

Technical Advisory Group Meeting

Notes

Date: 01/27/2022

Attendees:

Grant Eben, Jay Cephas, Amanda Wyatt Visconti, Cole Hudson, Erin Glass, Lisa Tagliaferri, Marisa Parham, Matthew Gold, Phillip Payne, Samya Roy, Terence T. Smyre, Venetria Patton, Kathleen Fitzpatrick, Bonnie Russell

Advance Regrets: Martin Paul Eve

See [agenda](#) doc for full details.

- Introductions
- Director Updates
 - Mellon grant helping to expand team
 - Mike Thicke – full time developer
 - 2 half-time technical employees
 - Infrastructure Developer
 - Identity Management
 - Community Development Manager
 - User Engagement Specialist
 - What forward means? Expansion
 - 7 years ago started MLA Commons
 - 5 years ago Humanities Commons
 - Pilot project designed to be a cooperative space that scholarly societies would support together.
 - Covid has hit budgets of those societies, so we are looking at academic institutions that may need these kinds of services
 - Need to open the platform to more than just Humanities Commons, but the identity matters in that there is a digital space for the humanities
 - Expand the federation by creating STEM and Social Science Commons and will be joined by a central hub to collaborate across disciplines
 - We're developing an extensive technical roadmap
- Site overview
 - Instructors are using the Commons for courses using groups and group sites
 - Group blogging and the collaborative documents are particularly useful
 - The Learning Space theme by the MLA integrates an event calendar and other functionality helpful for courses

- Roadmap
 - Expansion to further organizations, institutions, and to STEM and social science users
 - Two more organizations joining the Commons network in 2022

Discussion

- Thinking about new community models, including ways to surface user content and make it easier for users to find community on the site.
- Upgrading the repository by including support for multiple files on upload, more support for datasets and technical documents, and allowing versioning and possible open peer review.
- Encouraging discussion and interaction is an innovation for scientists. We are also in dialog with [COAR Notify](#) – communications built on top of repositories to allow, for example, for peer review and overlay journals.
- Opportunities for involvement:
 - Closer examination of our code
 - Commons integration
 - Encouraging open development / community contribution