



# Seton Hill University Content Strategy Report

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### **About this Document**

Producing consistent, controlled content is vital in today's higher ed marketplace, where prospective students and families actively shop for information about different schools.

A content strategy is a comprehensive plan for creating, sharing, and managing content effectively.

Content strategy is concerned with two major elements, what we call the core content model:

- 1. Aligning content development to business goals
- 2. Supporting customers as they participate in online tasks



If content does not satisfy these two elements, it is probably not working as a strategic asset for your school.

We define content strategy as having two parts:

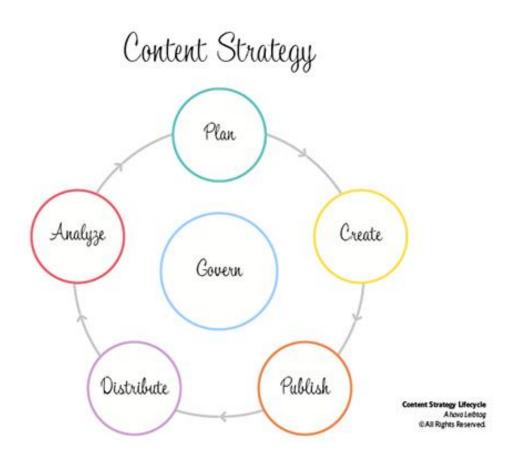
#### 1. External Brand Messaging:

- a. To whom are you talking? [Tool = Personas]
- b. Who are you? [Tool = Identity Pillars]
- c. What are you trying to say? [Tool = Messaging Architecture]
- d. How do you say it? [Tool = Voice and Tone]
- e. When and where do you say it? [Tool = Editorial Calendar or Workflow Guidelines]



#### 2. Internal Workflow and Production of Content Demands:

- a. Who is responsible for all of the various phases of a content strategy?
  - i. Plan
  - ii. Create
  - iii. Publish
  - iv. Distribute
  - v. Analyze
  - vi. Govern



#### 3. Technical Display and Delivery of Content

The goal of any content strategy is to take the guesswork out of execution so creativity surrounding content can flourish. Instead of scrambling to create workflow for every content project they are assigned, teams can focus on creating coherent, consistent and controlled content when they have a cohesive strategy.



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# Introduction

The goal of this content strategy engagement was to provide insight into content created and managed to support Seton Hill University.

### **Project Goals**

The goal of this overall project is to create a target-operating model for the creation and management of Seton Hill University website content.



# **Personas & Journey Maps**

Content is a conversation with two elements at play: "To whom are we speaking?" and "Who are we?"

Persona development is at the crux of any content strategy. Personas are tools we use to create composite characters, so we have an idea of who is at the other end of the conversation. The persona workshop answers the question "To whom are we speaking?"

You must be able to answer these four very critical questions if you want to create fantastic content for your brand:

- 1. Who is our audience?
- 2. What do they care about?
- 3. Where do they spend their time?
- 4. How do we get them the information they need?

There are three important reasons to create, use, and regularly update your organization's personas:

- Identify and target your audience
- Put the team on the same page
- Keep you out of the danger zone of creating vanilla, bland and boring content

Personas are very important to every brand, content development process and website. Revisit your personas once a year to make sure the entire staff is on target about their content audience. You should also reference personas during brainstorming sessions. Use their first names. Amazon.com leaves an empty chair at each meeting to represent the customer: That's HOW important personas are to creating great content and experiences.

### Persona Workshop

The persona workshop took place on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at Seton Hill University. The workshop participants are listed in **Appendix A.** 

The participants went around the room and identified 22 potential personas. Those personas were combined and narrowed down to create the following personas:

- 1. Prospective Student, 17 year old, male
- 2. Prospective Student, 18 year old, female
- 3. Transfer Student, 20 year old, male



- 4. Prospective Graduate Student, 24 year old, male
- 5. Prospective ADP Student, 35 year old, female
- 6. Community Member, 40 year old, female
- 7. Current Parent, 52 year old, male

Please reference **Appendix B** for pictures of how the personas were selected.

The workshop participants were divided into groups of three and each group was assigned one of the personas to create.

Ahava instructed the participants to identify the personas in depth by answering these questions about each one:

- How old are they?
- Where do they live?
- What is the highest level of education completed?
- What is their profession?
- What is their household income?
- Do they have a significant other or family? If yes, what are their names and ages?
- How do they spend their time?
- Where do they shop? What types of stores do they frequent?
- What do they eat? Who prepares their food?
- What types of cars do they drive? Do they use public transportation?
- What types of technology devices do they use? Do they have a smart phone or a tablet?
- Do they access content from a desktop computer or a mobile device?
- Where do they get their news and information?
- What tasks do they need to accomplish with your content?
- What are their pain points when it comes to your content?
- What are their primary motivations in accessing your content?
- What are their secondary motivations?

Each group answered the questions above about their assigned persona, created relevant collages and presented their work to the other groups. Each persona was critiqued, edited and approved. Once the personas were finalized, each group filled out a persona and journey map template.

Please reference **Appendix B** for pictures of the personas that were created.



