Wikibase Working Hour
11 Feb. 2021 11AM-12PM Eastern
[RECORDING](#)

with Pascal Lefeuvre (Bibliothèque nationale de France), Anila Angjeli (Bibliothèque nationale de France), Benjamin Bober (ABES), and Stacy Allison-Cassin (University of Toronto) moderators: Christine Fernsebner-Eslao and Ryan Mendenhall

Logistics
- The [LD4 Wikibase Working Hour](#) seeks to create a space for GLAM professionals experimenting with Wikibase/WBStack implementation, the software that Wikidata is based on, to learn collaboratively and share tips, tools, and resources.
- For more details, see the [project page](#).
- To sign up for monthly announcements, please fill out [this form](#).
- For information on the LD4 Wikidata Affinity Group,

Attendance
- Introductions (please write your name, Wiki* username, institution or affiliation, and interest in Wikidata if you'd care to share)
  - Christine Fernsebner Eslao (Fernsebner, Harvard Library)
  - Ryan Mendenhall (TrMendenhall, Columbia University)
  - Jim Hahn (Jimfhahn, UPenn Library)
  - Jason Evans (National Library of Wales)
  - Susan Radovsky (Sradovsk, Harvard Library)
  - Monika Soler Correa (UNC Charlotte)
  - Merrilee Proffitt, OCLC User:Merrilee
  - Greta Heng (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)
  - Jeff Young (OCLC Research)
  - Diane Vizine-Goetz (OCLC Research)
  - Paloma Graciani Picardo (Harry Ransom Center, UTexas at Austin)
  - Michelle Futornick (LD4P / Stanford University)
  - Carlo Bianchini (University of Pavia | user:Carlobia)
  - Rhonda Super (UCLA) - Semantic Web LibGuide: https://guides.library.ucla.edu/semantic-web
  - Marie-Élaine Mathieu (Musée de la civilisation, Québec, Canada) : Memathieu
  - Jarmo Saarikko ([Saarik](#), [Q95592946](#) National Library of Finland)
  - Giovanna Fontenelle (Wikimedia Foundation, GLAM team), São Paulo, Brazil
  - Kim Taylor (University of Leeds)
  - Mairelys Lemus-Rojas (IUPUI)
  - Ed Summers (University of Maryland)
  - Mary Aycock (Texas State University)
  - Tania Maio (University of Salerno) user:Tania Maio
  - Honor Moody (Harvard Library, User: H.
  - Okko Vainonen (National Library of Finland)
  - JShieh (Smithsonian Lib & Archives)

- ○ Allison Bailund (San Diego State | user: Sandrileine)
- ○ Megan Macken, Oklahoma State University)
- ○ Nicole Lewis (UUtah | Nicarbu)
- ○ Sherman Clarke (independent art cataloger, Alfred, NY | user:sherman.clarke)
- ○ Kelly Almond-Beech (University of Leeds, UK)
- ○ Stuart Prior (Wikimedia UK)
- ○ Karen Li-Lun Hwang (AAAC, Semantic Lab)
- ○ Pascal Lefeuvre (BnF, French national Library)
- ○ Diane Shaw (Smithsonian Libraries & Archives)
- ○ Soo Bae (National Gallery of Art Library)
- ○ Mary Mark Ockerbloom (Philadelphia WikiSalon)

Agenda
- **Pascal Lefeuvre: Noemi at the Bibliothèque nationale de France: [Slides](#)** In 2017 the BnF has started the project of building a new software for cataloguing its documents. In 2019, the BnF has decided to build the software, called Noemi, on top of wikibase. Wikibase wil be used as an enhanced database for managing and storing bibiographical data. The presentation describes how Wikibase is used by Noemi and points out issues the BnF will deal with in 2021.
- **Stacy Allison-Cassin**: [Slides](#) Will talk about her use of Wikibase for describing collections relating to Indigenous (First Nations, Métis, and Inuit) collections and recent work with IFLA.
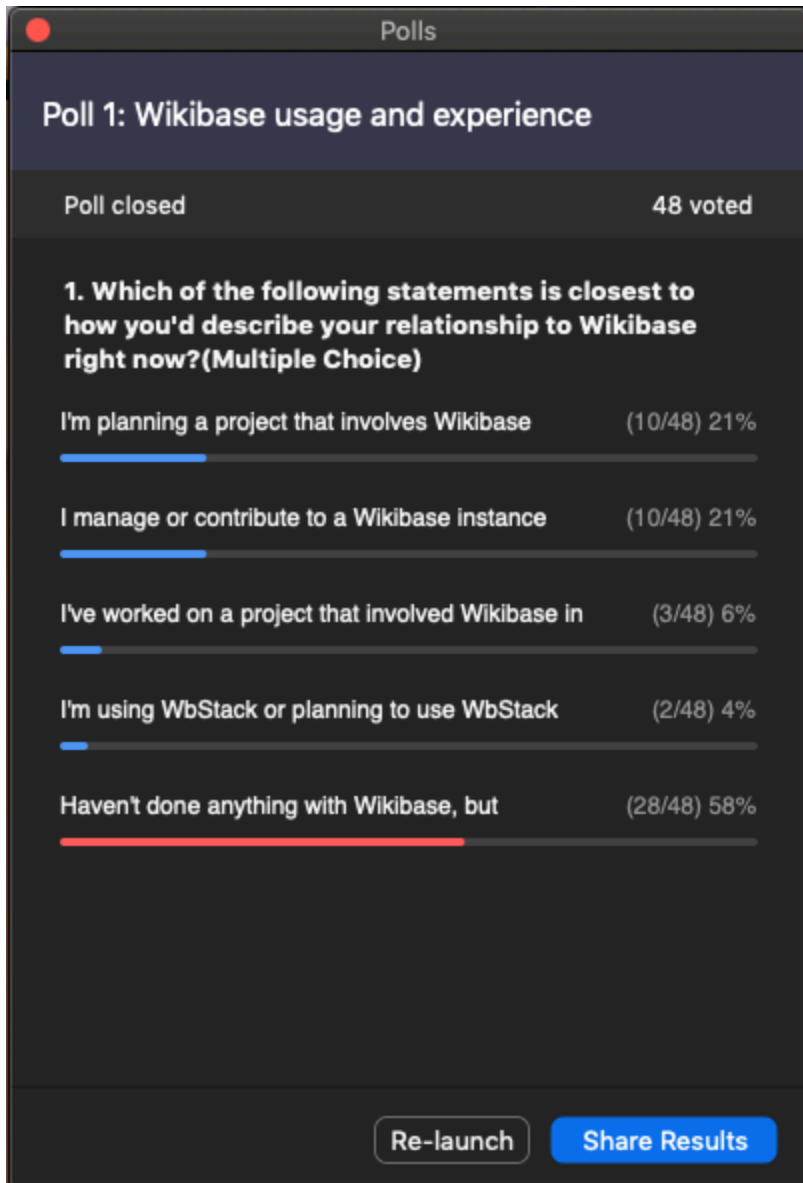
Speaker bios:

