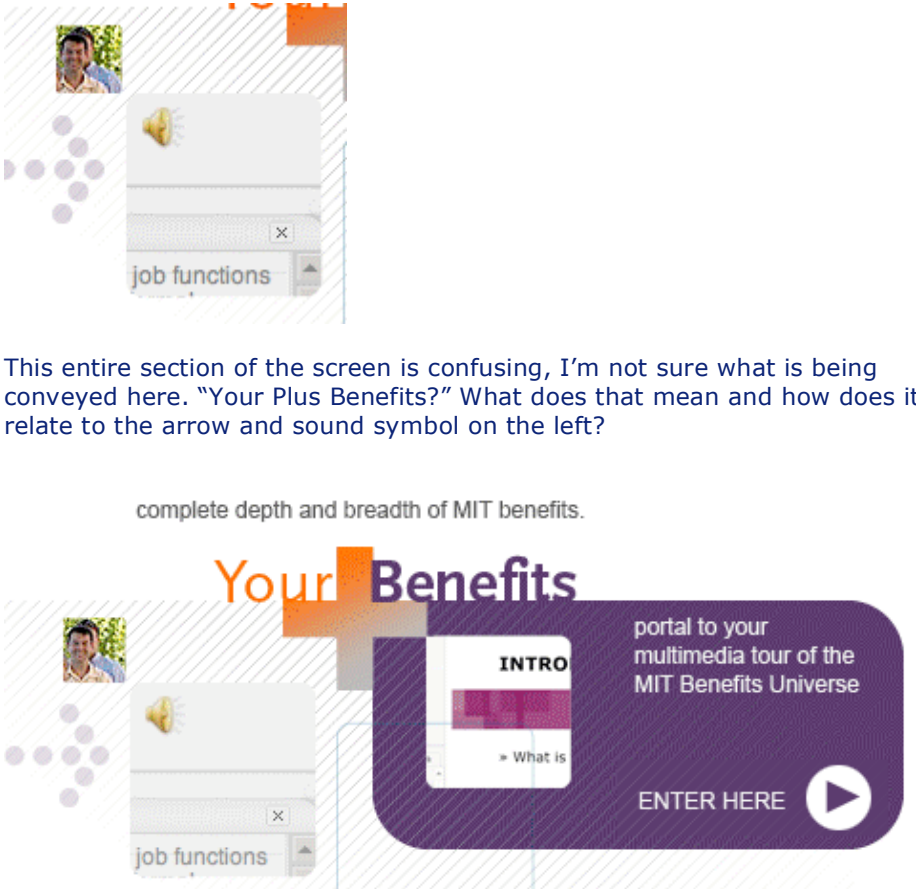
Overall: There are some color contrast problems with orange and white, as well as screen width resolution problems and some font and navigation problems. These issues can be addressed to make the designs more accessible to a broad range of users. Problems are listed in the *Problem Area* block and details on how to improve the designs are listed in the *Recommendation* section below.

Font and Text Legibility and Navigation: is the default font size sufficiently legible by a general audience. Are text elements and navigation designed in a manner that's easy to comprehend?

1	**Problem Area**	**Recommendation**
	Option 1: http://www.inkd.net/dl/mit/neo/r02/neo_r02_00.html and subpages Option 2: http://www.inkd.net/dl/mit/neo/r02/neo_r02B_00.html and subpages Option 3: http://www.inkd.net/dl/mit/neo/r02/neo_r02C_00.html and subpages	
a.	The browser screen cannot accommodate the entire site horizontally, so there are missing items that the user cannot see. (See illustration of right upper side of web browser window below).	Consider changing the resolution (width) of the site so all entire screen is present in browser window.

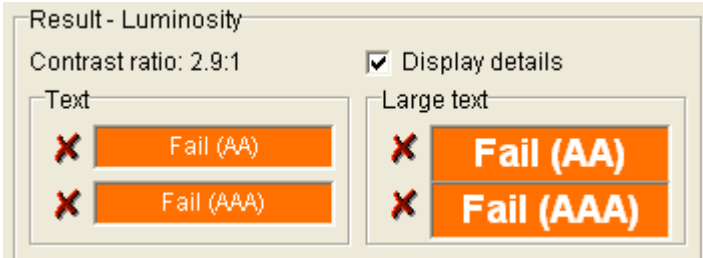|		
b.	1) The Search text should not be inside the field, since screen reading software reads labels associated with data fields. The Search items need to read across the line. Search ⊙ All of HR (Find) 2) There is a radio button that's selected automatically and it cannot be deselected. Why not just remove the radio button so the entire site is searched by default? Using a radio button implies choice but there's no choice presented here.	1) Move the Search text to the left of the box and the Find button to the right of the box. 2) If the plan is to add in more search choices, more than one, than add the radio buttons to the screen when the choices are greater than one. For now, remove the radio button.
c.	1) The "Community" text header is unreadable sideways, both to screen readers and for those with visual or reading problems. Usability studies have shown that scanning and recognition of vertical text is much slower than standard horizontal text. COMMUNITY Fun Jargon News . . . . UROP Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program Through UROP, students have the chance to work on cutting 2) The "Community" header changes color from one page to the next. This is something you expect to signal a section change but nothing about this block of text appears to be different. And, the different header colors do not appear to have an meaning. COMMUNITY Fun Jargon News . . . . MIT Sailing Club When the 50-year-old rhodo-dendrons begin to bloom in Killian Court, members of the	1) Consider rewriting the "Community" header horizontally using real text that can be resized, as opposed to a graphic. 2) Keep navigation and labels consistent throughout the site to avoid confusing users. Randomly changing colors can have the effect of a visual speed bump by detracting from the main content and calling attention to an item that's secondary.
d.	The links below are so close together and the selected background color is so faint that they look like part of the same phrase. Fun Jargon News	Provide more space or add vertical bars between the links.

