



Why Content Strategy

Using content to show your value



Facets of content strategy

Content

What is it

- Core work
- Product info
- Technical documentation
- Marketing content
- Task-focused content

Why we need it

- Business goals
- Audience needs
- Success metrics

How to present & connect it

- Format
- Structure
- Taxonomy

How/where to store it

- CMS
- CRM
- AMS

How it happens

- Staffing/skills
- Process/workflow
- Calendar/internal comms

How/where to publish/promote it

- Website
- Newsletter
- Social media

Who decides?

- Roles
- Process/workflow
- Standards

What is content?

- Product details
- Courses
- Conference sessions
- Press releases
- Program information
- Membership details
- Journal articles
- Advocacy issue updates
- Original research
- Industry standards & guidelines
- Support content
- Marketing collateral
- Etc., etc., etc.

Content takes different forms

- Web pages
- Blog posts
- Infographics
- Images
- PDFs
- Video
- Audio
- Articles
- Brochures
- Reports
- Social media posts
- Podcasts
- Courses
- Etc., etc., etc.

**Content is the way
our work
is manifested
in the world**

What is content strategy?

The right content

To the right person

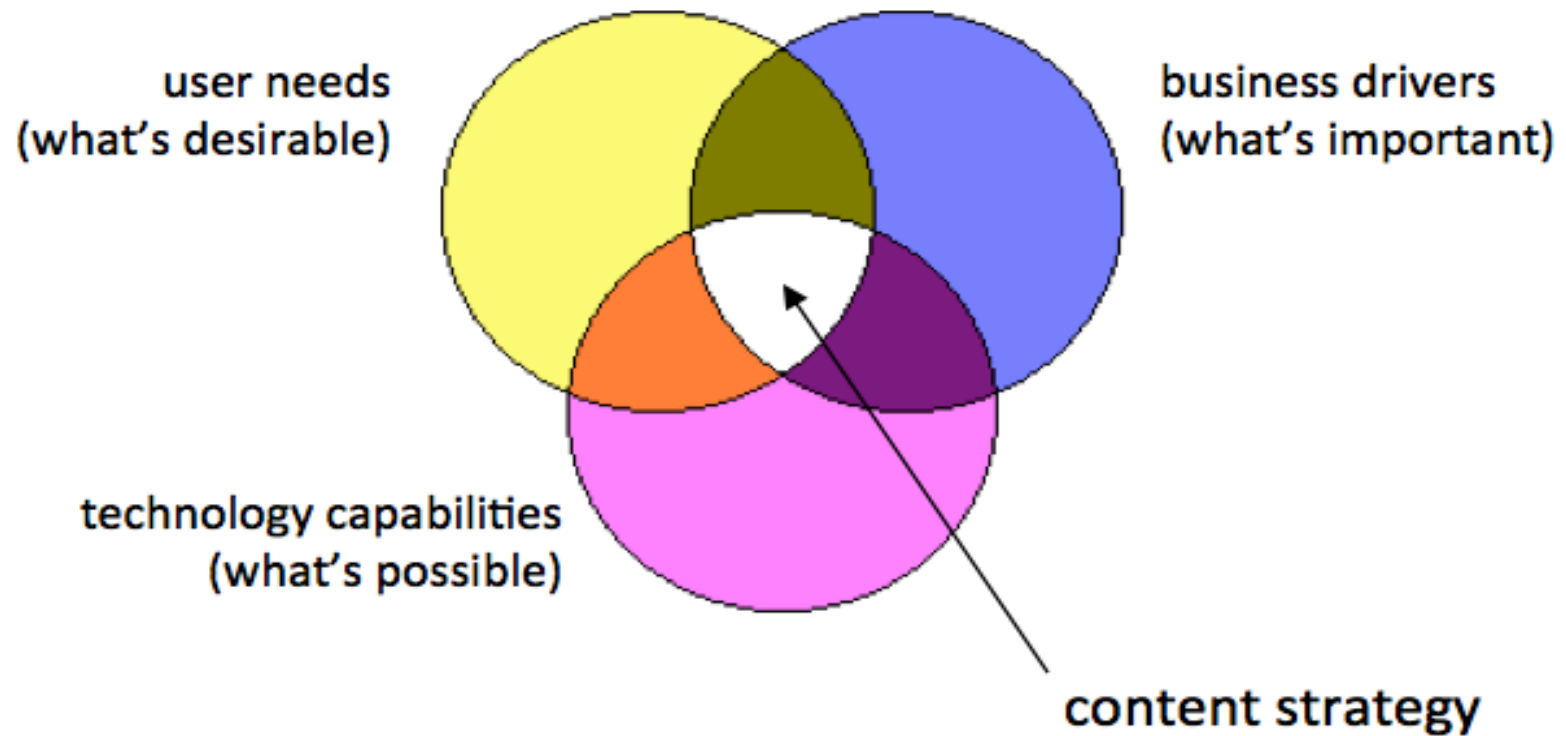
At the right time

For the right action

Put another way....

Content strategy is the practice of planning for the creation, delivery, and governance of useful, usable, **effective** content.

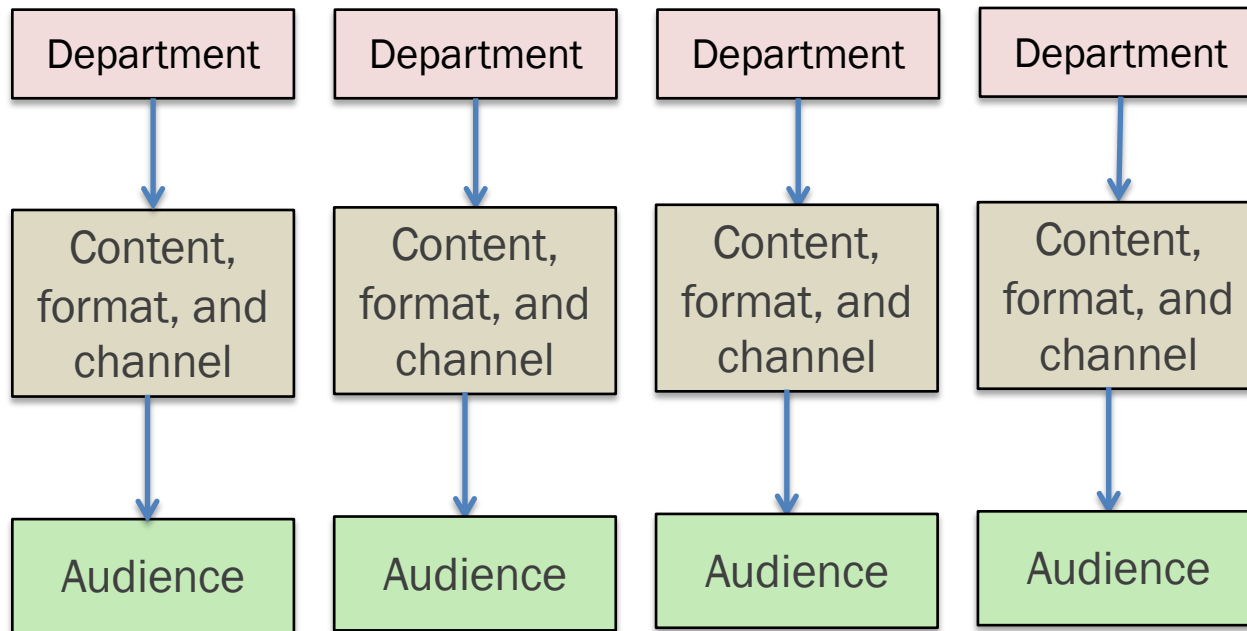
Three faces



Content strategy principles

- The organization creates content that its audiences want
- The organization creates content that helps it meet its goals
- Content has success metrics and is measured against those
- Content that is no longer relevant is no longer available
- Content is promoted, surfaced, and cross-linked based on its topic, not its source
- Content is created in the organization's voice
- The organization manages content platforms, tools, and channels in a way that ensures their effectiveness

