USC University of Southern California

# USCDornsife

**May 1, 2023**

USC DORNSIFE OFFICE OF CREATIVE CONTENT
WEBSITE PROJECT UPDATE

**Website Project Hub:** dornsife.usc.edu/website-project

**Contact:** webproject@dornsife.usc.edu

Dear USC Dornsife faculty and staff,

After more than a decade without a significant update to the design of the USC Dornsife website, we've had some work done.

**The USC Dornsife website is relaunching this week with a complete design overhaul.** But we're not just focused on looks.

**The new site includes:**

- A **simplified site organization** that's **easier to navigate**
- Adoption of **WordPress** for our content management system (CMS), which will be **more secure**, **easier to operate** and **more flexible** than our previous CMS
- Design that meets **ADA accessibility standards**, a federal requirement that websites are designed to be accessible for people with disabilities
- **Improved search functionality** within our site and enhanced ability for Google searches to find our content
- A library of website templates and tools that allow web administrators to easily **customize their sites** consistent with the USC Dornsife website design structure and brand guidelines

**A community-wide effort**

The launch of our new site is the culmination of an almost two-year process that relied on the input and hard work of many different people at USC Dornsife.

More than **200 website editors** across the College have worked on this project to date. At launch, **more than 70 department, center, institute and office sites** will move to the new website platform. We will continue to work with those who are

still building their sites in WordPress to help them complete the migration from our old CMS to the new WordPress CMS in the coming months.

And with any project this large, we may have missed something. Spot a broken link or other error? Please send any corrections to webproject@dornsife.usc.edu.

**Next steps**

Now that we have completed the first phase of our website redesign, we will be working with faculty who have portfolio and lab/research sites on the old content management system to move their websites to WordPress.
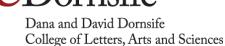
Our team will be in touch in the coming weeks with information about how to begin the process.

Thank you to everyone who is part of this project. We are grateful for your time and effort to help create a stellar web presence for USC Dornsife.


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