

Discourse Evolution Project Brief

Project Details

Project Name	Discourse Evolution		
Link to Project Hub	https://wiki.mozilla.org/ParticipationSystems/discourse_evolution		
Rasci	https://wiki.mozilla.org/ParticipationSystems#Discourse_Evolution	Brief Author	Lyre Calliope
Date of launch	[date]	Date of brief sign-off	[date]
What Participation goal(s) does this support?	[add from Mozilla 2014 goals]	Impacts process(es), product(s)	Discourse



Overview

Project Purpose/Opportunity Statement

Build access control and permissions management functionality for Discourse that enables staff and volunteers to securely discuss sensitive information. Collect user stories to identify new features that would make Discourse a more viable platform for collaboration and coordination. Develop a product roadmap based on priorities that have been identified.

Related Project Purpose for Context

Reference North Star here for ease of context.

[\[link to the wiki page for the bigger project\]](#)



Project Background

[Discourse is modern discussion platform](#) many Mozillians use to have public long-form discussions with one another. There are a number of Discourse deployments across Mozilla. [Mozilla Community Discourse](#) is the most widely adopted deployment to date with [nearly 4000 users](#). Approximately [1150 users have been active in the past quarter](#) with between [200-400 active users within a given week](#). The deployment, administration, and development of the Mozilla Community Discourse has to date been [primarily volunteer driven](#).

A number of teams have adopted this instance of Discourse as a primary medium for communication and coordination, including Add-ons, B2G OS (formerly FirefoxOS), and Reps.

Other deployments of Discourse include the Rust Users Forum ([~3100 users](#)), Rust Internals Discourse ([~2000 users](#)), the Mozilla Learning Hub ([~500 users](#)), and the Advocacy Community ([185 users](#)).

Discourse was part of the first recipient cohort of the Mozilla Open Source Support (MOSS) program. They were awarded \$25,000 to work on features that would make Discourse a viable replacement for legacy mailing list infrastructure.

Details

Key Goals

1. Build access control and permissions management functionality within Discourse that integrates with the Mozillians Groups API.
2. Interview stakeholders to gain an understanding of how Discourse is used across Mozilla
 - a. Identify pain points
 - b. Identify opportunities for improving the platform
 - c. Document the current status of its administration and infrastructure.
 - d. Find and compile existing metrics being collected
3. Build a product roadmap for future development
 - a. Prioritize features based on(...?)
 - b. Identify preliminary requirement
 - c. Define resources necessary to begin work on roadmap
4. Foxfood Discourse with Participation Systems participants



Success Metrics

1. Enabled a permissions system in Discourse based on groups in Mozillians + Improved the user experience (front page + mailing list replacement) + replaces Yammer (Mozilla Exchange)
2. *Adoption goal metric*
- 3.
4. Participation Systems uses discourse as a primary mode of communication + coordination.



Scope

[\[link to the Bug Tracking Location\]](#)

This project will create a product with an MVP with the following functionality:

1. Demonstrate making
2. UI for users to make public Discourse content a
3. To enable some discourse instances (or fora? Or threads? Or posts?) to only be viewable by trusted Mozillians
- 4.

Desired functionality not guaranteed for MVP:

- 1.

NOT in scope at this time:

1. Improving the front page user-experience
2. Features that make Discourse a viable replacement for mailing lists
3. Replacing Yammer (Microsoft Exchange)

Assumptions

- 1.



Impacts



Target Mozillians

Landscape Analysis

Other Considerations

Execution

Project Plan

[\[Link to work plan \(smartsheet\)\]](#)

Milestones and deliverables

1.

Roll Out + Adoption Plan

1.

Post Launch Plan

Teams Involved + Stakeholder Matrix

Teams

Stakeholder Engagement Metrics

<i>Role</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Communication Plan</i>
<i>Responsible</i>	<i>Lyre Calliope Hermina Condei</i>	

<i>Accountable</i>	<i>George Roter</i>	
<i>Support</i>	<i>Leo McArdle</i> <i>(Nikos Roussos?)</i> <i>Possible hires:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Designer</i> • <i>UI/UX</i> • <i>Discourse/Ruby developer</i> 	
<i>Consulted</i>	<i>Ruben Martin</i> <i>Pierros Papadeas</i> <i>David Ascher</i> <i>Simon Wex</i>	
<i>Informed</i>		

Project Norms

Decision making

Documentation

Documentation related technology

Participation plan

Primary collaborative tools

Channels of communication

Timelines for response

Risks or Dependencies

Risk Matrix

<i>Risk</i>	<i>Level of Concern 1 (low) -5 (high)</i>	<i>Mitigation Plan</i>

Dependancies

1.



Sign-off

Name	Link to bug comment that states approval	Date of Sign-off
[stakeholder name]	[bug]	
[stakeholder name]	[bug]	