Old thinking



Silos



Different views of the audience



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Blind_men_and_elephant.png



<http://www.amazon.com/Have-Always-Done-That-Way/dp/184728857X/>

Consequences

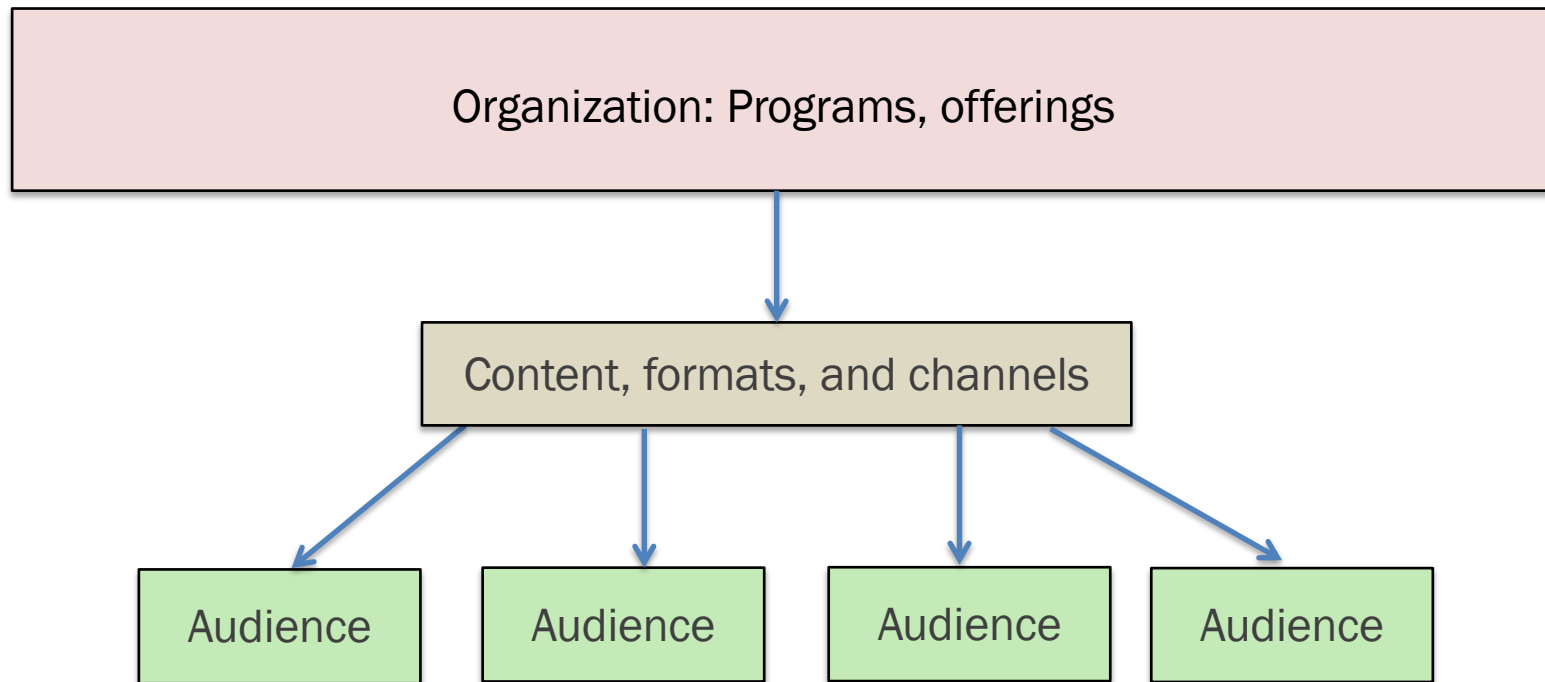
- Difficulty prioritizing
- Diluted impact
- Lack of understanding of your value