Pascal Lefeuvre has been working for the IT department of the BnF as a business analyst since 2012 mainly on digitization issues. Since 2017 has also served as the Scrum master of the IT team on Noemi's Project. *Anila Angjeli* and *Benjamin Bober* are Co-Project Manager for the national project "Fichier national d'entités", aiming at building a platform to jointly create and manage entities' metadata across libraries and other cultural and research partners. It is lead by the two bibliographic agencies in France : BnF and Abes (Bibliographic Agency for Higher Education). The platform will use Wikibase as the basis for its technical infrastructure.

Stacy Allison-Cassin, PhD, Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream, Faculty of Information, University of Toronto, Citizen of the Métis Nation of Ontario

Notes

General questions
- Wikibase installation question. Was it a Docker installation?
- Will the results of the survey be shared out after?

Questions for Pascal

- I would be curious if wikibase developers are aware of the need for alternative storage and indexing stacks? This reminds me that OCLC also made customizations for a more performant Wikibase install…
  - Answer (Pascal): We met with WMDE the 2020/12/08 especially to talk on this topic. So they are aware of it. They'll make a decision this year whether or not they will include the feature in Wikibase roadmap for 2022
- Great project! I would like to ask whether any documentation about NOEMI project is available, besides this presentation
  - Answer (Pascal): We have got few documentation available in english.

- There is an abstract of the results of the proof of concept we did on Wikibase
- There are other presentations like the one I showed you on the 2021/02/11
- Can you say what benefits Wikibase provides since you are building your own API around it and search index, and interface for data entry?
  - Answer (Pascal): the proof of concept on wikibase has shown us that there won't be a huge benefit to use Wikibase and also that there won't be a huge disadvantage to use it. Thus it is a kind of a bet for us. Saying that, what made the decision are :
    - Wikibase will be used to manage ontology, to describe all the constraints and to check these constraints
    - Wikibase data history: we won't have to develop it
    - LRM models will result in many entities with many relationships. Thanks to blazegraph and sparql, it will be easy to navigate through links and retrieve all the data we need
    - Finally we like the idea to be part of cultural-institution-community and to open up and share with others, even more than we actually do
- do you anticipate having to migrate/convert noemi data back to InterMARC to exchange with any other organizations?
  - Answer (Pascal): this is a prerequisite for us as
    - We won't change every software we have at the same time. And there are plenty softwares that uses directly intermarc
    - We know that all the institutions that exploit BnF data won't have the capacity to move to the new model shortly
- does Noemi include data-entry forms for cataloging new items? if so how are those configured/managed?
  - Answer (Pascal) : Noemi is firstly made for the BnF catalog expert. So the main feature is to be able to edit items directly in intermarc NG (BnF bibliographical data format). However, we would like people that are not expert to contribute to Noemi and so, we are thinking of building very specific forms so that they can edit items without knowing everything about intermarc NG. But we haven't done anything yet on this topic.
- It seems that the collaboration between librarians and IT staff is critical in developing Noemi. Could you please tell us more about it?
  - Answer (Pascal) : At the BnF we use the SCRUM method for every IT project. It results in a strong collaboration between business and IT colleagues. For Noemi, the knowledge on how Wikibase works is supported by the IT. Consequently, for the instruction of the ontology and the migration process IT's and librarians are constantly exchanging for building relevant and feasible features.
- How does your work relate to the German National Library's Wikibase work? Have you adopted any practices of theirs or is it completely different?

- ○ Answer (Pascal) : For now, we met once with GND and WMDE at the same time. It was a first meeting. We haven't starting working together yet. There might be more collaboration between GND and the FNE project than with NOEMI.

Questions for Stacy

- did you consider using ranked statements in Wikibase, and/or qualifiers, to express conflicting claims?
- How did you facilitate collaborative schema development and did you face any challenges bridging subject matter expertise and data literacy?
- apologize if you covered this, but why is it important for these indigenous communities to have their knowledge represented as data in a system like Wikibase?
- Is there a "simple" fix for the LC subject heading authority that you showed for Metis? how would you suggest it be corrected? Thanks for the wonderful presentation!
- Upcoming ifla wikibase working group meeting again? Thanks! Next Meeting: February 15th, 12:00 pm EST, Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/97732428306, Meeting ID: 977 3242 8306
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