

Information Architecture

Introduction

Definitions

“The art and science of organizing and labelling web sites, intranets, online communities and software to support usability and findability.” The Information Architecture Institute (formerly AlfIA).

“The art and science of organizing information to help people effectively fulfil their information needs.” The Information Architecture Glossary by Kat Hagedorn, Argus Associates.

Information Architecture

Overview

Topic Map

- E.G. Mind Mapping

Taxonomy

- E.G. Affinity Diagram

Thesauri

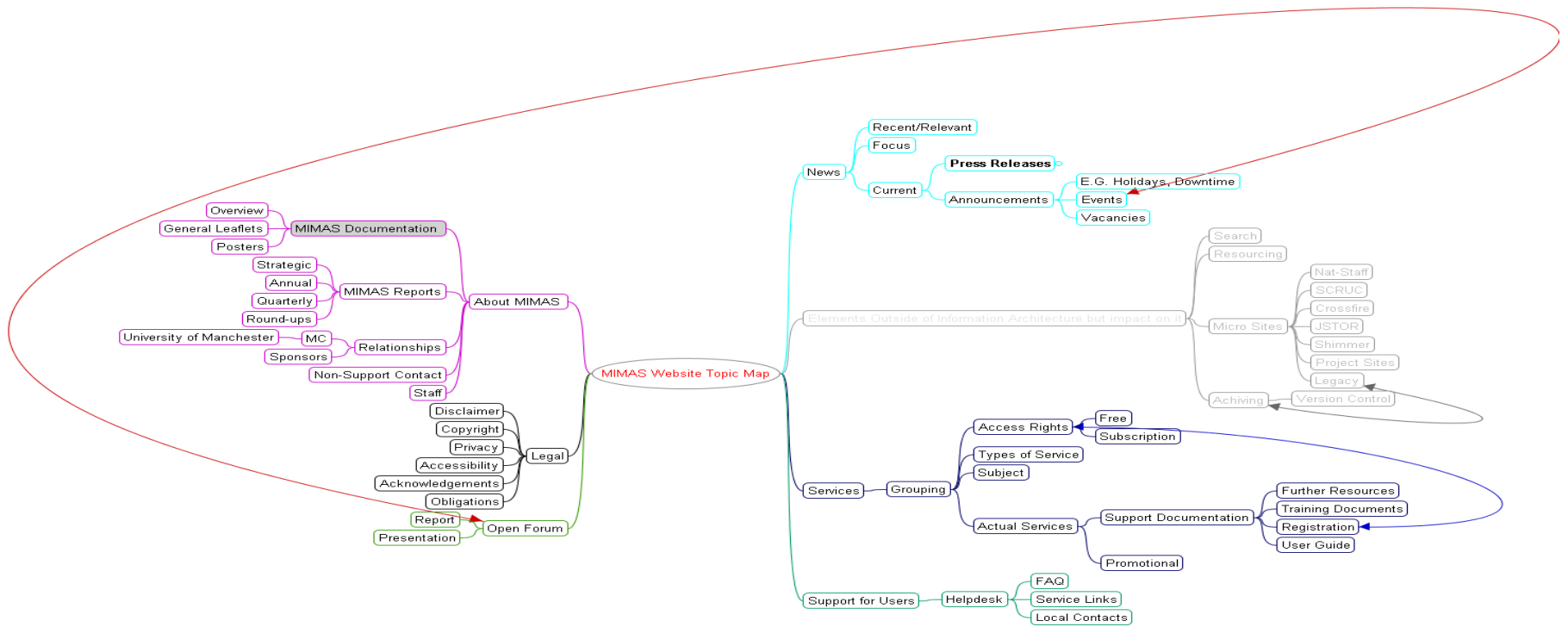
- E.G. Keywords, Controlled Vocabulary

