

[LD4-Wikidata Affinity Group web page](#)  
[Google Drive Folder](#)  
[WikiProject Practical Wikidata for Librarians](#)

[Slack channel: <https://ld4.slack.com>]

# LD4 Wikidata Affinity Group

2021-10-19

9am PT / 12pm ET / 16:00 UTC / 6pm CET ([Time zone converter](#))

Facilitator: Sarah Kasten, University of Notre Dame, [ld4-wikidata-coord@googlegroups.com](mailto:ld4-wikidata-coord@googlegroups.com)

## Connection Information

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

<https://stanford.zoom.us/j/92321580874?pwd=aGN0aHJER1I2TWNiZHNFeK5FMmx3Zz09>

Password: 087062

Or iPhone one-tap (US Toll): +18333021536,,92321580874# or  
+16507249799,,92321580874#

Or Telephone:

Dial: +1 650 724 9799 (US, Canada, Caribbean Toll) or +1 833 302 1536 (US, Canada,  
Caribbean Toll Free)

Meeting ID: 923 2158 0874

Password: 087062

International numbers available: <https://stanford.zoom.us/j/92321580874?pwd=aGN0aHJER1I2TWNiZHNFeK5FMmx3Zz09>

## Recording

<https://stanford.zoom.us/rec/share/rReiPtzmmSo3CtSdTUrc0q8vIsPcTL5DyVUcCSgjuroKqBZ7E3aPxFWo7cxnYKIf.XeTfn8khH0E-OqyZ?startTime=1634658704000>

*Presentation begins at 9:06*

**Attendance** (if this is your first meeting, please write your name, Wiki\* username, institution or affiliation, and interest in Wikidata if you'd care to share)

Olanike Olaniyi,

- **Z. Blace - ~Zblace**
- Karly Wildenhaus, Frick Art Reference Library
- Stella Wisdom, British Library.
- Christa Strickler, Wheaton College (IL)

- Winny Nekesa Akullo-Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Authority - Uganda: user name: winny.nekesa
- Susan Radovsky, Harvard Library | User: Sradovsk
- Mary Aycock, Texas State University
- Felicity Dykas, University of Missouri
- Magnus Säljö, Stockholm, Sweden User: [salgo60](#)
- Eric Willey, Illinois State University
- Bob Kosovsky, New York Public Library || user:kosboot
- Patricia Dragon, East Carolina University
- Melanie Polutta, Library of Congress
- Diane Shaw, Smithsonian Libraries and Archives
- Kathy Boyd, San Diego State
- Xiaoli Ma, University of Florida
- Allison Bailund, San Diego State
- Crystal Clements, University of Washington Libraries
- Bree Midavaine, Philadelphia Museum of Art
- Jeannette Ho, Texas A&M University
- Adam Zukowski, Towson University
- Christine DeZelar-Tiedman, University of Minnesota
- Matthew Haugen, Columbia University
- Patricia Thurston, Yale
- JShieh, Smithsonian Libraries & Archives
- Brandie Pullen, NLM
- Soo Bae, National Gallery of Art Library
- Ivan E Calimano, Library Consultant
- Jeff Young (OCLC Research)
- Huda Khan, Cornell University
- Hsianghui Liu-Spencer (Carleton College)
- Amy Ruskin, Northeastern University
- Prema Desai, National Agricultural Library
- Kate Topham, Michigan State University
- Adam Schiff, University of Washington Libraries
- F. Tim Knight, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University (user: freemoth)
- **Monika Soler Correa** , University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- Irene Patrick, State Library of North Carolina
- Greta de Groat (Stanford)
- Rhonda Super (UCLA) Semantic Web LibGuide:  
<https://guides.library.ucla.edu/semantic-web>
- Cliff Landis (AUC Robert W. Woodruff Library, @clifflandis)
- John Riemer (UCLA)
- Annette Bailey (Virginia Tech)
- Steve Baskauf (Vanderbilt University Heard Libraries)

## Agenda

- **Announcements**
- **Call Topic: Scottish Accused Witches Project with Ewan McAndrew and Emma Carroll**
  - **Slides:**
- **Q&A**
- Tuesday, November 2, 2021 at 9am PT / 12pm ET / 16:00 UTC / 6pm CEST ([Time zone converter](#))

## Announcements

- Next Wikidata Working Hour:
  - Monday, October 25, 2021 at 11:00am PT / 2:00pm ET / 19:00 UTC / 8:00pm CEST ([Time zone converter](#))
- WikidataCon: October 29-31!
  - [https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata:WikidataCon\\_2021/Program](https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata:WikidataCon_2021/Program)
  - Accepting proposals until tomorrow, 10/20!
  - **Overview of the Community Tracks:**  
[https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata:WikidataCon\\_2021/Program/Day\\_2\\_and\\_3\\_-\\_Community\\_tracksfpcc](https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata:WikidataCon_2021/Program/Day_2_and_3_-_Community_tracksfpcc)
  - **Information about proposing a session** is further down on that same page:  
[https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata:WikidataCon\\_2021/Program/Day\\_2\\_and\\_3\\_-\\_Community\\_tracks#Propose\\_a\\_session](https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata:WikidataCon_2021/Program/Day_2_and_3_-_Community_tracks#Propose_a_session)
  - **Direct link to the proposal system:**  
<https://pretalx.com/wdcon21/submit/fJyHGM/info/>
- (Susan Radovsky) Help with a birthday present for Wikidata's 9th Birthday on October 29. Come join us at a planning meeting tomorrow, October 20 from 2-3 pm Eastern  
<https://zonestamp.toolforge.org/1634752812> Zoom link:  
<https://harvard.zoom.us/j/98710195244?pwd=UHlvNVdKbitovDg1QTJRdWI4dTRkQT09&from=addon>