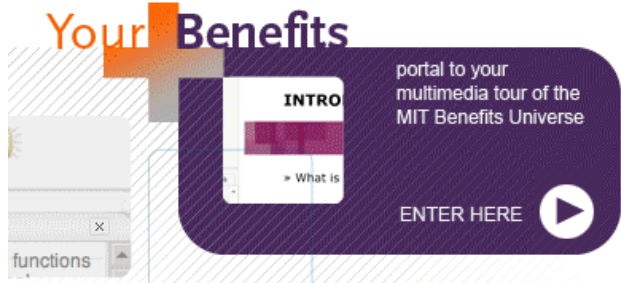| e.	The top left links ("Your MIT", "Your Checklists", "Your Benefits") are separated from the links in their respective rollover menus. **Your Checklists** • Before You Start • Your First Day • Your First Month • Your Reminders	Shift the list of links further up so they are closer to the headers.
f.	The purpose of this link (on the Options 2 and 3 third level subpages) is confusing. It's not clear what it is presenting to the user and what the user is supposed to do with this information. job functions This entire section of the screen is confusing, I'm not sure what is being conveyed here. "Your Plus Benefits?" What does that mean and how does it relate to the arrow and sound symbol on the left? complete depth and breadth of MIT benefits. Your Benefits INTRO portal to your multimedia tour of the MIT Benefits Universe » What is ENTER HERE ▶ job functions	If there are instructions for the user (to play a video or audio file), make that clear. What is the arrow for? Be specific in defining the purpose of this graphic/link. It's best to be more specific and literal with this information. Users need help understanding what to expect and why they might want to click on something. This would be even more confusing for a person with cognitive impairments.

Color and Contrast: Do pages contain adequate contrast and appropriate color choices?	

2.	**Problem Area**	**Recommendation**
	Option 1: http://www.inkd.net/dl/mit/neo/r02/neo_r02_00.html and subpages Option 2: http://www.inkd.net/dl/mit/neo/r02/neo_r02B_00.html and subpages. Option 3: http://www.inkd.net/dl/mit/neo/r02/neo_r02C_00.html	
a.	The white headers on an orange background do not have enough color contrast or brightness. **You are here.** Foreground:#FFFFFF Background:#FF6B00 colour difference:403/brightness difference:116 The difference in brightness between the two colours is not sufficient. The threshold is 125, and the result of the foreground and background colours is 116. The difference in colour between the two colours is not sufficient. The threshold is 500, and the result of the foreground and background colours is 403. Note: Whilst the colour difference doesn't comply with the W3C specified range, it does comply with the range used by Hewlett Packard. Hewlett Packard recommends a colour difference limit of 400. Result - Luminosity Contrast ratio: 2.9:1 ☑ Display details Text — ✗ Fail (AA) ✗ Fail (AAA) Large text — ✗ **Fail (AA)** ✗ **Fail (AAA)** Foreground:#FFFFFF Background:#FF6B00 The contrast ratio is: 2.9:1 Text failed at Level AA Text failed at Level AAA Large text failed at Level AA Large text failed at Level AAA	The orange is too light and too bright. It needs to have a darker hue so it is easier to read. Same is true for orange text on white background (see problem section below). **Note:** You can use the Juicy Studio color contrast analysis tool to see if foreground and background hex values contain adequate contrast. *>> see resource links below*

	1.4.2 Contrast (Minimum): Text (and images of text) have a contrast ratio of at least 5:1, except if the text is pure decoration. Larger scale text (at least 18 point or 14 point bold) or images of text can have a contrast ratio of 3:1. (Level AA) 1.4.4 Contrast (Enhanced): Text (and images of text) have a contrast ratio of at least 7:1, except if the text is pure decoration. Larger scale text (at least 18 point or 14 point bold) or images of text can have a contrast ratio of 5:1. (Level AAA) How to meet 1.4.4 Note: Fonts that are extraordinarily thin or decorative are harder to read at lower contrast levels. Same issues for orange text on white background: **And) we are here to help you get oriented.**	
	Option 2: http://www.inkd.net/dl/mit/neo/r02/neo_r02_00.html and subpages and Option 3: http://www.inkd.net/dl/mit/neo/r02/neo_r02C_00.html	
b.	The "Your Benefits" graphic on the third level subpage is confusing to read. The orange lettering blends into the graphic and makes the text hard to differentiate. 	Remove the plus sign graphic from the text to improve readability.

For more information about color difference and contrast:
http://juicystudio.com/services/colourcontrast.php
For more information about graphics and contrast:
http://webaim.org/techniques/images/text_graphic.php

For more information about fonts and text:
http://www.webaim.org/techniques/fonts/

If you have any questions, please contact me directly at kcahill@mit.edu

Thank you,

Kathy Cahill - 253-5111