Advanced Topic - How do I customize a directory listing in sites.umbc.edu?

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You can use the Advanced Directory Syntax to customize who is shown in a directory listing.

First, ensure that the page includes "Campus Directory" information, and that you selected the "Use Advanced Directory Syntax" option. (info here).

Once selected, you can include the Advanced Directory Syntax along with any other page content using the Visual page editor. An example of the syntax is as follows:

![Visual page editor interface]

Each listing starts with a `[people]` tag, contains one or more `[person]` tags inside, and ends with a `[people]` tag.

- Each `[person]` tag can have the following attributes:
  - `id` - the UMBC Username or Campus ID of a person. (Required).
  - `title` - title to display for the person in the listing, overriding any title they may have set. (Optional - if omitted, uses the title set on the Directory Information page).
  - `link` - URL for a link on the persons name in the listing. (Optional - if omitted, links to a dynamic profile page).

Limiting the Available Profiles

This section is only relevant if you are manually creating links to each persons profile, and not using the default listing that the Advanced Directory Syntax provides.

If you decide to set a page to "Use Advanced Directory Syntax" and then design the user listing manually (not recommended, but an option if you know what you are doing), some additional considerations need to be taken. So that search engines (Google, Bing, etc.) only include links to people still linked from your page, you should still include the Advanced Directory Syntax providing the "hide" attribute as shown below:
You should include a single "[people]" tag (either above or below your custom listing), with the "hide=yes" attribute. Within this section, add a "[person]" tag for each person you are linking to. Because the "hide=yes" attribute was added these people will not automatically be visibly listed, as they would with the "hide=yes" attribute omitted. Instead, the page will allow you to manually link to the profile using whatever formatting you wish to use. If you use these tags, any profile you manually link to that is not added to the page as a "[person]" tag will result in a "Page not Found" type error.

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