### **Persona Matrix**















| Name        | Nick   | Cameron   | Jason  | Dave   | Cathy   | Jennifer  | John  |
|-------------|--|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| Description | Prospective<br>Student   | Prospective<br>Student  | Prospective<br>Transfer Student  | Prospective<br>Graduate Student                                  | Prospective ADP<br>Student  | Community<br>Member   | Current Parent  |
| Goal        | "I want to play<br>baseball and<br>eventually have a<br>career."     | "Can I still live at<br>home while<br>pursuing a degree<br>in graphics<br>design?"                                  | "I want to transfer<br>to a school with a<br>stronger program<br>for my major."                      | "I want to get an<br>MBA and own my<br>own business one<br>day." | "I want to go back<br>to school so that I<br>can advance my<br>career." | "I want to find out<br>about events for<br>my family."  | "I want to pay my<br>son's tuition<br>online and check<br>his soccer<br>schedule."      |
| Age         | 16   | 18  | 20   | 24   | 35  | 40  | 52  |
| Lives in    | Toronto, Canada  | Greensburg, PA  | Trafford, PA   | West Virginia  | Youngwood, PA   | Irwin, PA   | Cranberry, PA   |
| Education   | High School junior   | High School<br>Senior   | Current Sophomore at St. Vincent College   | BS in computer science   | High school diploma and some college                                    | WCCC  | Penn State,<br>undergraduate  |
| Occupation  | Student  | Student, part-<br>time waitress in<br>family-owned deli   | Full time student  | IT Technician  | Office manager at local construction firm                               | Dental hygienist  | Accounting executive, PNC   |
| HH Income   | \$73k (\$60k + \$13k<br>for disability)                              | \$80K   | under \$100k   | \$47k  | \$35k   | \$75k (\$25k and<br>husband \$55k)  | \$120k (\$90k and wife \$30k)   |
| Family      | <ul> <li>Dad, Jack,<br/>elementary<br/>school<br/>teacher</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Dad &amp; mom,         David and Lin,          own a family         deli     </li> <li>Brother,</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Dad &amp; mom,<br/>Gregg and<br/>Mary</li> <li>Sister, Jessica,<br/>15 years old</li> </ul> | • Single (family lives in Iowa)                                  | <ul><li>Divorced, no kids</li><li>Cat, Dimples</li></ul>                | <ul> <li>Husband,         Jeremy, 45         years old,         construction</li> <li>2 daughters,</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Wife,<br/>Suzanna, 48<br/>years old,<br/>receptionist<br/>at dental</li> </ul> |

|                           | <ul> <li>Mom, Lisa, physical disability</li> <li>2 older brothers, Steven and Mike, 19 and 21 years old</li> </ul>   | Casey, 12<br>years old   | <ul> <li>Brother, Will,<br/>11 years old,<br/>special needs</li> </ul>   |  |   | Molly and<br>Samantha, 8<br>and 11 years<br>old   | office • Stepson, Cooper, 20 years old   |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| Lifestyle/<br>Personality | <ul> <li>Driven, aspirational, and passionate</li> <li>Volunteers at community centers</li> <li>Star athlete and above average student</li> <li>Plays video games and goes to Toronto Blue Jays games</li> <li>Eats healthy, but likes his caffeine</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Cat person</li> <li>Artistic and stylish</li> <li>Has a sense of style, but is budget-conscious</li> <li>Shops at Kohl's (can't afford highend)</li> <li>Into photography and alternative music</li> <li>Has her own car (old and beat-up)</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Loves playing video games with friends</li> <li>He runs to relieve stress</li> <li>Has a heart of gold</li> <li>Sandwich artist</li> <li>Volunteers with special needs organizations</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>College football fan</li> <li>Laid back and a bit lazy</li> <li>Gamer and loves technology</li> <li>Wants to be more motivated and grow up</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Likes to cook and eat healthy</li> <li>Goes to church</li> <li>Busy with doctor appointments</li> <li>Stays active with church groups and outdoor activities with friends</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Dresses casual</li> <li>Very involved in kids' lives</li> <li>Strict but fun mom</li> <li>Interested in crafts programs, scrapbooking and knitting</li> <li>Loves cycling</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Boring and has inexpensive desires and goals</li> <li>Wears suits from Boscov's</li> <li>Living comfortably, not strained financially</li> <li>Gets a tie ever year for Christmas</li> <li>Vacations at the beach once a year and has OBX stickers on the back of his SAAB</li> <li>Likes to eat at Applebee's and Kings</li> </ul> |
| Devices                   | Android, family laptop   | Older MacBook<br>and iPhone5   | Android and PC   | MacBook and iPhone   | Dell desktop<br>computer, iPhone  | Android, tablet and desktop   | Blackberry and desktop   |
| News & Information        | Internet and local news  | Twitter, Instagram and Buzzfeed  | Social media,<br>Reddit, Jon   | Social media and internet  | Internet, TV and<br>Facebook  | Local TV and news station, Facebook   | Pittsburgh Post-<br>Gazette and CBS  |



|           |  |   | Stewart and John Oliver  |  |   |  | evening news  |
|-----------|--|---|--|--|---|--|---|
| Backstory | Although Nick's mom was collecting disability, his father went back to school to get a BS in education so that he could provide for his family. Nick's brothers did not attend college and he would like to pursue higher education. He wants to get a scholarship and surpass his childhood. Toronto doesn't have many schools to offer with baseball scholarships so he decided to start looking at schools that are within driving distance, so he can be close to his family and mother. | Cameron wants to live at home while she pursues her degree in web design so that she can save money. She also wants to be able to work in her family's deli while in college. She is the first person in the family to go to college and her parents are willing to help out. She plans on applying with a portfolio and hopefully getting a scholarship. She knows people in the area who attend Seton Hill. | Jason initially went to St. Vincent College because it offered better financial aid. He doesn't like the education program there and is considering transferring now that he has a better GPA. He is still concerned about the finances of his education since he is paying for school himself. He has a little brother with special needs and watching his care and education have made Jason passionate about becoming a special needs educator. | Dave grew up in lowa and moved to West Virginia to go to WVU. He wants to pursue an MBA in an Apple™ distinguished school. He likes the low cost of living and is looking in the Pittsburgh area since there has been a lot of growth in technology and technology jobs. Dave would like to stay in more suburban area near the city. He saw an ad about SHU graduate programs with 98% job placement. | Cathy has relapsing remitting MS which flares up sometimes. She wants to move up in her career and thinks a degree in accounting will help her achieve more in her career. She wants to enroll in the accounting program and graduate in three years while still working full-time. | Jennifer grew up in Irwin, went to public high school and then to dental hygienist training. She met her husband at a bar. Her husband's work schedule is quite intense, so she spends a lot of time with her daughters. Her girls play soccer and take piano lessons. | John had no intention to get married but met Suzanna and decided to tie the knot. Suzanna's ex-husband is completely out of the picture and John took full responsibility for his son Cooper, who is now at Seton Hill. He is interested in his son's life and wants to stay involved with him while he's at school nearby. |



### **Individual Personas and Journey Maps**

On the following pages you will find each of the personas, as well as their journey maps, associated with content tasks.



