

How I generate my homepage

Wouter Swierstra

THE ACADEMIC HOMEPAGE

ALSO KNOWN AS:

"EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR PROFESSOR FROM TEN YEARS AGO."

PROF. BRIAN SMITH

AFFILIATIONS

PROFESSOR HERE, PROFESSOR THERE, DIRECTOR OF THIS, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF THAT. SERIOUSLY, ALL I DO IS GO TO MEETINGS.

EDUCATION

B.S. FROM DOES IT REALLY MATTER?
PH.D. FROM A SCHOOL OF GREATER RANKING THAN THIS ONE.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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RESEARCH PAGE: [HTTP://WWW-HOME.STANFORDTECH.EDU/~BSMITH](http://www-home.stanfordtech.edu/~bsmith)
PERSONAL PAGE: [HTTP://WWW-HOME.STANFORDTECH.EDU/~BSMITH](http://www-home.stanfordtech.edu/~bsmith) } SAME THING

RESEARCH INTERESTS

HERE IS A LIST OF PROJECTS I DON'T WORK ON ANYMORE:

- STUFF I'M KNOWN FOR
- A PET PROJECT THAT DIED A LONG TIME AGO
- MY "SIDE" BUSINESS

AWARDS AND HONORS

CHAIR OF THIS, CHAIR OF THAT, FELLOW OF THIS, FELLOW OF THAT
(CURIOUSLY, THIS IS THE ONLY SECTION THAT IS KEPT UP-TO-DATE)

"RECENT" PUBLICATIONS

SMITH, B. S., "THE PAPER I WROTE 20 YEARS AGO THAT I'M FAMOUS FOR", TOP JOURNAL IN MY FIELD, VOL. 34, 1987

SMITH, B. S., ET AL. "A RANDOMLY SELECTED PAPER FROM THE COUNTLESS THAT HAVE MY NAME ON THEM"

[MY CURRICULUM VITAE](#), A 200 PAGE DOCUMENT THAT WILL SHOCK AND AWE YOU.

CLASS NOTES

[NOTES FROM A CLASS](#) I TAUGHT TEN YEARS AGO (THAT I STILL USE TODAY)

COUNTER: (MOSTLY GRAD STUDENTS GOOGLE STALKING THEIR ADVISORS)

LAST UPDATED: SHORTLY AFTER THE INTERNET WAS INVENTED



I USED TO BE YOUNG ONCE
(BEFORE JOINING THE DARK SIDE)

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Design constraints

- I don't want to write HTML;
- I regularly add slides and publications, but not much else;
- I want to avoid data duplication.
- I don't want to rely on unstable libraries.
- I have a small brain.

Existing solutions, an incomplete list

- Pandoc;
- Hakyll;
- `yesod/snap/happstack...`;
- `blogination/bamboo/orchid/...`
- `piki/moe/html/blaze`;

What I use

- I use a combination of homebrew scripts and custom data types;
- Blaze HTML combinator library;
- Static CSS and HTML template;
- Separate pages for index, publications, talks, teaching, etc.

Example code

```
data Publ = Publ
  { pubTitle :: String,
    pubAuthors :: [String],
    pubInfo :: String,
    link :: Href,
    otherFormats :: [(Format, Href)]
  }
```

```
data Format = BibTeX | Source | Zip | Coq | ACM | JFP
data Href = Local String | HTTP String
```

Example

```
polyDyn2 =  
  let name = "PolymorphicDynamics" in  
  Publ "A library for polymorphic dynamic typing"  
  ["Wouter Swierstra", "Thomas van Noort"]  
  "Submitted to JFP"  
  (pdf name) [(BibTeX, bib name), (Source, zip "Dynamics")]
```

Formatting publications

```
formatPubl :: Publs.Publ -> Html
formatPubl publ = theLinks <+> theInfo
  where
    theLinkAddress = Publs.address publicationsDir (Publs.link publ)
    theHref = href (toValue theLinkAddress)
    acc html (format,link) =
      let address = Publs.address publicationsDir link in
      let attr = href (toValue address) in
      let linkText = toHtml ("[" ++ show format ++ "]") in
      html <+> toHtml " " <+> (a ! attr $ linkText)
    theLinks = dt $ foldl acc theTitleLink (Publs.otherFormats publ)
    theTitleLink = a ! theHref $ preEscapedString (Publs.publTitle publ)
    theInfo = dd $ theAuthorInfo <+> toHtml ". " <+> thePublInfo <+> toHtml "."
    thePublInfo = preEscapedString $ Publs.publInfo publ
    theAuthorInfo = preEscapedString $ makeAuthorList (Publs.publAuthors publ)
```


Code reuse

```
formatPubls :: [Publs.Publ] -> Html  
formatPubls publs = (d1 $ Monoid.mconcat (map formatPubl publs))
```

More code reuse

```
recentWorkHtml =  
  (h3 $ toHtml "Recent work") <+> recentPubls <+> morePubls  
recentPubls = formatPubls (take 4 Publs.publs)  
morePubls = a ! publsAttr $ toHtml "More publications..."  
publsAttr = href (toValue "publications.html")
```

Main

```
main = do
  putStrLn "Setting up output directory..."
  setup
  putStrLn "Collecting input data..."
  File.copyFile (inputDir ++ cssFile) (outputDir ++ cssFile)
  currentTime <- Clock.getCurrentTime
  let contactFile = inputDir ++ "contact.html"
  myContactDetails <- Monad.liftM lines $ readFile contactFile
  putStrLn "Assembling pages..."
  let pages = [homePage, publicationsPage, talksPage]
  let info = SideBarInfo {currentTime = currentTime,
                        contactDetails = myContactDetails,
                        pages = pages}

  let publish page = BS.writeFile (outputDir ++ targetFile page) (htmlPage info page)
  putStrLn "Generating HTML..."
  mapM publish pages
  putStrLn "Tidying HTML..."
  tidyPages pages
  putStrLn "Successfully generated homepage."
```

Duplication?

- Bibtex and HTML are close, but they're not quite the same.
- LaTeX accents vs HTML codes;
- `\noopsort{van Noort}`;
- ...
- I want my publications in reverse chronological order, uniformly formatted.

What's missing?

- Better Bibtex2html.
- What about slides?
- Is it worth migrating to a fancier library?

What's missing?

Nothing. If it's not broke, don't fix it.