

# CUNY Academic Commons - Design/UX #11843

## Tweaking the Gutenberg Editor Interface

2019-09-10 02:58 PM - Laurie Hurson

<b>Status:</b>	New	<b>Start date:</b>	2019-09-10
<b>Priority name:</b>	Normal	<b>Due date:</b>	
<b>Assignee:</b>		<b>% Done:</b>	0%
<b>Category name:</b>	WordPress (misc)	<b>Estimated time:</b>	0.00 hour
<b>Target version:</b>	1.19.0		
<b>Description</b>			
Continuing a discussion that began in ticket <a href="#">#11833</a> : CC Image Plugin: <a href="https://redmine.gc.cuny.edu/issues/11833">https://redmine.gc.cuny.edu/issues/11833</a>			
When a user is editing in the Gutenberg block editor view, the "Simple CSS" field is open/visible by default. This has confused multiple people who have entered post content in this field instead of into the content field. We may want to consider making the default setting for the "Simple CSS" area to closed/minimized.			
Additionally, the content area where users enter the body of their post or page is poorly defined as the main place to enter info. The directional text in the content area is very small and the color contrast likely does not meet accessibility standards. We may want to consider reformatting this text in the block editor to make it more accessible and user friendly.			
I think this also raises larger issues of accessibility of the block editor in general. Accessibility issues associated with the block editor were raised when Gutenberg was released but I am not sure how many of these issues have actually been addressed and fixed. I think Boone may know more about this?			
<b>Related issues:</b>			
Related to CUNY Academic Commons - Feature #12052: The Simple CSS metabox sho...		<b>Resolved</b>	<b>2019-11-08</b>

### History

#### #1 - 2019-09-10 03:25 PM - Boone Gorges

- Target version set to 1.16

Thanks for this, Laurie. Collapsing the meta box by default should be doable for 1.16.

Regarding the "poorly defined" content area - are you referring to the gray text "Add title" and "Start writing..." prompts? See screenshot. This has been improved by the Gutenberg team since it was originally rolled out; see <https://github.com/WordPress/gutenberg/pull/9562>, <https://github.com/WordPress/gutenberg/issues/5838>. The current colors do pass WCAG AA contrast levels at the font sizes used in the Gutenberg placeholders: <https://contrastchecker.com/?c=7e868f&b=ffffff>

Here's a copy of the accessibility audit performed on the version of Gutenberg that was included in WP 5.0: [https://documents.wpcampus.org/gutenberg/audit/Gutenberg\\_Executive\\_Summary.pdf](https://documents.wpcampus.org/gutenberg/audit/Gutenberg_Executive_Summary.pdf) There have been changes since then, and many issues are improved. For example, the new Navigation Mode (will be part of WP 5.3) introduces a new set of tools specifically designed with screen readers in mind. The state of things is in constant flux, but generally speaking, the pace of improvement has been accelerating, and accessibility is an increasingly important part of Gutenberg design.

#### #2 - 2019-11-08 10:50 AM - Boone Gorges

- Related to Feature #12052: The Simple CSS metabox should be closed by default added

#### #3 - 2019-11-08 10:52 AM - Boone Gorges

- Category name set to WordPress (misc)

- Target version changed from 1.16 to 1.17.0

I broke the Simple CSS issue into its own ticket, so that it wouldn't be lost in the broader discussion. Let's use this to circle back to accessibility questions in Gutenberg.

#### #4 - 2020-07-15 10:42 AM - Boone Gorges

- Target version changed from 1.17.0 to 1.18.0

A lot of progress has been made on accessibility in the Block Editor in the past 6-12 months. I think it's worth doing a review in the upcoming months to identify any major problems, but I'm hopeful that many of them have already been addressed or mitigated in WP itself.

**#5 - 2020-11-10 12:15 PM - Boone Gorges**

- *Target version changed from 1.18.0 to 1.19.0*