### Nick

#### "I want to play baseball and eventually have a career."

#### **Prospective Student**

Ages: 16

Lives in: Toronto, Canada

**Education:** High School junior

Occupation: Student

**HH Income:** \$73k (\$60k plus \$13k for disability)

#### Family:

- Dad, Jack, elementary school teacher
- Mom, Lisa, physical disability
- 2 older brothers, Steven and Mike, 19 and 21 years old

#### Lifestyle/Personality:

- Driven, aspirational, and passionate
- Volunteers at community centers
- Star athlete and above average student
- Plays video games and goes to Toronto Blue Jays games
- Eats healthy, but likes his caffeine



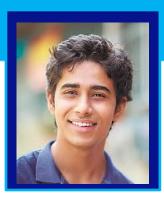
Devices: Android, family laptop

News and Information: Internet and local news

**Backstory:** Although Nick's mom was collecting disability, his father went back to school to get a BS in education so that he could provide for his family. Nick's brothers did not attend college and he would like to pursue higher education. He wants to get a scholarship and surpass his childhood. Toronto doesn't have many schools to offer with baseball scholarships so he decided to start looking at schools that are within driving distance, so he can be close to his family and mother.

- Get information about application process
- Inquire about sports scholarships
- Find out how much tuition costs and financial aid options
- Look into majors offered
- Research the travel options from home to the university
- Research student life





#### **Motivations**

To play baseball and succeed professionally

#### **Primary Content**

Athletics department and scholarships
Tuition costs/financial aid
Comparing majors (undecided)

#### **Secondary Content**

Looking for travel options to and from the university

Find out about student life on campus

#### **Actions**

Apply and send email inquiring about sports scholarships

#### Possible Encounters:

- Online Ad
- Recruiters
- Search (Google)
- Coach

#### **Possible Pages:**

- Athletics department
- Tuition/ Financial aid
- Majors
- International Students Info

- Campus location
- Local transportation
- Student life



### Cameron

#### "Can I still live at home while pursuing a degree in graphic design?"

#### **Prospective Student**

**Ages:** 18

Lives in: Greensburg, PA

**Education:** High School Senior. She has just started looking at schools.

Occupation: Student, part-time waitress in family-owned deli

HH Income: \$80K

#### Family:

- Dad & mom, David and Lin, own a family deli
- Brother, Casey, 12 years old

#### Lifestyle/Personality:

- Cat person
- Artistic and stylish
- Has a sense of style, but is budget-conscious
- Shops at Kohl's (can't afford high-end)
- Into photography and alternative music
- Has her own car (old and beat-up)



**Devices:** Older MacBook and iPhone5

News and Information: Twitter, Instagram and Buzzfeed

**Backstory:** Cameron wants to live at home while she pursues her degree in web design so that she can save money. She also wants to be able to work in her family's deli while in college. She is the first person in the family to go to college and her parents are willing to help out. She plans on applying with a portfolio and hopefully getting a scholarship. She knows people in the area who attend Seton Hill.

- Get information about application process
- Looks at design program
- Investigates parking options
- Schedules a campus visit and looks at open house dates
- Parents look at financial aid information





#### **Motivations**

To get a graphic design degree locally

#### **Primary Content**

Curriculum and class schedule Commuter information Class size Campus visit and open house

#### **Secondary Content**

iPad/ MacBook program
Financial aid
Application process and deadlines

#### **Actions**

Schedule a visit, sign up for an open house and start application

#### Possible Encounters:

- Other students in her hometown
- Community ads/local mentions of Seton Hill
- Admissions Counselor at College Fair

#### **Possible Pages:**

- Graphic Design major
- Commuter Information
- Visitor information

- Technology
- Financial aid
- Application information

# Jason

#### "I want to transfer to a school with a stronger program for my major."

#### **Prospective Transfer Student**

**Ages:** 20

Lives in: Trafford, PA

**Education:** Current Sophomore at St. Vincent College

Occupation: Full time student

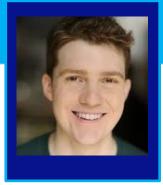
HH Income: under \$100k

#### Family:

- Dad & mom, Gregg and Mary
- Sister, Jessica, 15 years old
- Brother, Will, 11 years old, special needs

#### Lifestyle/Personality:

- Loves playing video games with friends
- He runs to relieve stress
- Has a heart of gold
- Sandwich artist
- Volunteers with special needs organizations



**Devices:** Android and PC

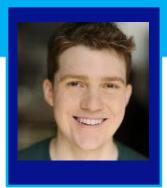
**News and Information:** Social media, Reddit, Jon Stewart and John

Oliver

**Backstory:** Jason initially went to St. Vincent College because it offered better financial aid. He doesn't like the education program there and is considering transferring now that he has a better GPA. He is still concerned about the finances of his education since he is paying for school himself. He has a little brother with special needs and watching his care and education have made Jason passionate about becoming a special needs educator.

- Read about the program
- Investigate how credits can transfer
- Look into applying for financial aid
- Contact faculty





#### **Motivations**

To go to a better Special Education program

#### **Primary Content**

Special Education program
Application
Request a transfer evaluation

#### **Secondary Content**

Admission process
Financial aid

#### **Actions**

Start application

Contact Transfer
Counselor

Talk to students and faculty in the education division

#### Possible Encounters:

- WOM at St. Vincent
- Growing up nearby
- Friend going to Seton Hill
- Community ads/local mentions of Seton Hill

#### **Possible Pages:**

- Undergraduate program page
- Application or transfer process

- Admission pages
- Financial aid
- Commuter information



### **Dave**

#### "I want to get an MBA and own my own business one day."

#### **Prospective Graduate Student**

Ages: 24

Lives in: West Virginia

**Education:** BS in computer science

**Occupation:** IT Technician

HH Income: \$47k

#### Family:

Single (family lives in Iowa)

#### Lifestyle/Personality:

- College football fan
- Laid back and a bit lazy
- Gamer and loves technology
- Wants to be more motivated and grow up

Devices: MacBook and iPhone

News and Information: Social media and internet

**Backstory:** Dave grew up in Iowa and moved to West Virginia to go to WVU. He wants to pursue an MBA in an Apple™ distinguished school. He likes the low cost of living and is looking in the Pittsburgh area since there has been a lot of growth in technology and technology jobs. Dave would like to stay in more suburban area near the city. He saw an ad about SHU graduate programs with 98% job placement.

