iSGTW Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday November 18, 2013, from **08:00** to **09:30** (Mountain Time); **16:00** to **17:00** (Central European Time); **23:00** to **01:00** (Taipei)

## Present

*Chair:* Catherine Gater (CG)

*Present:* Paul Avery (PA) – joined at 8.30

Melissa Galliard (MG)

Daphne Siefert-Herron (DSH)

Ruth Pordes – joined at 09:00

*Editors:* Andrew Purcell (AP)

*Apologies:* Bob Jones (BJ), Steve Lloyd (SL), Amber Harmon (AH)

*Minutes:* Catherine Gater

## Proceedings

*Convenor: Catherine Gater*

#### Opening of the meeting and formalities

##### Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved.

##### Approval of previous minutes

The minutes from 24 July 2013 were approved.

##### Announcement of AOB items

No further AOB items were announced.

## Review of actions

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ACTION** | **RESPONSIBLE** | **STATUS** | **REVIEW** |
| 20111004:4 Work with XSEDE & PRACE and others to get their level of engagement up to a level that the board is happy with.  | Catherine Gater/Ruth Pordes | OPEN – Meeting with PRACE at EGI.eu on 6 Jan 2014  | Next Board Meeting |
| 20121114:4 Explore a media partnership with SC13 organisers | Amber Harmon | CLOSE  | Next Board meeting |
| 20121114:6 Liaise with QMUL on working out the division of activity between QMUL and Xenomedia | Kevin Munday / Catherine Gater | OPEN  | Next Board meeting |
| 20130824:1 Develop and all to agree a social media implementation plan from the current strategy  | Andrew Purcell | CLOSE | August |
| 20130824:2 Meeting to agree social media implementation plan | Andrew Purcell / Amber Harmon | CLOSE | August / September |
| 20130824:3: Investigate possibility of student effort at CERN on Drupal upgrade | Melissa Galliard | CLOSE | August |
| 20130824:4 Contact FermiLab communications department and see if the support (budget) for iSTW with Xenomedia is at risk. | Ruth Pordes / Catherine Gater | CLOSE | August / September |

* 20111004:4 Work with XSEDE & PRACE to increase their level of engagement.
	+ Meeting with PRACE at EGi.eu on 6 January 2014.
	+ REMAINS OPEN
* 20121114:4 Explore a media partnership with SC13 organisers
	+ iSGTW is one of the media partners for SC13 and has a booth
	+ CLOSED
* 20121114:6 Liaise with QMUL on working out the division of activity between QMUL and Xenomedia
	+ Transfer of CMS maintenance to be discussed
	+ REMAINS OPEN
* 20130824:1 Develop and all to agree a social media implementation plan from the current strategy
	+ Social media plan circulated, discussed and agreed in September.
	+ CLOSED
* 20130824:2 Meeting to agree social media implementation plans
	+ Meeting held 23 September 2014.
	+ Implementation plans agreed.
	+ AH working with Xenomedia to add a region tag to new subscribers, and to upload the pending US subscriptions to the database.
	+ CLOSED
* 20130824:3 Investigate possibility of student effort at CERN on Drupal upgrade
	+ Student effort not available summer 2013.
	+ Possible student effort for summer 2014, deadline for applications is end of January 2014
	+ CLOSED
* 20130824:4 Contact FermiLab communications department and see if the support (budget) for iSTW with Xenomedia is at risk
	+ Confirmation received from Katie Yurkowicz that Fermilab funding for iSGTW CMS support through Xenomedia will end on 31 August 2014.
	+ CLOSED

#### Status report

*Convenor: Catherine Gater (slides attached to agenda at* <https://indico.egi.eu/indico/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=1886>*)*

* E-ScienceTalk project ended on 30 August 2013
* Final review successful, project received a third excellent rating from the reviewers.
* Andrew Purcell now at 0.75 FTE on iSGTW based at CERN.
* Comments cleared from the CMS
* Christmas shutdown – no issues on 25/12/13 and 1/1/14
* Media partnerships with ISC Big Data, ISC Cloud, EUDAT, SC13 events
* Content sharing agreements with MyScienceWork and SUCRE CloudSource Magazine
* Meda partnership agreed with EGI Community Forum 2014, and under negotiation with ISC’14.
* Several events attended by EU and US editors, often through media partnerships
* On track to achieve over half a million page views this year
* Traffic over last 2 months steady, with increasing traffic from Asia, especially India.
* Newsletter subscribers at 8.817, 1759 Twitter followers, 1207 Facebook ‘likes’, Klout peaked at 57

**DISCUSSION**

Board discusses potential reasons for high number of page views. Reasons include using social media to drive traffic to the website, which boosts page views when subscriber numbers plateau. Other reasons include ensuring that content is timely, linked to key events, or to world news, such as the Nobel prizes.

