

Partnerships

What do partners find valuable?

Julie: By being a partner, I get support from senior management, and acknowledgement that we are going to give to the community, not just take. Without partnership, it's easy to not get involved. "It's a stick to beat the team with"

Newcomer perspective: not clear how to move from adopter to partner or how responsibilities would change for team since already contributing as adopters.

Partner calls aren't functional. What could we do instead? Can we have a breakout group to talk about what we might do instead?

- We shouldn't have the same agenda for every call
- Could we have some kind of video? It's hard to know who's talking. BlueJeans? WebEx?
- Some way to set an agenda for each meeting? (20 minutes of updates, 40 minutes of topic?)
- We don't have a regular convenor and sometimes no one volunteers?
- 1 or 2 lightning talks to spur conversation?

Partner peer support networks: How do we as a community support each other?

Are we talking about providing special support for partners as opposed to non-partners?

How can we listen more to non-developers in the community?

There is a difference b/w partners and the general community. We have a higher expectation of partners, but we also have a higher commitment to them. +1

Individuals as partners

Matt Z would like to be a partner, as an individual.

FYI, Islandora does this already.

Everyone likes the idea of allowing individuals to be partners. It opens the community up to more voices, more contributors.

What does being an individual partner mean in the context of this community? What level of sweat equity does someone need to put in for us to feel confident?

You have to be invited to be a partner.

Core of being a partner is being "committed to moving the project forward"

We are short on ways to have institutions contribute to the project without being partners.

Maybe something more like an endorsement?

Is the concept of partnership still useful?

We don't want too many -- we don't want partners in name only.

Membership is more structured around yearly dues, it's something you can allow to lapse. If you're a partner, you're always a partner, even if you drop out of the community.

What's the right number of partners? Some folks are contributing a high level of staff time. That's one reason to increase our numbers. More contributors are better, because it spreads the load.

Maybe we have enough contributors now that it needs more coordination?

We need partners b/c that's how we maintain the core of the project. Partners are contributors.

Tom: Maybe 50 partners is a good next target

There are more and more communities who are starting to work in our same space, e.g., OSF, PLoS, Museums. We need to look at ourselves in that larger ecosystem.

Maybe we need to quantify more the contribution that institutions make?

What are the inflection points as we grow?

There might be a difference b/c partnership and financial contribution.

Maybe the worry is that if there are too many partners then what it means to be a partner gets diluted.

Can we do a better job recognizing contributions?

Where might we look for growth among other sectors.

Provisional partners might want more guidance around how to contribute. Recognition would be important to know that what you're doing is being seen.

The power of positive peer pressure, the power of invitation!

Do we need a member committee? They might recognize the contributions of various participants.

Maybe we need an annual report that recognizes everyone's contributions from that year and summarizes what we plan to accomplish next year?

Action items:

- Summarize the notes, send them to hydra-community, with a note that there will be a follow-on discussion to review the How do I become a partner document. Schedule a time to discuss this. Partnership