- Research MBA program and entrepreneurship
- Research class schedule and online courses
- Find out about grad assistantship/financial aid

#### "I want to get an MBA and own my own business one day."



#### **Motivations**

To get an MBA and lay the ground work for starting his own business.

#### **Primary Content**

Graduate program (MBA)
Specialization (entrepreneurship)
GA opportunities

#### **Secondary Content**

Entrepreneurial options

Apple™ program

Online courses

Community/Regional information

**Actions**Apply online

#### Possible Encounters:

- Coworkers
- Online ad
- Search (Google)

#### **Possible Pages:**

- MBA program
- Grad assistantship/Financial aid

- Wukich Center
- School technology
- Class schedule

# **Cathy**

#### "I want to go back to school so that I can advance my career."



#### **Prospective ADP Student**

**Ages:** 35

Lives in: Youngwood, PA

Education: High school diploma and some college

Occupation: Office manager at local construction firm

HH Income: \$35k

#### Family:

- Divorced, no kids
- Cat, Dimples

#### Lifestyle/Personality:

- Likes to cook and eat healthy
- Goes to church
- Busy with doctor appointments
- Stays active with church groups and outdoor activities with friends

Devices: Dell desktop computer, iPhone

**News and Information:** Internet, TV and Facebook

**Backstory:** Cathy has relapsing remitting MS which flares up sometimes. She wants to move up in her career and thinks a degree in accounting will help her achieve more in her career. She wants to enroll in the accounting program and graduate in three years while still working full-time.

- How much does the program cost?
- How long will it take to complete?
- Are online courses available?
- Look for financial aid information
- Find out about transfer information or a transfer credit evaluation

"I want to go back to school so that I can advance my career."



#### **Motivations**

Have better career options

#### **Primary Content**

Degree programs for adult students Request transfer credit evaluation

#### **Secondary Content**

Financial aid options
Accessibility and disability services

#### **Actions**

**Contact admissions** 

# Possible Encounters:

- Local TV ad
- Facebook

Search online

#### **Possible Pages:**

ADP accounting

- About SHU
- Financial aid
- Admissions

# **Jennifer**

#### "I want to find out about events and community classes for my family."



#### **Community Member**

**Ages:** 40

Lives in: Irwin, PA

**Education:** WCCC

**Occupation:** Dental hygienist

**HH Income:** \$75k (\$25k and husband \$55k)

#### Family:

- Husband, Jeremy, 45 years old, construction
- 2 daughters, Molly and Samantha, 8 and 11 years old

#### Lifestyle/Personality:

- Dresses casual
- Very involved in kids' lives
- Strict but fun mom
- · Interested in crafts programs, scrapbooking and knitting
- Loves cycling



Devices: Android, tablet and desktop

News and Information: Local TV and news station, Facebook

**Backstory:** Jennifer grew up in Irwin, went to public high school and then to dental hygienist training. She met her husband at a bar. Her husband's work schedule is quite intense, so she spends a lot of time with her daughters. Her girls play soccer and take piano lessons.

- Information about Community Arts Programs for families (music, dance and art class options)
- Events schedule, costs and registration
- Seton Hill soccer schedule



#### **Motivations**

Keep kids active and entertained

#### **Primary Content**

Community arts information Seton Hill soccer schedule

#### **Secondary Content**

Weekend activities
Art shows
Art classes and curriculum

#### **Actions**

Register for community arts programs

#### Possible Encounters:

- Word of mouth
- Community news

#### Possible Pages:

- Calendar of events
- Registration info for community arts programs
- Soccer team page

- Harlan Gallery page
- Address and locations



# John

#### "I want to pay my son's tuition online and check his soccer schedule."



#### **Current Parent**

**Ages:** 52

Lives in: Cranberry, PA

Education: Penn State, undergraduate

Occupation: Accounting executive, PNC

**HH Income:** \$120k (\$90k and wife \$30k)

#### Family:

- Wife, Suzanna, 48 years old, receptionist at dental office
- Stepson, Cooper, 20 years old

#### Lifestyle/Personality:

- Boring and has inexpensive desires and goals
- Wears suits from Boscov's
- Living comfortably, not strained financially
- Gets a tie ever year for Christmas
- Vacations at the beach once a year and has OBX stickers on the back of his SAAB
- Likes to eat at Applebee's and Kings

**Devices:** Blackberry and desktop

News and Information: Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and CBS evening

news

**Backstory:** John had no intention to get married but met Suzanna and decided to tie the knot. Suzanna's ex-husband is completely out of the picture and John took full responsibility for his son Cooper, who is now at Seton Hill. He is interested in his son's life and wants to stay involved with him while he's at school nearby.

- Wants to pay his son's tuition online
- Check out the soccer schedule
- Interested in PAC tickets to go with his wife



#### **Motivations**

Pay tuition online and print soccer schedule

#### **Primary Content**

Tuition payment information Soccer schedule

#### **Secondary Content**

See how the soccer team is doing
Campus map
Performing Arts Center (PAC) tickets

#### **Actions**

Pays tuition and prints out soccer schedule

# Possible Encounters:

- GAA mailing
- Website and SHU email

#### Possible Pages:

- Athletic events
- Tuition payment

- PAC page
- Directions and maps



# **Identity Pillars**

If you don't understand what your brand represents for your audience, your content efforts won't be successful. Identity pillars aren't just about what people think of when they think of you (brand attributes)—it's also about *what you want your brand to represent to them*.

Identity pillars are the four core principles of your brand.

In order to create identity pillars that will help you shape your content efforts, we must first define brand attributes.

#### **Brand Attributes**

Brand attributes are what defines your brand. So what, or better yet, *who* is your brand? Think of a brand as a personality. What are the characteristics people think of when they think of your brand? Are you fun, playful, affordable, dangerous, caring, technologically advanced, classy, elegant, chic, exciting, boring, reliable, controversial, or dull? Do people laugh when they see your logo or cry?