We're putting together a page on how to plan and run a Wikidata edit-a-thon as a counterpart of the [existing page for Wikipedia edit-a-thons](#) and are looking for volunteers to contribute to it.

You can take a look at the [working draft and project timeline](#).

This may be of special interest if you fall into one of these categories:

You want to help make a useful and beautiful present for Wikidata

You've run a Wikidata edit-a-thon, working hour, or other group editing session and have thoughts about best practices

You want run an edit-a-thon, but have questions about how to do it

You've participated in an edit-a-thon and want to share what worked  
Contact Susan at [sradovsk@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:sradovsk@fas.harvard.edu) or DM me in LD4 Slack.

- (Christine) Perspective On Wikidata forum:  
<https://harvard.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEkf-6srzwoHtcejcP0RvLWOYp8JUfAdiak>
- Authors, Authority, and Identity: Facilitating Self-Identification for Discovery and Inclusive Knowledge Production  
Details:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1okhVKYpAHxEMTI2dhxHGgTLtZy\\_t3-XqD12sOloyg2M/edit#](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1okhVKYpAHxEMTI2dhxHGgTLtZy_t3-XqD12sOloyg2M/edit#)  
Registration:  
<https://harvard.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcpf-gupzwwHt0NjnhvgszqQFC23HSOCurX>  
Context: <https://staff.library.harvard.edu/advancing-open-knowledge-2021>
- (Kate Topham) Graphic Possibilities Comics Wikidata Edit-a-thon Oct 21st-22nd
  - No comics experience / knowledge required!
  - Info and registration here:  
<https://graphicpossibilities.hcommons.org/wikidata-events/>
- Wikidata Weekly Summary:
  - [https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata:Status\\_updates](https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Wikidata:Status_updates)

## Help organize the LD4-Wikidata affinity group!

We're moving to make it easier for more of us to participate in organising LD4-Wikidata affinity group programming! Here's what you can expect in coming weeks:

- Coordination meetings + channel on Slack are open for everyone who may be interested
  - Coordination meetings take place once a month!
  - Established schedule is: Monday, 1pm PT/4pm ET ([Time zone converter](#)), on weeks we don't have a group call (with some flexibility)
- Join LD4 Slack channel #wikidata-coordination to join the conversation and get further updates!
- Anyone will be able to sign up for various rotational roles and propose group call/working hour topics, either during each organising meeting or in the days following through the coord Slack
- Runsheets will be available for each role, and role hand-off will be a team effort. Depending on capacity/comfort level, you are welcome to take on a smaller role then grow into bigger roles.
- Here are roles that we've identified as gaps! These are some starting points, but we invite any and all sorts of contribution based on your skillset:
  - note-taking for a call
  - documentation -- help refine and build on key pages, and continue to develop/nudge others to add content
  - help communicate/promote programming
  - present during a group call on some topic
  - lead a working hour on some topic
  - help facilitate calls

## Call Topic:

### *Scottish Accused Witches Project with Ewan McAndrew and Emma Carroll*

- Links & Slides:
  - <https://www.ed.ac.uk/information-services/help-consultancy/is-skills/wikimedia/wikidata/use-cases/scottish-witches>
  - [https://blogs.ed.ac.uk/ecarroll3\\_witchcraft\\_visualisation/](https://blogs.ed.ac.uk/ecarroll3_witchcraft_visualisation/)
  - <http://witches.is.ed.ac.uk/>

Ewan McAndrew: Wikimedian in Residence at the University of Edinburgh since January 2016

- Presentation title: *Witchy Wikidata: In which Wikidata brings Magic to information and data literacy for a spell*
- Have a 4 page spread in “History Scotland” magazine about this project.
- Supports key institutional commitments to open knowledge, information literacy, digital & data skills, and Equality & Diversity alongside library employees
- Looking to support open practice to enable university to engage in OER: Have OER policy since 2015
- Students and staff finding Wikipedia incredibly useful; need to support them in practice
- This project enabled working with student interns in a productive way, particularly Emma’s internship as “Witchfinder General”
- Students were tasked with creating practical data visualizations, part of building core competencies
- Data is the new Bacon: have a new priority to create new data literate workforce
- Can open up research datasets for further research
- Success of Emma’s work has led to mapping the Scottish Reformation project: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/information-services/help-consultancy/is-skills/wikimedia/wikidata/use-cases/mapping-the-scottish-reformation> Thus now have 2 rich datasets for people to engage with.
- Common critique of data science classes: examples are static and is in “artificial” and “academic” context:
- So how can we look at how to make data science classes more relevant to real-world problems?
- Have Data Fair in October: Pitched Scottish Witchcraft database
- Database initially delivered in 2003 in MS Access database
- Started by looking at biographical data on the witches
- One field that all the accused witches had were place

