



# Monthly Report, February 2023

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
## Highlights

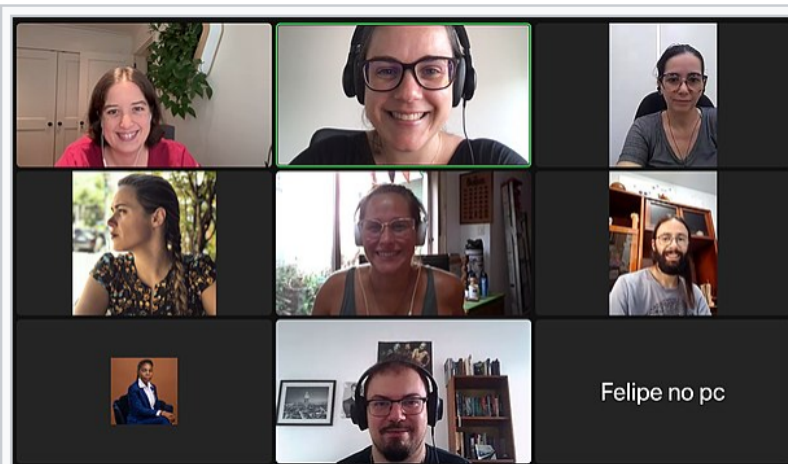
- Chief Programs Officer LiAnna Davis spoke at the graduation ceremony for a Reading Wikipedia in the Classroom Program in Lagos, Nigeria. She also participated in the Strategic Committee meeting for Wiki Movimento Brasil's Wikimedia for Educators course, currently in development. Finally, LiAnna is planning the forthcoming EduWiki Conference 2023 in Belgrade, Serbia.
- We shipped several improvements to the Dashboard contributed by prospective Google Summer of Code students. Shashwat Khanna made performance improvements to our survey system. He also added a feature to our Dashboard that allows users to create a PDF or printout of an article with Authorship Highlighting. Amine Hassou improved the details view of the Students tab, which is now better able to handle cases where the course has edited so many articles that they don't all get loaded at once. Kunal Arora improved the error message shown when someone tries to track a nonexistent wiki.


## Programs

From February 28 to March 1 (but we'll report on it for February since it started then), the Programs team gathered in San Francisco for a two-day retreat. The six staff engaged in a series of reflection activities, peer learning sessions, and planning for next fiscal year. It was also an opportunity for us to meet in person for the first time with Brianda Felix, our newest Wikipedia Expert.



Wiki Education Programs Team, from left to right:   
LiAnna Davis, Brianda Felix, Ian Ramjohn, Andrés Vera, Helaine Blumenthal, Will Kent.



First meeting of the Wiki Movimento Brasil MOOC   
Strategic Committee.

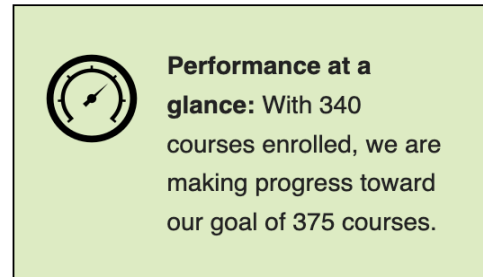
Chief Programs Officer LiAnna Davis also engaged in activities with the broader Wikimedia and education community. In February, she spoke at the [graduation ceremony](#) for a Reading Wikipedia in the Classroom Program in Lagos, Nigeria. She also participated in the Strategic Committee meeting for [Wiki Movimento Brasil](#)'s Wikimedia for Educators course, currently in development. LiAnna serves on the committee with representatives from Brazil, Nigeria,

Argentina, and Portugal. Finally, LiAnna is assisting to plan the forthcoming [EduWiki Conference 2023](#) in Belgrade, Serbia, in May.

## Wikipedia Student Program

Spring 2023 in numbers:

- 340 courses had course pages on the dashboard.
- 4,850 students were enrolled.
- Students added 376,000 words and 3,960 references to Wikipedia. They edited 1,450 articles and created 25 new entries.



**Performance at a glance:** With 340 courses enrolled, we are making progress toward our goal of 375 courses.

The graphic features a circular gauge icon on the left, with a needle pointing towards the right, symbolizing progress. The text is set against a light green background with a thin black border.