Who is your brand? What does that brand mean to the world? What do you want the brand to mean to the world? You need to know it and define it. If you don't have a way to marry your content to your identity, it won't hold together.

#### **Brand Attributes vs. Identity Pillars**

- **Brand attributes** are the characteristics that describe your brand.
- **Identity Pillars** are a tool used to describe the core principles of your brand.

Remember, **brand attributes are the characteristics** that describe your brand. Brand attributes are what people think about the brand, and possibly, how the brand self-identifies.

#### **Identity pillars**

Identity pillars are a way to establish how you want to communicate with both your internal team and your external customers. They:

- Provide the vehicle to move the perception of the brand forward
- Define communication goals (in the context of content) within the company

In other words, identity pillars give you a roadmap for how to improve the perception of your brand through content and communicate internally within your organization about content priorities and objectives. They take you from where you are to where you want to be, and show you how to move forward.



As with everything in content, we need to understand where we are, where we want to be, and how we are going to get there. Establishing branding pillars requires a four-step process where you:

- 1. Analyze your current business objectives
- 2. Understand what your current brand attributes are
- 3. Express how you are trying to move the brand
- 4. Create identity pillars that articulate the promises of your brand

### **Identity Pillars Workshop**

The identity pillar workshop took place on April 15<sup>th</sup> 2015, following the persona workshop. The workshop participants are listed in **Appendix A.** 

Each person was asked to give 2-3 words that described the current brand personality of Seton Hill University. The words included:

| <ul> <li>Catholic</li> <li>Small</li> <li>Forward thinking</li> <li>Quaint</li> <li>Tiny</li> <li>Isolated</li> <li>Apple™</li> <li>Welcoming</li> <li>Nice campus</li> <li>Community</li> <li>Expensive</li> <li>Antique</li> <li>Close knit</li> <li>Healthcare</li> <li>Trees</li> <li>Exclusive</li> <li>Friendly</li> <li>Mayberry</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Inflexible</li> <li>Outdated</li> <li>Averse to change</li> <li>Convenient</li> <li>Art</li> <li>Student centered</li> <li>Polite</li> <li>On the hill</li> <li>Vibrant</li> <li>Athletics</li> <li>Busy</li> <li>Technology</li> <li>Old</li> <li>Family</li> <li>Liberal arts</li> <li>Dynamic</li> <li>Poor</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Growing pains</li> <li>Risk taking</li> <li>Giving</li> <li>Calm</li> <li>Inspiring</li> <li>Low diversity</li> <li>Institutional</li> <li>Local</li> <li>Bi-located</li> <li>Hardworking</li> <li>Supportive</li> <li>A little bit boring</li> <li>Creative</li> <li>Sisters of charity</li> <li>Developing</li> <li>Picturesque</li> <li>Traditional</li> </ul> |
|--|--|--|
|--|--|--|

### **Current Identity Pillars**

We selected four pillars to currently represent the brand personality for Seton Hill University:

- 1. Catholic
- 2. Small



- 3. Student Centered
- 4. Integrated Technology

### **Future Identity Pillars**

Ahava instructed the participants to think about how they wanted to represent the brand personality for Seton Hill University in the future. These were words that the participants wanted to move the brand to:

We selected four pillars to represent the brand personality for Seton Hill University in the *future* after debate and discussion:

- 1. catholic (learning, serving, celebrating and welcoming)
- 2. Diverse
- 3. Student Centered
- 4. Integrated Technology



# **Identity Pillars Matrix**

This gave us the following matrix:

| Current Pillars       |               | Future Pillars  |
|-----------------------|---------------|---|
| <b>C</b> atholic      | $\rightarrow$ | catholic (learning, serving, celebrating and welcoming) |
| Small                 | $\rightarrow$ | Diverse   |
| Student Centered      | $\rightarrow$ | Student Centered  |
| Integrated Technology | $\rightarrow$ | Integrated Technology                                   |

Please reference **Appendix C** for pictures of how the identity pillars were developed.

# **Messaging Architecture**

Messaging architecture is a hierarchy of communication goals. The goal of a messaging architecture is to give:

- Priority to your business objectives
- You firm documentation for explaining why certain content—and messages—need to come first



# **Messaging Architecture Matrix**

| Current<br>Identity<br>Pillars | Future<br>Identity<br>Pillars | %       | Articulation<br>Statement   | Messaging Statements   |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|---|--|
| <b>C</b> atholic               | → <b>c</b> atholic            | 25<br>% | We foster a<br>strong catholic<br>identity that is<br>dedicated to<br>learning, serving,<br>welcoming &<br>celebrating. | <ul> <li>Seton Hill's Campus Ministry, while Catholic in orientation, is open to all students and provides opportunities for students of all faith traditions to enrich their university experience by participation in prayer and worship, community service, social responsibility and sharing the gifts of faith with the entire community.</li> <li>Annual service events for students, faculty and staff include the Take the Day On Day of Service, Labor of Love, and trips to support communities in need over University academic breaks.</li> </ul>  |
| Small                          | → Diverse                     | 25<br>% | We are a diverse, close-knit community that excels in small, personalized learning environments.                        | <ul> <li>2600 students representing 48 states and 16 countries</li> <li>13:1 student to faculty ratio</li> <li>95% career/graduate school placement rate; 98% career placement rate for graduates of master's programs.</li> <li>35% minority students</li> <li>Students in the Education Division at Seton Hill work and learn (under professional supervision) at the University's nationally-accredited Child Development Center.</li> <li>Students, faculty and professional staff in all academic divisions travel together to other countries (or other locations in the U.S.) to learn, to teach, to make joint presentations at conferences, and to provide aid and assistance to communities in need.</li> <li>Students have faculty members in their field of study as professors (no courses are taught by graduate assistants) and as academic advisors throughout their time at Seton Hill.</li> <li>21 athletic programs are consistently ranked highly in academics in the conference and in the NCAA DII</li> <li>Partnership with the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM), the nation's largest medical college, with Seton Hill being one of 3 locations (Erie, Greensburg in PA and Bradenton, FL)</li> </ul> |



