Engaging stakeholders through social networking: How nonprofit organizations are using Facebook.

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Engaging stakeholders through social networking: How nonprofit organizations are using Facebook

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Abstract

Since social networking sites, such as MySpace and Facebook, began allowing organizations to create profiles and become active members, organizations have started incorporating these strategies into their public relations programming. For-profit organizations have used these sites to help launch products and strengthen their existing brands; however, little is known about how nonprofit organizations are taking advantage of the social networking popularity. Through a content analysis of 275 nonprofit organization profiles on Facebook, this study examines how these new social networking sites are being used by the organizations to advance their organization's mission and programs. Solely having a profile will not in itself increase awareness or trigger an influx of participation. Instead careful planning and research will greatly benefit nonprofits as they attempt to develop social networking relationships with their

stakeholders.



Next article

Keywords

Social networking; Facebook; Nonprofit organizations; Social media

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