February is the month in the [spring term](#) when students begin to complete many of the preliminary exercises that introduce them to Wikipedia editing and to community norms and policies. It's also the time when students begin to choose the articles they'll work on for their main contribution and when they begin to build out their bibliographies.

In February, Senior Program Manager Helaine Blumenthal along with Senior Wikipedia Expert Ian Ramjohn, ran a workshop for faculty running Wikipedia assignments this term focussed on choosing articles and building bibliographies. During the session, they provided guidance on how to find appropriate articles for students as well as what types of sources are best for Wikipedia. Helaine also ran a workshop with Drs. Amin Azzam of UCSF and Maureen Richards of the University of Illinois as part of our efforts to recruit courses for our [PCORI initiative](#).

Equity Outreach Coordinator Andres Vera hosted two online presentations about teaching with Wikipedia. In addition, he visited Chico State University and Butte College. At Chico State, he connected with the Library and other instructors to help encourage teaching with Wikipedia. At Butte College, through a professor who has taught with Wikipedia before, he was invited to speak to the Faculty Senate (about 30 professors) about Wiki Education's efforts and stress the importance of engaging Hispanic serving institutions like Butte College in improving Wikipedia.

## Scholars & Scientists Program

Courses in progress:

- [Wikidata Institute January](#): Our first Wikidata Institute of the year wrapped up. These five editors made over 800 edits to over 150 items. Notably, they added over 200 references to back up their claims. For the first time, we had a student write a Wikipedia article as a result of the course. The item for [math walk](#) now has a corresponding Wikipedia article in English. Follow the link to check it out.
- [PIT-UN Wiki Scholars](#): Our work with academic tech specialists continues. These ten editors have been collaborating on the Public Interest Technology article that will be published in early March. They are bring their expertise to the individual sections of the article to ensure that a wide swath of interests are represented as soon as the article is published. Follow their work on the linked Dashboard above.

- [Idaho OPAL Fellows Wiki Scholars](#) - We have started a new course with the OPAL Fellows who come from institutions all over the state of Idaho. They will be writing two articles each about topics that interest them. We are looking forward to seeing the work of these 16 participants develop over the next ten weeks.
- [American Physical Society Wiki Scientists-6](#) - This month saw the start of the sixth (!) APS course. These 17 participants will be working to improve articles in their areas of expertise with a special focus on climate change and energy. Follow along on the Dashboard linked above.

## Advancement

### Partnerships

This month, we connected with some new organizations to promote various Wiki Scientists courses, including the Society of Maternal Fetal Medicine and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. We're still recruiting participants for our first Medicine Wiki Scientists course through the PCORI grant, finding subject-matter experts to improve Wikipedia's medical coverage.

We finalized an agreement to run a Wiki Scientists course to add women scientists to Wikipedia with our first corporate partner, and we're looking forward to the work that will come out of this effort to add or expand biographies of science's hidden figures. Finally, we kicked off our 7th Wiki Scientists course in partnership with the American Physical Society (APS) and can't wait to see how the participating physicists bring their energy to adding climate info to Wikipedia.

### Fundraising

Kathleen Crowley, Director of Donor Relations, was on vacation for the latter half of this month. Before going away, she worked on a letter of inquiry to the Samuel H. Kress Foundation that was later submitted and received an invitation to complete a full proposal for one Wiki Scholars course focused on adding information on pre-modern European art to Wikipedia. Kathleen researched foundation prospects that could potentially support environmental education through the Wikipedia Student Program. She began internal discussions around a foundation prospect that is interested in the intersection between climate change and human health and organized what's needed to complete the grant application. Kathleen had a check in meeting with Wiki Education Advisory Board member Todd Siegel. Richard Culatta has stepped down from Wiki Education's Advisory Board due to contract obligations as the new CEO of a merged organization. We received Broadcom Foundation's \$150,000 grant as support for the second year of our ongoing project to add new biographies of people in STEM from diverse backgrounds to Wikipedia.

