

NEW MEDIA AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Noelle Webster



Dear Dean Bailey and the Promotion and Tenure Committee:

The New Media Program in the School of Informatics has been extremely influential in helping me obtain the ideal career upon graduation from IUPUI. Had I not chosen this path, I would not be where I am today, i.e., working as a Web Designer at MillerWhite Integrated Marketing in Indianapolis, Indiana.

When I began in the New Media program in the Fall of 1999, I took many classes in New Media, Fine Arts and Computer Science, seeking to find my core area of interest. With my first three years completed, I came upon the Web Usability (N450) and Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) Basics (I300) classes taught by Dr. Faiola. Within the first week of class, I knew I had found my area of interest. In these classes, I learned interaction design strategies that could better engage the user, as well as how to evaluate those design processes. This learning has brought my studies full circle, i.e., to a deeper interest and appreciation in user-centered design.

Upon obtaining my position as Web Designer at MillerWhite, I was able to launch a plan to implement these strategies and grow our Interactive Media service line by introducing Web usability and HCI techniques to our current staff and clientele. Moreover, because of the research methods I learned in Dr. Faiola's classes, I was able to create a new usability approach within our company doing audits on Web sites that follow the standard guidelines of usability and user interface design. If not for Dr. Faiola's classes, I would not have understood these methods nor been able to apply them to our current and future projects.

In summary, Dr. Faiola has been a strong influence and a wonderful mentor to me. As a result, I graduated from IUPUI with a good understanding of Web usability and also with the intent to return to obtain my Masters Degree in HCI.

I whole-heartedly endorse Dr. Faiola's tenure so that myself and others can reap the benefit of his vast knowledge of the discipline of HCI.

Sincerely,

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