Minutes: 6 April 2016

Minutes

Informal Business of the BoD

Attendees

- Cameron
- Tim
- Stephanie
- Melissa
- Leslie
- Dan
- Laure

Review Actions from previous meeting

- All actions are completed except:
  - Action: Review and provide feedback on process and vision subgroup documents.
  - Action: Convene a meeting on working groups.
  - Action: investigate pursuing membership fees and create a plan based upon this model.

Plans for FORCE2016 Meeting with Advisory Board

- **Mission/Vision** - Ed, Dave
  - Proposed mission statement: FORCE11 is an open international organization that aims to improve the communication and dissemination of research and scholarship.
    - We can also include three points that illustrate the “how”:
      - Focus on digital? Networks?
      - Efficiency, transparency?
    - Afterwards, we will produce a cleaned up paragraph from the other documents.
    - **Action**: Cameron will work on the bullets and paragraph by Monday
  - Tim and Paul feel that “digital” should be inserted into the statement.
    - General consensus was that FORCE11 shouldn’t be limited to digital forms of communication.
      - Dan – while digital communication is driving FORCE11, it isn’t the only thing (it’s a tool rather than an end)
      - Laure – for example, FORCE2016 is a face-to-face meeting. “Digital” does not acknowledge the important work that occurs outside of the digital space.
    - Cameron – the three bullets points that accompany the mission statement could emphasize FORCE11’s digital aspects.

- **Membership Fees**
  - Cameron spoke to Paul about membership fees and discussed a pay-what-you-can model with guideline amounts. These fees could also be sponsored by other FORCE11 members.
○ We should raise this issue early with the advisory board if we are going to pursue this.
○ We don’t want to exclude anyone who wants to be engaged because they can’t afford it. The amount that would make FORCE11 sustainable would not be taken up by many people.
  ■ The pay-what-you-can model could prevent exclusion.
  ■ Dan – we do not have to see membership as a gatekeeping function. Agrees that the pay-what-you-can model is the correct route to take.
    ● We could set up a membership system without it having a strong impact. It would be a more of a community of identities. Regularizing a sponsorship track without any pressure to pay.
○ Melissa – right now, we ask some people to devote quite a lot of time to FORCE11. What do we expect of members and nonmembers? What do we achieve by implementing fees?
  ■ Tim – the notion that we provide a platform for the community to organize is a benefit to members. Tim would be in favor of different levels of membership.
  ■ Laure - We also need to consider how much work and time it will take to maintain this payment structure.
  ■ Cameron –we have quite a bit of this payment structure already set up, so it would not be too much additional time/effort.
    ● Action: Cameron will pull together a discussion paper to use during the advisory board meeting by Monday.
    ○ Melissa - we need to consider what would be a compelling reason for people to engage with FORCE11 enough to pay membership fees.
  ○ Action: review the papers so that we have something to present for the advisory meeting on WG progress

FORCE2016 Meeting

● Melissa - everything is well on track. We are mostly dealing with smaller details like arranging meals and speaker registrations, etc.
● Everyone should advertise the JISC videos for the $1.5K challenge
● We posted the code of conduct, but have not written a blog about it.
● We have 322 registered attendees so far (350 was our projected limit).
● Press releases – is there anywhere major that we want to use to advertise?
  ○ We could consider it less of a press release and more of a listserv release with a one-paragraph advert.
  ○ Action: Stephanie and Melissa will write a short paragraph and share with the Board.

Outstanding items and other business

● No outstanding items or other business were discussed.

Summary of Actions

● Action: Cameron will work on the mission statement bullets and paragraph by Monday.
● Action: Cameron will create a sustainability discussion paper to use during the FORCE2016 advisory board meeting by Monday.
- Action: review the working group papers ([Paper [CN]] - [Paper [Process Group]]) so that we have something to present for the advisory meeting on WG progress.
- Action: Stephanie and Melissa will write a short advert for FORCE2016 and share with the Board.
- Action: Review and provide feedback on process and vision subgroup documents.
- Action: Convene a meeting on working groups.
- Action: investigate pursuing membership fees and create a plan based upon this model.