## Communications

Blog posts:

- [800K readers turn to this student's work to celebrate activist](#) (February 7)
- [Amplifying the voices of Indigenous women on Wikipedia](#) (February 14)
- [Timely, factual, neutral education around public policy for the masses](#) (February 16)
- [ChatGPT, Wikipedia, and student writing assignments](#) (February 21)

Press:

- [Kaylee Hussey: Wiki-wonder](#). Sam Schipani. *UMaine News*. (February 13)

## Technology

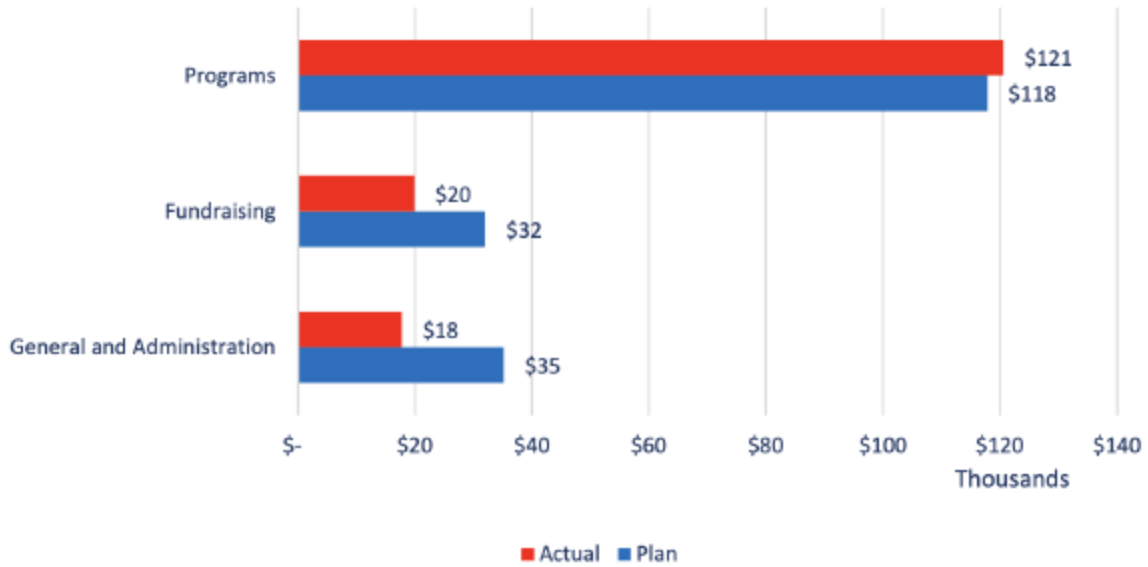
This month, we shipped several improvements to the Dashboard contributed by prospective Google Summer of Code students. Shashwat Khanna (a successful Google Summer of Code intern last year) made performance improvements to our survey system. Shashwat also added a 'print' feature to the Dashboard's Article Viewer, allowing you to create a PDF or printout of an article with Authorship Highlighting. Amine Hassou improved the details view of the Students tab, which is now better able to handle cases where the course has edited so many articles that they don't all get loaded at once. Kunal Arora improved the error message shown when someone tries to track a nonexistent wiki.

Chief Technology Officer Sage Ross continued work on improving how the Dashboard keeps track of key sandbox pages for the Wikipedia Student Program.