Emma Carroll, Data and Visualisation Intern, University of Edinburgh

- Presentation title: *The Wicked Findings of the Witchfinder General*
- Historical context: during 1563-1736: witchcraft illegal; thousands charged
- Survey of Witchcraft Database formed 2001-2003
  - Documents 3,212 named people that were charged
  - Over 300 fields of info recorded in database, including geographical data
- Project aim: Locate the geographical info recorded and visualize the results in different creative ways during 3 month internship
  - 1st part: Learn the basics behind Wikidata
    - All of named accused witches have Wikidata pages

- Data can be easily added
  - And learned to use query service, which was later helpful in creating visualizations
- Step 1: Residence location finding for 3,112 named places
  - Used Google Sheets Wikidata plugin
  - Places: <http://witches.is.ed.ac.uk/>
  - Place-name investigation research required lots of consultation of historical sources/records
  - Then needed to add places to Wikidata, including coordinates
  - Was able to create basic map: <https://w.wiki/5Kf>
  - Still had around 100 difficult to find places: sought advice from different experts
  - Now 25 place-names (out of initial 800+) still need to be located
- Step 2: Adding other locations
  - Deeper dive into database
    - Locations of confessions, trials, executions
    - <http://witches.is.ed.ac.uk/trials/>
  - Became familiar with OpenRefine and created tutorial: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/information-services/help-consultancy/is-skills/wikimedia/wikidata/data-wikidata/openrefine>
  - Then started adding residences for people associated with the trial
- Step 3: Adding extra information to Wikidata
  - Build a profile for each accused witch
  - Cause and manner of death, torture type, ordeal type, charges, ethnicity added (had to request properties to be added, such as torture type): <http://witches.is.ed.ac.uk/torture/>
  - Then started adding temporal data: Time of trial, date of confession
  - Suddenly these accused witches had a time and place in Wikidata
- Step 4: Visualisations
  - How to bring data in Wikidata to life?
  - Used Wikidata query service throughout the project to create simple maps: helped to quality check.
  - Many different options to pick from: Leaflet, ArcGIS Online, Storymap
  - Created a website to host different maps together: worked out really well so users could jump from map to map
  - Leaflet map with Timeline function: <http://witches.is.ed.ac.uk/timeline/>
  - ArcGIS online: took the lead where she was able to play around with different maps
  - Other Visualisations included Choropleth map, Story map, Linked map, and Bubble chart.
  - Gained Insights to the data, such as witchcraft cases linked to other events in region
  - Final outcome
    - Geo-located residence of 3,141 accused witches
    - Added lots of info to Wikidata (36,000 edits)
    - Located trial, detainment & death locations
    - Learnt many new skills from using Wikidata, OpenRefine, ArcGIS
    - Project is documented with weekly blog posts with visualisations: [https://blogs.ed.ac.uk/ecarroll3\\_witchcraft\\_visualisation/](https://blogs.ed.ac.uk/ecarroll3_witchcraft_visualisation/)

- Other outcomes filter into the community, such as people have been interested in setting up memorials for accused witches in the area

## Q&A

- 2 previous presentations on Scottish witches/clerics have occurred: all part of the same team?
  - Two different projects, have been able to get in touch with them as well as help with other projects.
- Heard from any historians who have been making use of work in research?
  - Yes, project was released 2 years ago, there's been a lot of contact from historians: have helped a lot of other projects by pointing them in the right direction.
  - Tweet from professor about Emma's work went viral; lot of local newspapers getting in touch with them.
  - Have received some constructive criticism, but that can be helpful too.
  - Ewan sees possibilities of taking this data in different directions, but his role at the institution is helping facilitate others to engage with and create such projects.
  - Will be doing work on improving the existing site and also different facets such as shape-changing, maybe including icons, with the caveat that we need to be wary of not trivializing the data.

## Upcoming

- **Wikidata Working Hour**
  - Monday, October 25, 2021 at 11:00am PT / 2:00pm ET / 19:00 UTC / 8:00pm CEST ([Time zone converter](#))
- **Wikidata Affinity Group Call**
  - Tuesday, November 2, 2021 at 9am PT / 12pm ET / 16:00 UTC / 6pm CEST ([Time zone converter](#))
- **Wikidata Working Hour \*\*DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS NOV 7\*\***
  - Monday, November 8, 2021 at 11:00am PT / 2:00pm ET / 19:00 UTC / 8:00pm CEST ([Time zone converter](#))
- **Wikidata Affinity Group Call**
  - Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 9am PT / 12pm ET / 17:00 UTC / 6:00pm CEST ([Time zone converter](#))
- **Wikidata Affinity Group Call**
  - Tuesday, November 30, 2021 at 9am PT / 12pm ET / 17:00 UTC / 6:00pm CEST ([Time zone converter](#))