|                     |               |                     |         |  | • | Through the Seton Hill Government Association (SHGA) Seton Hill students have an important share in the governance of the University and have voting representation on some University committees.  Students are involved in the planning and implementation of the majority of Seton Hill's campus events and functions.  20 Student Ambassadors provide assistance and information on the university to alumni, donors and friends of the university.  42 student "Griffin Guides" provide tours of campus to prospective students and   |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------|--|---|--|
| Student<br>Centered | $\rightarrow$ | Student<br>Centered | 25<br>% | Students power the thought, innovation and ingenuity of the community. | • | families, assist with events for prospective students (like Open House) and are available to answer questions from prospective students via email, phone, social media, etc. on what it's "really like" to live and study at SHU.  Students and faculty members conduct research together, meaning students are led by the faculty but using the same equipment and principals (e.g., biology students are doing research through the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Science Education Alliance's PHAGES (Phage Hunters Advancing Genomics and Evolutionary Science) project.  Students and faculty perform together in music ensembles.  84 active student clubs (created by students and advised by faculty or professional staff) support student interests in everything from environmental awareness to swing dance.  5-8 mainstage student theatre and dance performances a year are featured at Seton Hill's Performing Arts Center. (Students perform, provide technical theatre services including lighting, music, set design, etc. and work in the Box Office.)  4 major exhibits of student art are held at Harlan Gallery every year; students also assist with 2 – 3 exhibits by local, regional and national artists at the gallery annually.  40 music performances at the Performing Arts Center a year feature student performers or other student involvement.  Students are actively involved in major academic and business initiatives undertaken by the university (the redesign of Seton Hill's website, for instance.)  The University mascot, the Griffin, is the result of a student vote; the main Griffin logos were created by a Seton Hill graphic design student. |
|                     |               |                     |         |  | • | Student-created business development is supported through education, training,   |



|  | resources and start-up funding through the Business Division, E-Magnify Women's Business Center and the Wukich Center for Entrepreneurial Opportunities.  • A true Town And Gown relationship with the city of Greensburg, especially prominent as 4 new buildings downtown are now a part of Seton Hill's downtown campus (including future housing). |
|--|--|
| We embrace Integrated > Integrated 25 technology to fit Technology % students for the world. | 0 0 11   |



# Sign off

A signature below represents your agreement that the information in this document is true and complete. Aha Media Group will consider the content strategy project complete upon receipt of this signed document.

Date



# **Appendices**

# **Appendix A: Participants of Persona & Identify Pillars Workshops**

#### **Persona Workshop Attendees**

|     | Name               | Title                                    |
|-----|--------------------|--|
| 1.  | Becky Bulebosh     | Director of Marketing                    |
| 2.  | Becca Baker        | Associate Marketing Director             |
| 3.  | Sara Day           | Associate Social Media Manager           |
| 4.  | Cory Campbell      | Director of Student Engagement           |
| 5.  | Benn Linger        | Information Technology                   |
| 6.  | Brett Freshour     | VP of Enrollment Management              |
| 7.  | Lisa Glessner      | Director of Graduate & Adult Studies     |
| 8.  | Ashley Josay Zullo | Director of Undergraduate Admissions     |
| 9.  | Jim Bosco          | Instructor, Hospitality & Tourism        |
| 10. | Jen Reeger         | Director of Media Relations              |
| 11. | Spencer Ball       | Freshman, Hospitality & Tourism          |
| 12. | Lindsey Cerilli    | Freshman, Student, Hospitality & Tourism |
| 13. | Jessica Jones      | Senior, Business Administration          |
| 14. | Gabrielle Gasman   | Senior, Hospitality & Tourism            |
| 15. | Sahara Duncan      | Freshman, Hospitality & Tourism          |
| 16. | Christian James    | Freshman, Hospitality & Tourism          |
| 17. | Brianna Kolencik   | Freshman, Hospitality & Tourism          |
| 18. | Sara Harmotta      | Senior, Hospitality & Tourism            |
| 19. | Zachery Hartmann   | Junior, Communication, Advocacy Media    |
| 20. | John Kowalewski    | Junior, Business Administration          |
| 21. | Arnold Lusby       | Sophomore, Undecided                     |
| 22. | Nicole Makos       | Junior, Theatre Design & Technology      |
| 23. | Samantha Wotus     | Junior, Hospitality & Tourism            |
| 24. | Katie Kincade      | Junior, Hospitality & Tourism            |
| 25. | Sara Mitchell      | Freshman, Hospitality & Tourism          |
| 26. | Kevin Hoffman      | Seven Heads Design                       |



| 27. | Jason Head        | Seven Heads Design |
|-----|-------------------|--------------------|
| 28. | Dan Mall          | Seven Heads Design |
| 29. | Robert Jolly      | Seven Heads Design |
| 30. | Lisa Maria Martin | Seven Heads Design |
| 31. | Ahava Leibtag     | Seven Heads Design |
| 32. | Talia Eisen       | Seven Heads Design |