## Finance & Administration

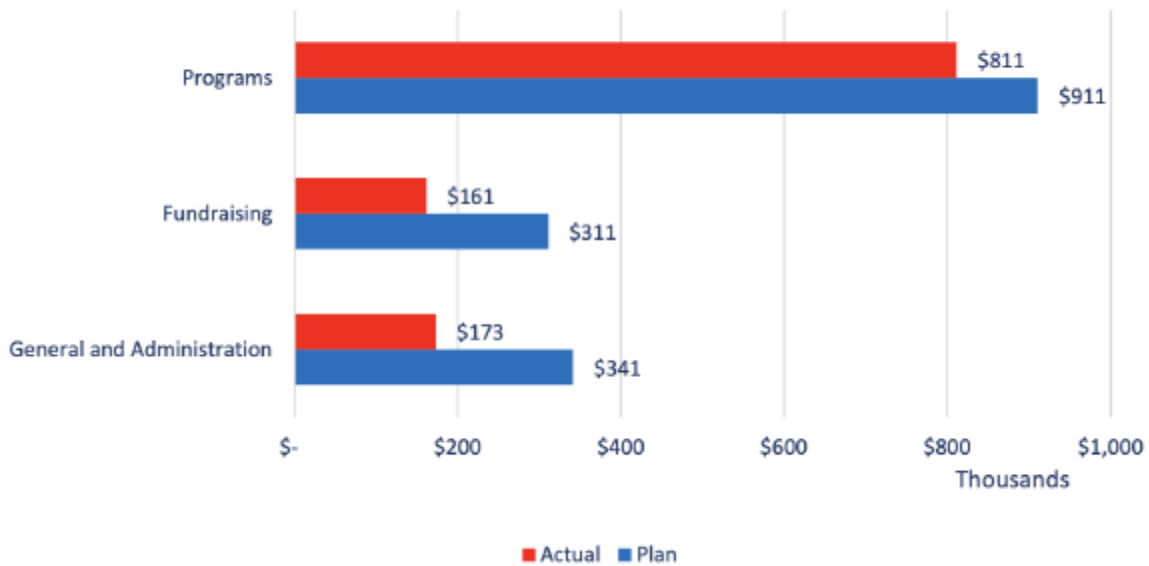
The total expenditures for the month of February were \$158K, (\$26K) under the budget of \$184K. Fundraising was under (\$12K) in Payroll expenditures. General & Administrative were under (\$17K) due to underspending (\$3K) in Accounting and Audit Service fees, (\$6K) in Payroll, (\$6K) in Meeting expenditures, (\$1K) in Travel and (\$1K) in Indirect expenditures. Programs were over +\$3K comprised of underspending (\$1K) in Payroll, (\$2K) in Travel and (\$4K) in Advertising, while spending +\$9K in Outside Consulting that was budgeted in prior months.

## Expenses February 2023 Actual vs. Plan



The Year-to-date expenses were \$1,146K, (\$418K) under the budget of \$1,564K. Fundraising was under budget (\$150K), of which, (\$96K) in Marketing that will occur in a couple of months, (\$44K) in Payroll, (\$6K) in Travel, (\$7K) in Outside services, while over +\$3K in Indirect Expenses. General & Administrative were under (\$168K), underspending (\$48K) in Payroll, (\$35K) in Recruiting, (\$41K) in Professional Services, (\$28K) in Staff and Board Meetings, (\$10K) in Travel, (\$8K) in Desk Equipment while over +\$2K in other Direct Expenditures. Programs were under (\$100K) due to being under (\$45K) in Consulting Services, (\$30K) in Payroll, (\$18K) in Travel, (\$10K) Software, (\$4K) in Communications, while over +\$7K in Indirect Expenses.

## Year to Date Expenses February 2023 Actual vs. Plan



## Office of the ED

Current priorities:

- Clarifying the high-level picture for next fiscal year
- Supporting the Advancement Team

In the beginning of February, Frank and Jordan attended the board's quarterly Finance and Audit Committee meeting. They provided the committee members with a report on the financials for Q2 and with an outlook on Q3.

Following an organizational tradition to organize a staff holiday party outside of the holiday season, staff met via Zoom (Passcode: "YUMMY") for an ice cream social in the second week of February. Lauren from Local Food Adventures led an engaging event that not only resulted in interesting new ice cream recipes, but also in a deeper understanding of the status of ice cream-related content on Wikipedia.

In mid February, Equity Outreach Coordinator Andrés Vera visited Chico for a number of meetings with instructors at Chico State (a Hispanic Serving Institution) and Butte College. Frank and Andrés met with professors and talked about Wiki Education's programmatic work and about the benefits for students who participate in our programs.

On February 15, Frank drove to San Francisco to attend a Wikimedia Foundation event for Chief Product and Technology Officer Selena Deckelmann's product and technology team. He shared his thoughts on a number of tech-related questions and used the opportunity to touch base with Selena and other members of the Foundation's leadership team.

Also in February, Frank secured a funding commitment for a Wikipedia course with the National Security Archive. The National Security Archive has for more than 40 years made accessible the public declassified files concerning major historic events, often the product of FOIA requests by the Archive or journalists. In addition, they put together valuable briefings on key security issues based on revealed documents. This will be a 12-week course starting in March.

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