**“Users don’t care about your
org chart.”**

—Lou Rosenfeld

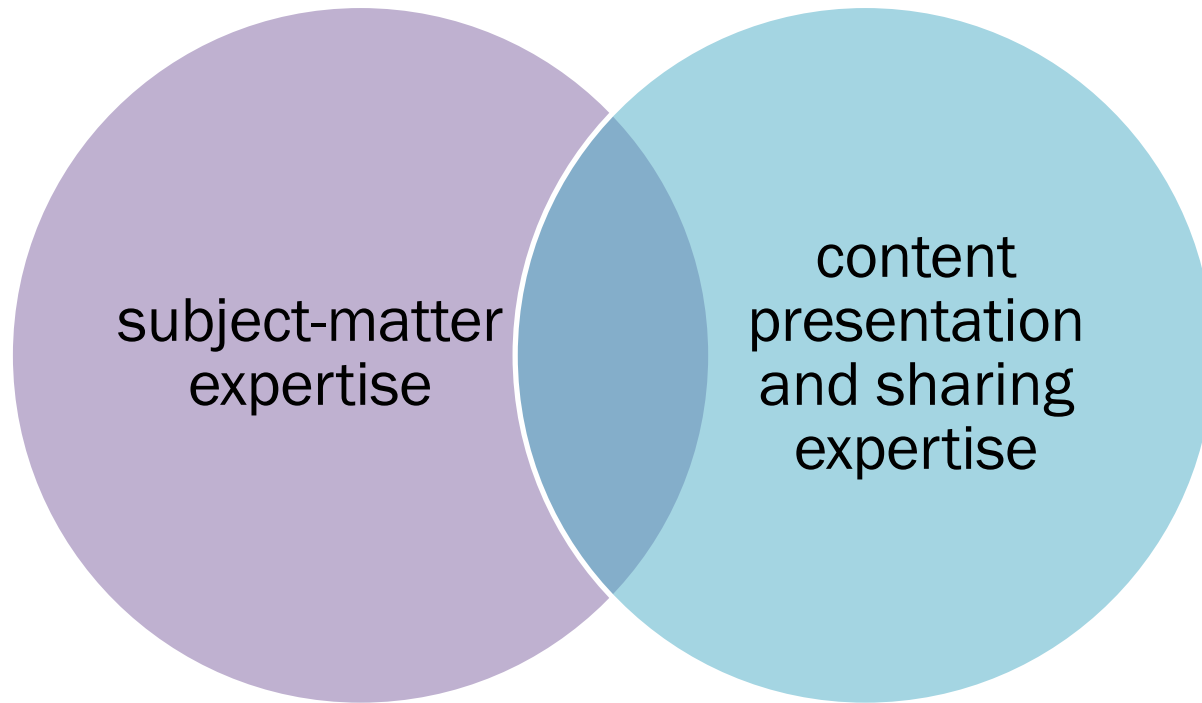
Author, *Information Architecture for the World Wide Web*