## **Identity Pillars Workshop Attendees**

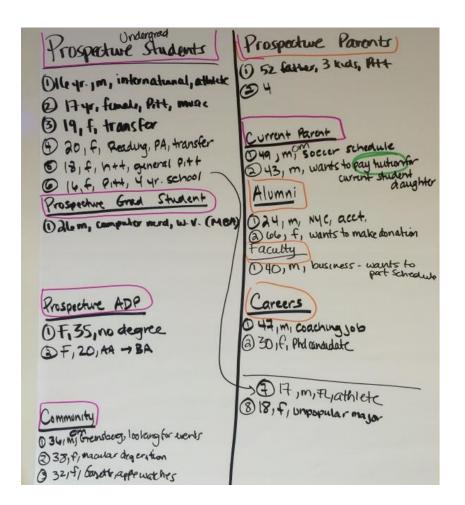
|     | Name                   | Title                                      |
|-----|------------------------|--|
| 1.  | Becky Bulebosh         | Director of Marketing                      |
| 2.  | Becca Baker            | Associate Marketing Director               |
| 3.  | Sara Day               | Associate Social Media Manager             |
| 4.  | Cory Campbell          | Director of Student Engagement             |
| 5.  | Benn Linger            | Information Technology                     |
| 6.  | Sister Maureen O'Brien | Director of Campus Ministry                |
| 7.  | Lisa Glessner          | Director of Graduate & Adult Studies       |
| 8.  | Curt Scheib            | Chair Division of Visual & Performing Arts |
| 9.  | Charmaine Strong       | Dean of Students                           |
| 10. | Robin Anke             | Associate Dean of Students                 |
| 11. | Sister Mary Kay Neff   | Associate Professor Art & Design           |
| 12. | Debra Faszer McMahon   | Associate Professor of Spanish             |
| 13. | Jen Jones              | Assistant Professor of Communications      |
| 14. | Barbara Flowers        | Instructor of Forensic Science             |
| 15. | Hannah Kirschner       | Freshman, Graphic Design                   |
| 16. | Erin Slagle            | Freshman, Graphic Design                   |
| 17. | Elaine Montgomery      | Freshman, Graphic Design                   |
| 18. | Alexandra Parady       | Sophomore, Graphic Design                  |
| 19. | Breanna Kelly          | Junior, Graphic Design                     |
| 20. | Dhiraj Totwani         | Sophomore, Graphic Design                  |
| 21. | Jephthe Ferdicks       | Sophomore, Graphic Illustrator             |
| 22. | Halie Torris           | Freshman, Graphic Design                   |
| 23. | Kevin Hoffman          | Seven Heads Design                         |
| 24. | Jason Head             | Seven Heads Design                         |
| 25. | Dan Mall               | Seven Heads Design                         |
| 26. | Robert Jolly           | Seven Heads Design                         |
| 27. | Lisa Maria Martin      | Seven Heads Design                         |
| 28. | Ahava Leibtag          | Seven Heads Design                         |
| 29. | Talia Eisen            | Seven Heads Design                         |

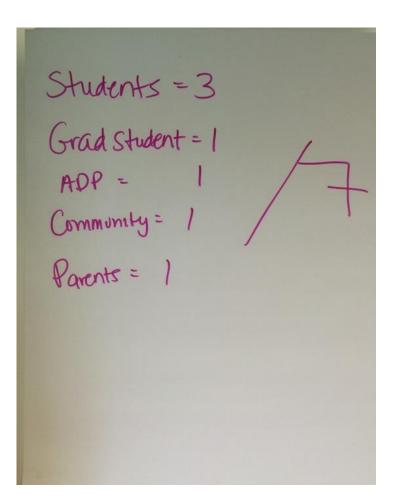


## Appendix B: Pictures of Persona Workshop

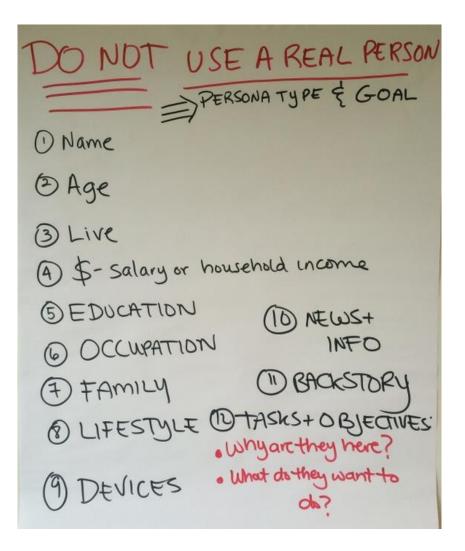
- lle year old male athlete, internationa 2 17 yr. female, musician, PAt. 3 52 father, 4 yr. eau, n.s. teacher, 3 kids 4 26 m, computer nerd, W.V., thinking MBA (dog) 19 transfer student, female 6 Female, 35, yob, but no degree, wants a B4, PAt (1) 24 year old male alom in MyC, acct. 1 Male, 47, looking for coaching job 9 20 yr old female artist from Reading, PA (6) 304r. old Prod candudate looking for you (1) 18 (his sensor), degree in hispitality town (Pitt-general) 12 36, Greensburg, laining for events for kings
- (13) No ye old female, Pitt., wants 4 ye school
- 49 yr. old man of socier player (schedule)
- It year old male student (FL) different athletic programs
- 10 40 year old business faculty member.

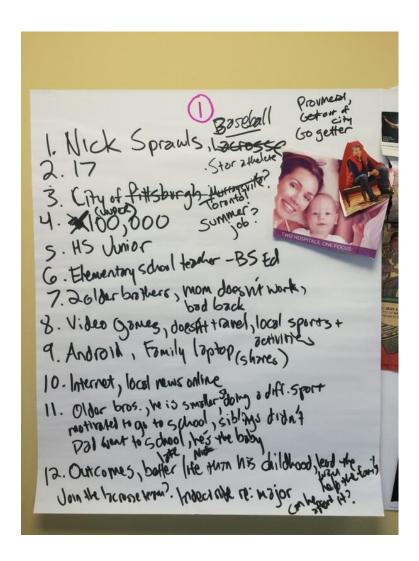
  post a field trip schedule
- 1 20 year old AA -> BA
- (B) 66 yr. alumna (\$) wants to make a donation
- (5) 18 year old (fist generation) ma non-popular major
- 33 yr. old Female, Grandaug city council of maguerate
- (4) 32 year old repoter for Garette apprematches?
- (2) 43 father of current student tidio brillion daughter





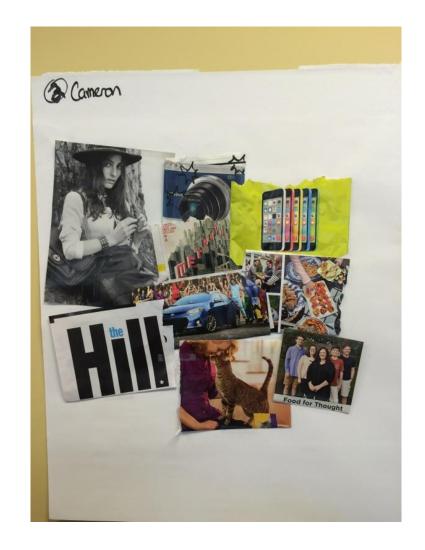
Student = 17, m, athlete (2) Student = 18, f, graphic design Tranfer student = 20, Wassester (4) ADP student - personal, 35, F (5) Grad Student, m, computer nerd, WV, Community Members = Interested in arts, sports, F, 45 (7) Havent - current - keep up to date on schedule M,52