Twitter subscriber increase has slowed slightly due to the decrease in editorial time available to engage with it.

Several hundred new US subscribers should be added once the tagging issue is solved. If it is not possible to add these with the new regional tag through the CMS backend, Indiana will pay for a data entry clerk to add them manually.

#### Development and hosting of the site

*Convenor: Catherine Gater*

**DISCUSSION**

* Xenomedia continues to provide updates to the CMS hosted by QMUL.
* QMUL unwilling to maintain CMS on Drupal 6 but would be willing to do so on Drupal 7. Cost of porting to Drupal 7 is high in terms of effort and cost.
* Xenomedia proposes to wait until Drupal 8 gets released at the end of the year.
* Fermilab financial support for the iSGTW CMS through Xenomedia ends on 31 August 2014.
* Until 31 August 2014, the Fermilab contract with Xenomedia will support day to day maintenance and small changes to the website(such as event banners) but no major upgrades or porting.
* QMUL have manpower to maintain the CMS, but not to update the versions.
* Main item of maintenance at the moment is changing banner ads for events.
* CERN could provide student effort in summer 2014, but they would need direct access to the server from CERN.
* Deadline for application for student effort at CERN is end of January 2014.
* Indiana University will investigate whether financial or effort support would be available for the website.

**ACTION**: CG to contact Fermilab and Xenomedia about the status of Drupal 8

**ACTION**: CG to convene transition planning meeting with Xenomedia, QMUL, CERN and IU.

**ACTION:** MG to investigate student effort at CERN

**ACTION:** DSH to investigate support from IU

#### Sustainability for iSGTW

* USA funding from NSF is stable, new funds for 2014 received in November.
* EU funding call will open on 11 December 2013 with calls closing 2 September 2014.
* Projects may start from 1 January 2014 in theory, but pre-financing will not be received until May 2015.
* It is not clear whether there is a suitable part of the call for iSGTW in 2014.
* AP partner (ASGC) has had cuts to their communications teams and can leverage other effort if needed.

**DISCUSSION**

The later than expected close of the EU Horizon2020 funding call will lead to a longer gap between funding cycles.

CERN is currently investigating how to bridge this gap for the EU iSGTW Editor.

CG will continue to develop an outline proposal to include iSGTW, and will review the first Horizon2020 calls when they open in December 2013.

**ACTION:** CG to review Horizon2020 funding calls

#### Editorial responsibilities

**DISCUSSION**

* The Board agrees that it would be helpful to have a F2F meeting between the editors
* Travel budget is now available for AH under the new NSF funding cycle.
* F2F meeting will take place in Europe in the summer, possibly at the EGI Community Forum 2014 in Helsinki, or ISC’14 in June in Leipzig.

**ACTION:** AH and AP to arrange a F2F meeting in Europe.

#### AOB

**Board Composition:**

Steven Newhouse has resigned from the iSGTW Advisory Board as he has left EGI.eu.

The remaining members of the Board will remain until the next meeting in January 2014. The current chair (CG) will continue in this role until at least January 2014.

No AOB items announced

**Date of next meeting:** Doodle poll to be launched for end January 2014 by telcon.

## Summary of actions

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ACTION** | **RESPONSIBLE** | **STATUS** | **REVIEW** |
| 20111004:4 Work with XSEDE & PRACE and others to get their level of engagement up to a level that the board is happy with.  | Catherine Gater/Ruth Pordes | OPEN – Meeting with PRACE at EGI.eu on 6 Jan 2014  | Next Board Meeting |
| 20121114:6 Liaise with QMUL on working out the division of activity between QMUL and Xenomedia | Kevin Munday / Catherine Gater | OPEN  | Next Board meeting |
| 20131119:1 contact Fermilab and Xenomedia about the status of Drupal 8 | Catherine Gater | OPEN | November |
| 20131119:2 convene transition planning meeting with Xenomedia, QMUL, CERN and IU | Catherine Gater | OPEN | December |
| 20131119:3 Investigate student effort at CERN | Melissa Galliard | OPEN | December |
| 20131119:4 Investigate support for the website from IU | Daphne Siefert-Heron | OPEN | Next board meeting |
| 20131119:5 Review Horizon2020 funding calls | Catherine Gater | OPEN | Next board meeting |
| 20131119:6 Arrange editorial F2F meeting | Amber Harmon / Andrew Purcell | OPEN | Next board meeting |