New thinking



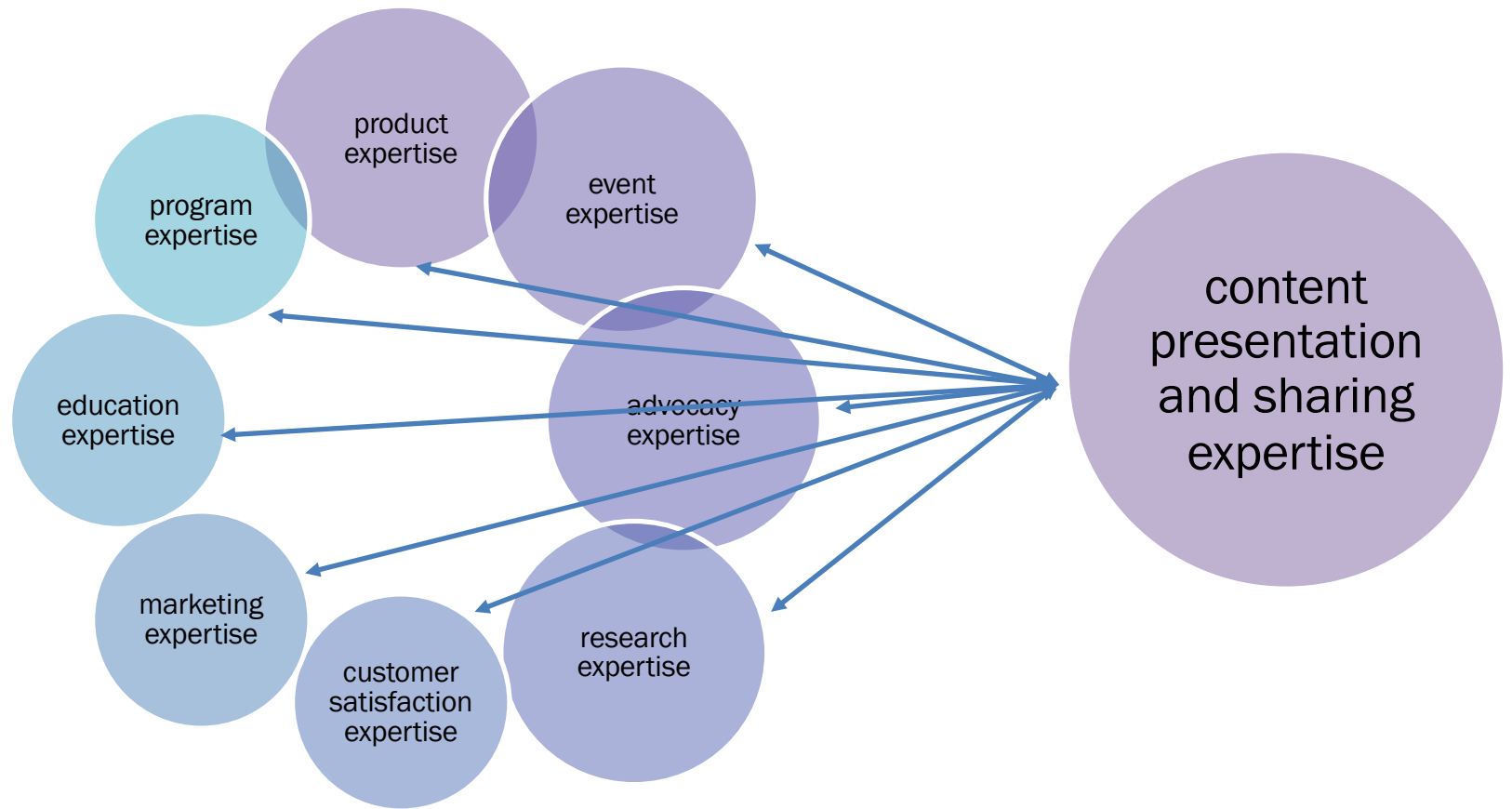


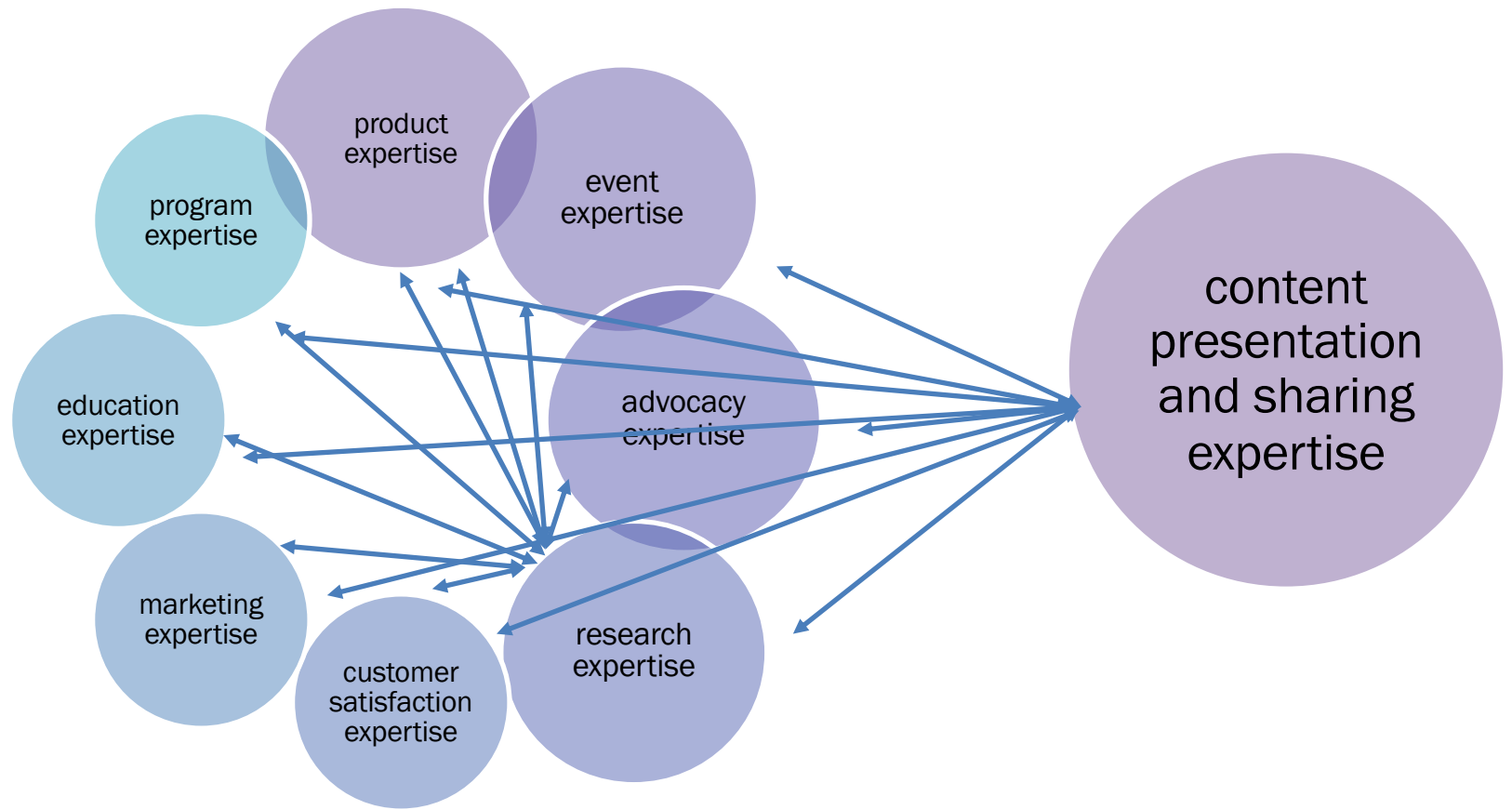
Spirit of partnership

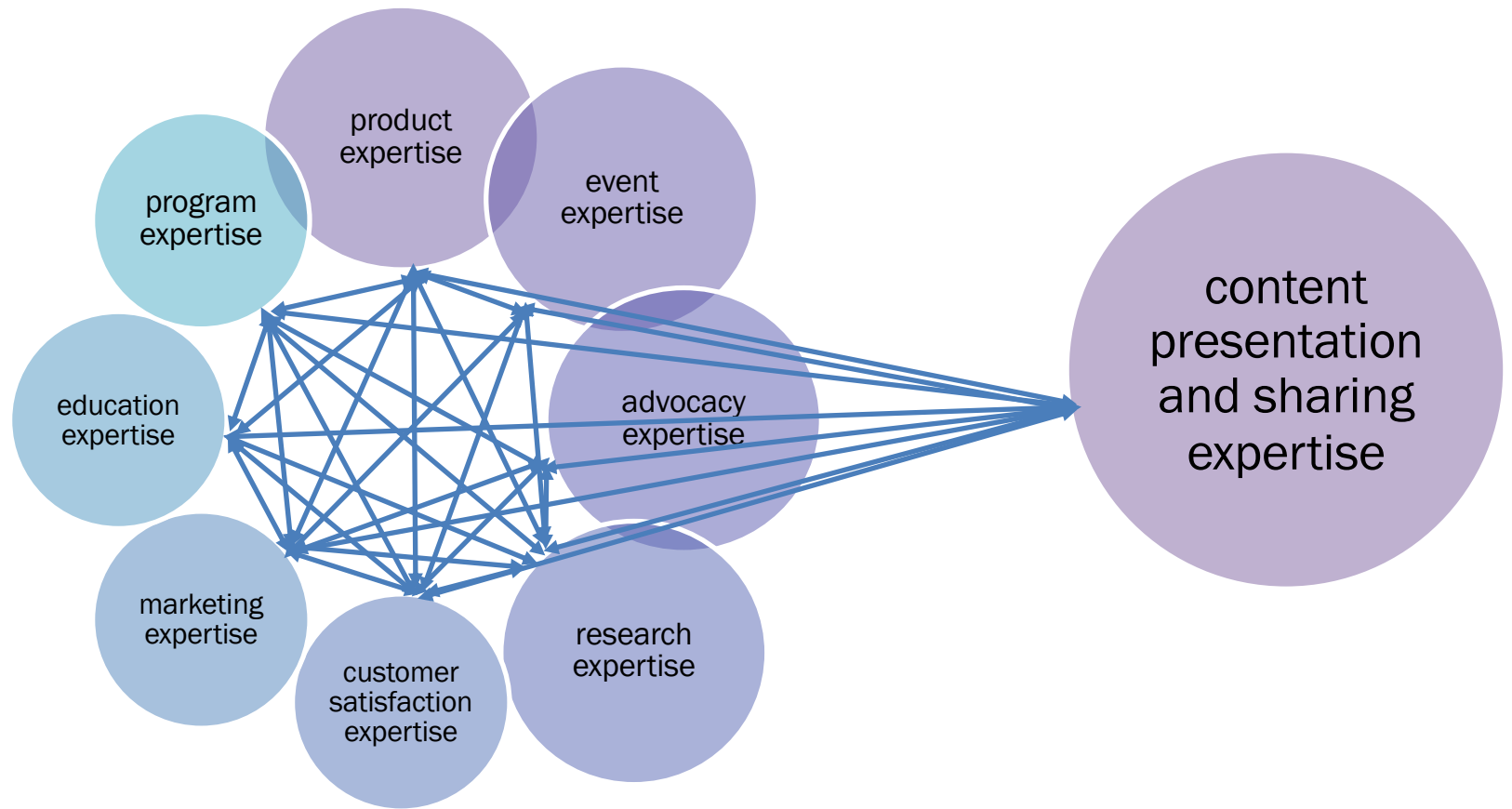






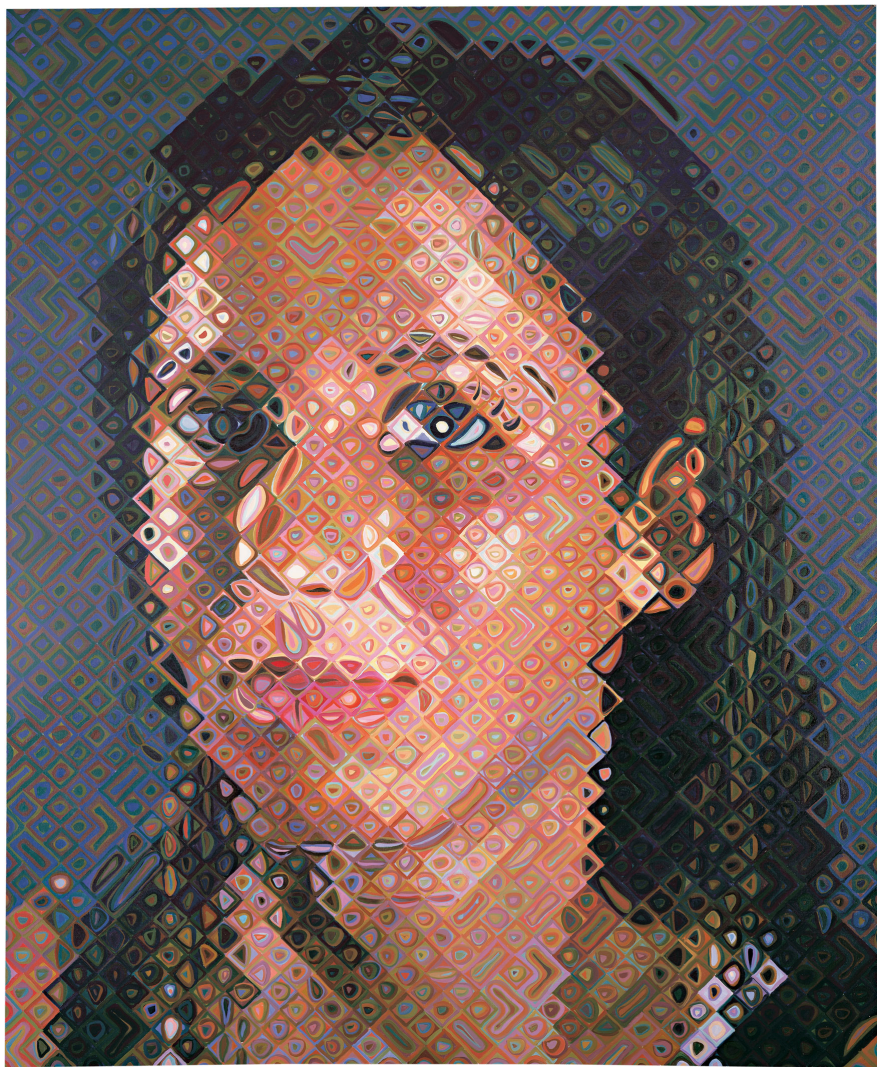








http://chuckclose.com/work253_zoom.html



Typical project flow

1. Understand organization and project goals
2. Understand the dynamics and goals of top-priority audiences
3. Audit and assess content
4. Analyze content from competitive organizations
5. Develop content creation and publishing guidelines
6. Identify roles, content lifecycles, workflow, governance models

Typical project flow

7. Facilitate the creation of a single, organization-wide taxonomy
8. Plan for content transformation and migration
9. Create a framework for content planning and promotions
10. Determine staffing needs
11. Plan for sustainability

A photograph of four business professionals (two women and two men) sitting at a conference table, clapping their hands. They are all looking towards the left side of the frame. The setting appears to be a modern office with large windows in the background showing a view of a lake and mountains. The text 'Working together for audience satisfaction' is overlaid on the left side of the image in a blue, sans-serif font.

**Working
together
for audience
satisfaction**

Connect and join

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/hilarymarsh

Twitter: twitter.com/hilarymarsh

Newsletter: contentcompany.biz/newsletter

Community: content-strategy.com

The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly blurred photograph of an open book. The pages are a light, off-white color, and the dark cover of the book is visible at the edges. A semi-transparent rectangular box is centered over the book, containing the text.

Thank you!

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