Wireframe

Blueprint

Information Architecture

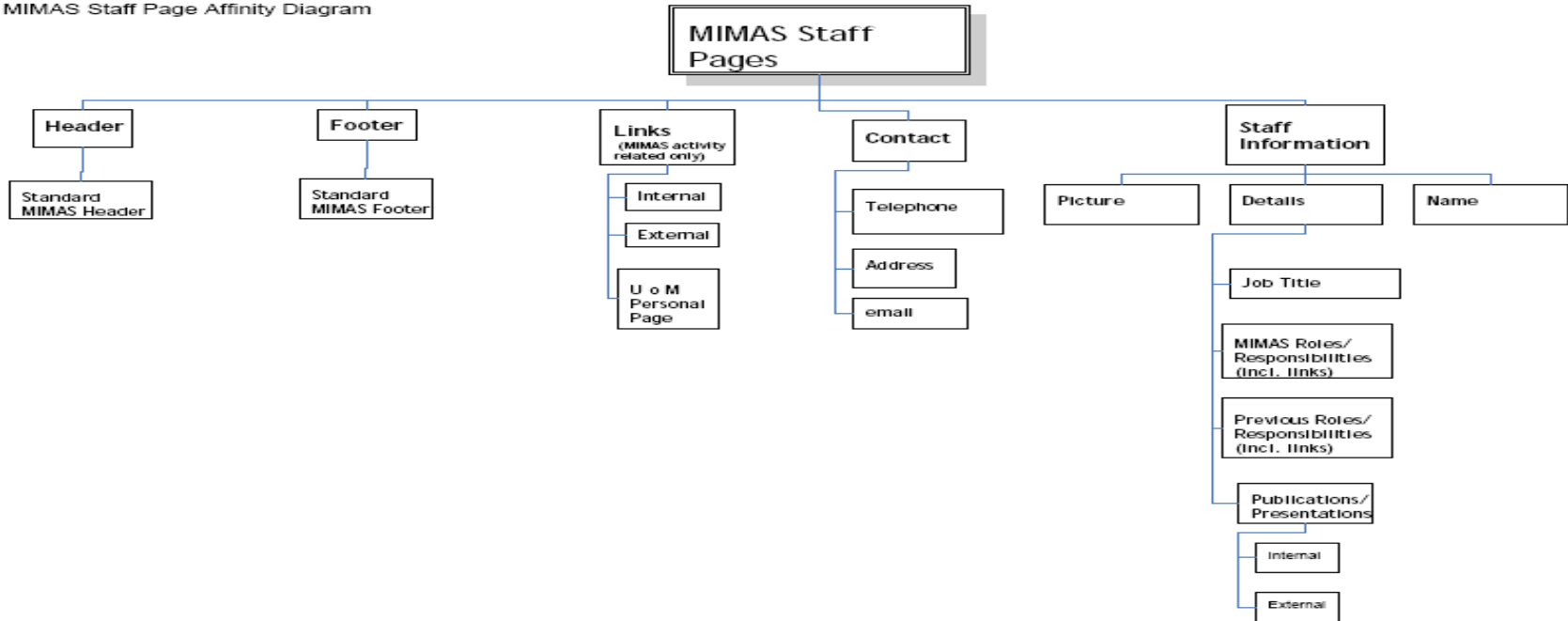
Topic Map – Example Mind Map



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Taxonomy – Example Affinity Diagram

MIMAS Staff Page Affinity Diagram



January 2006 Stuart Smith

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Controlled Vocabulary

Can be used for creating keywords

- By including Preferred Terms and Non-Preferred Terms

Useful Resources

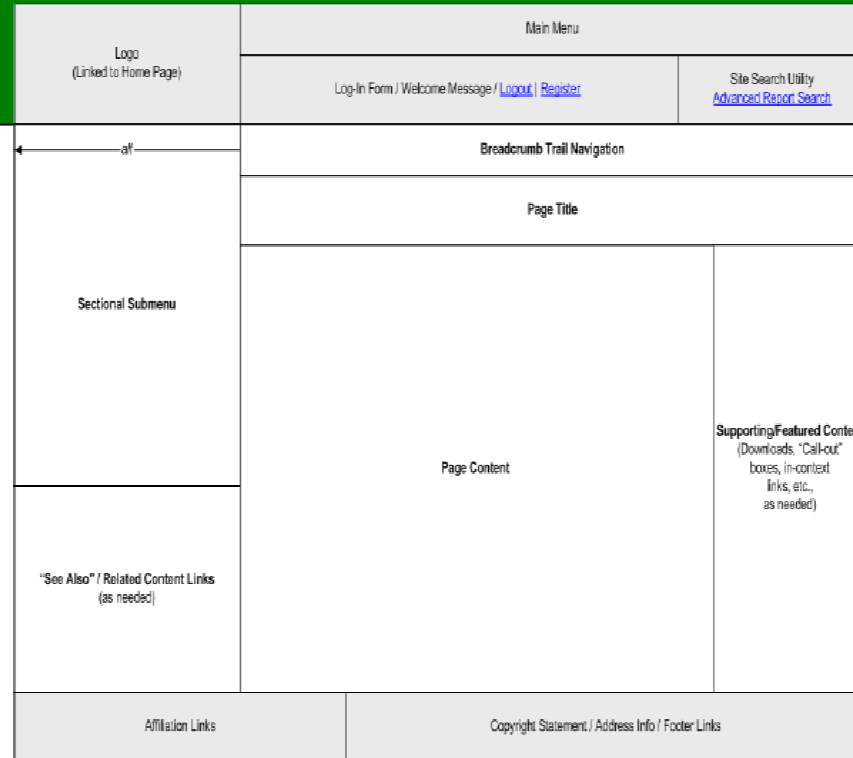
Thesaurus Construction by Prof. Tim Craven, University of Western Ontario, <http://instruct.uwo.ca/gplis/677/thesaur/main00.htm>