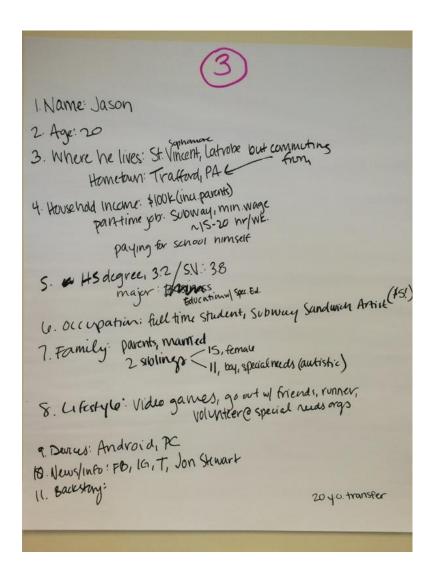




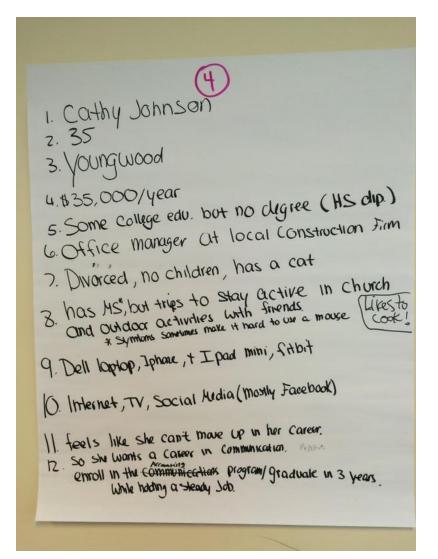


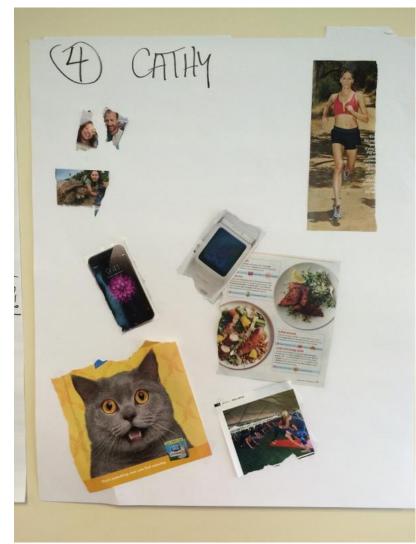






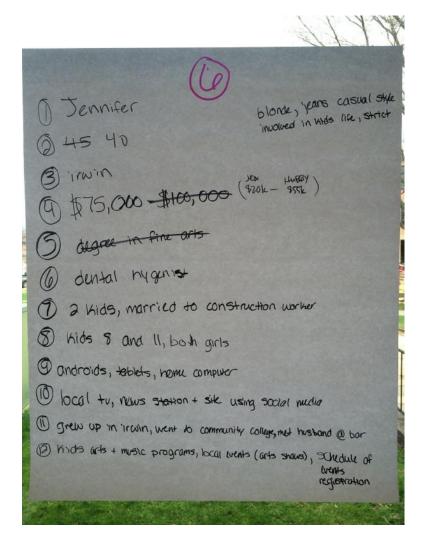














Current Parent Male, 52 wants to pay tuition online pree kids socres wants to pay tuition online pree kids schedule John Cranberry, sub(expensive)

Acet, \$150K (wife, Suzana, 48, reaptionist)

\* pak & pak

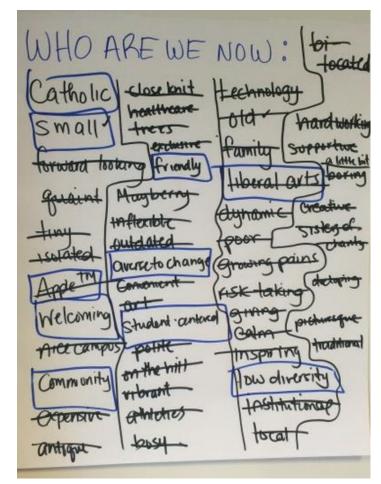
makes #20K

makes #20K Penn State, undergrad, not wife @ pits pirate when she was 25 she become a single how, son, Cooper They got married when cooper was 10 Helps pay to put cooper through 5 college (cooper work to public school) He dignit really want to get married, no interest in more kids Boring, wears suits but from Bos Covs, drives old consider seab Applehous, chillys, kings, coffee systems but not forced one a your Black Housery - old school Richtop (not good) ASUS Hack Friday scale, by has a tablet but charit Read's Pitt Post Gorette , No Social media , no pret exercise



## **Appendix C: Pictures of Identity Pillars Workshop**





| 11/00 1        | 10.1-            | T-                      | TOOT               |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Who I          |                  | WANT                    | 10 BE              |
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| respected      |                  | accessible              | Successor          |
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| great          | potential        | advancing               | vintage            |
| placement      | Smart            | Social                  |                    |
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| Odropoverel    | arts             | Contract                | Changing           |
|                |                  |                         |                    |

| Who DO WE                      | WANT T        | OBE              |
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| Flowble exclusive              | accessible    | Succession       |
| great potential                | advancing     | welcoming        |
| Statement Smart Smart Mersmant | family        | afferdable       |
| Thinking quality               | intertwined   | accepting        |
| professional impressive        | Connected     | Heading 1        |
| decomodatus a home             | Conducive     | 6 complessed     |
| growing creative               | *19K-taking   | Opportunity-     |
| Chamiel Syrate of the          | Cantalore     | thanking the     |

Move to Current Catholic vibrant Small Catholic welcoming Studentcentered Community opportunity focused friendly Smart investment averce to change traditions Student-centered diverse liberal arts advancing low diversity welcomina Applem