Google Keyword Tool

<https://adwords.google.com/select/KeywordSandbox>

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Wireframe – Example

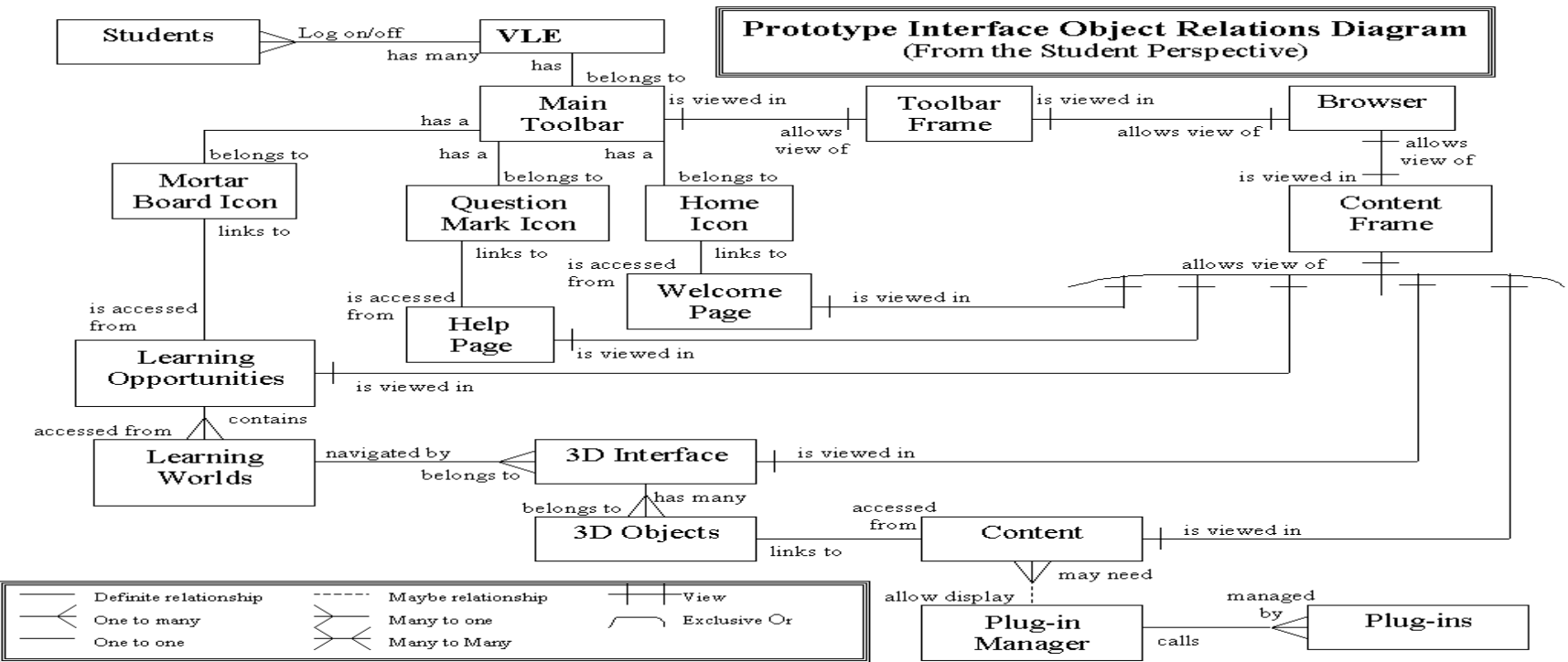


 = Previously Depicted Protocol Applies

Taken from example by http://www.digitalwave.com/services/sample_wireframes.pdf

Information Architecture

Blueprint – Example



Information Architecture

Conclusion

It is a "young" discipline - so not everything is set in stone.

Allows discussion before coding and "hard" design

Saves money?

A large toolkit available, find what is best for you.

Key objective - shared understanding.

Information Architecture

Further Resources

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Information_architecture

Wikipedia Entry

<http://iainstitute.org/>

The Information Architecture Institute - lots of links and resources

<http://www.boxesandarrows.com/>

Articles on Information Architecture