



Monthly Report, December 2021

Highlights

- The Fall 2021 term of our Student Program wrapped up in December. With 4.7 million words added to Wikipedia, we exceeded our goal of 4.25 million words, despite the ongoing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- In a collaboration between Wiki Education and the Wikimedia Foundation, a new WikiWho server went live. The transfer to the new server will ensure that our Dashboard's authorship highlighting features remain available through the impending shutdown of the service we've used until now.

Programs

Wikipedia Student Program

Fall 2021 in numbers:

- 329 courses were in progress.
- 5,972 students were enrolled.
- Students added 4.72 million words and 49,400 references to Wikipedia. They edited 6,440 articles and created 499 new entries.



Performance at a glance: With 4.7 million words added to Wikipedia, we exceeded our goal of 4.25 million words.

December saw the wrap up of our [Fall 2021](#) cohort of classes. Despite the ongoing challenges of the pandemic, our students added almost 5 million words to Wikipedia. We could not be more proud of their accomplishments, and we're incredibly appreciative of all the hard work from the instructors and students who made this happen.

While our students and faculty were finishing up, the Student Program team was busy looking ahead to the Spring 2022 term. Senior Program Manager Helaine Blumenthal

devoted much of her time to ensuring that all the courses we support in the spring are set up for success as well as engaging in ongoing recruitment efforts. The team as a whole engaged heavily with students and instructors to make sure as much student work as possible was moved into the article main space from the Fall term.

Scholars & Scientists Program

There were no courses in progress this month. We spent this month planning for future courses and sending out certificates of completion to course participants. We also started a project to Wikidata-fy the Dashboard with an Outreachy intern. Although this is more of a technology project, these changes will have a direct impact on the courses we run for the Scholars & Scientists program.

Advancement

Fundraising

Kathleen wrote and mailed personalized asks to individuals with high capacity. We learned that Broadcom Foundation will provide a \$50K grant in January 2022 in support of the creation of biographies of hidden figures in STEM, particularly in technology and engineering. Kathleen, Frank, TJ, and Andres had another Advisory Board meeting and decided on a few new candidates that we will reach out to. Kathleen submitted a letter of inquiry to a foundation for general operating support. She spent a week in San Francisco, meeting with four individuals with either Frank and/or Andres. These individuals either have high capacity or can serve as connectors to others that do. Kathleen processed and acknowledged many end-of-year gifts and uploaded documentation into Salesforce. She wrote a blog post for Richard Culatta, who has officially joined our Advisory Board. Kathleen had a follow-up phone call with the President of the DC Rotary Club who is open to having Frank speak to the Rotarians in 2022.

Communications

Blog posts:

- [How museums can move toward a more equitable future - via Wikipedia \(December 2\)](#)
- [Adding women inventors to Wikipedia \(December 7\)](#)
- [Winny Nekesa Akullo: What I learned about Wikidata \(December 9\)](#)
- [From student editor to professor assigning Wikipedia writing \(December 13\)](#)
- [How this newbie brought Anne Burlak's article to Good Article status \(December 16\)](#)

- [Why you need to understand Wikidata, no matter what field you're in \(December 21\)](#)
- [Welcome to our new Dashboard development intern Ivana \(December 28\)](#)
- [Wiki Education adds Richard Culatta to Advisory Board \(December 29\)](#)

Technology

This month, Outreachy intern Ivana Novakovic [started her project to improve the Dashboard's handling of Wikidata](#). She completed a series of updates to the Dashboard's user interface — replacing "Article" terminology with the Wikidata counterpart "Item" where appropriate, for example. In January, Ivana will turn her focus to improving how the Dashboard generates and displays Wikidata-specific statistics.

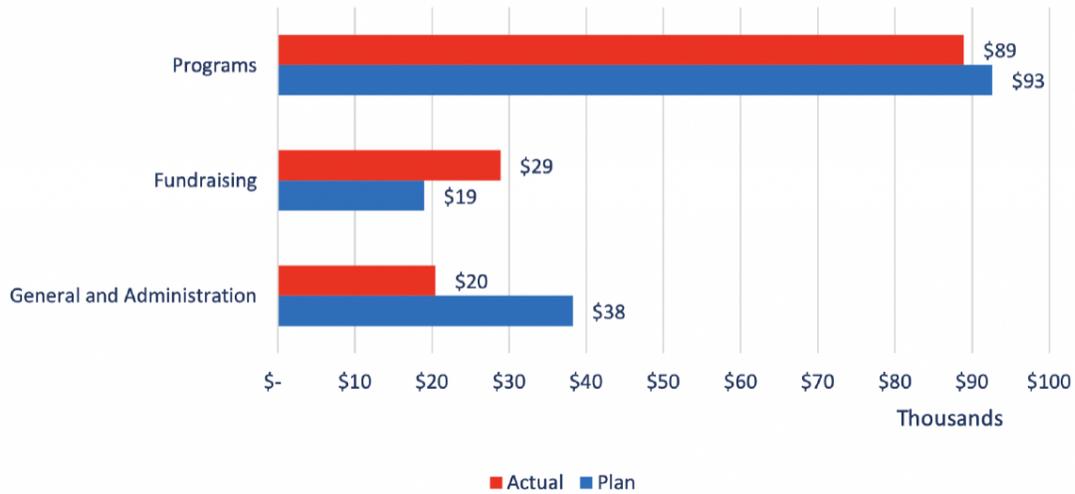
Chief Technology Officer Sage Ross worked on making the Dashboard's infrastructure code — developed earlier this year with consultant Nate Berkopec — ready for the launch of additional independent dashboard websites, as we begin to explore offering custom Wikimedia Dashboards-as-a-Service. Sage also collaborated with Wikimedia engineer Leon Ziemba to set up a [new WikiWho server](#), which will ensure that the Dashboard's authorship highlighting features remain available through the [impending shutdown](#) of the service we've used until now. We continued to work with WordPress contractor Charles Cifuentes on our upcoming design refresh for wikiedu.org.

We also had a set of very useful code contributions from volunteer developer 'cyrillefr': a new alert feature for the Dashboard that lets us know when sandboxes are moved to mainspace (ie, "de-userfying").

Finance & Administration

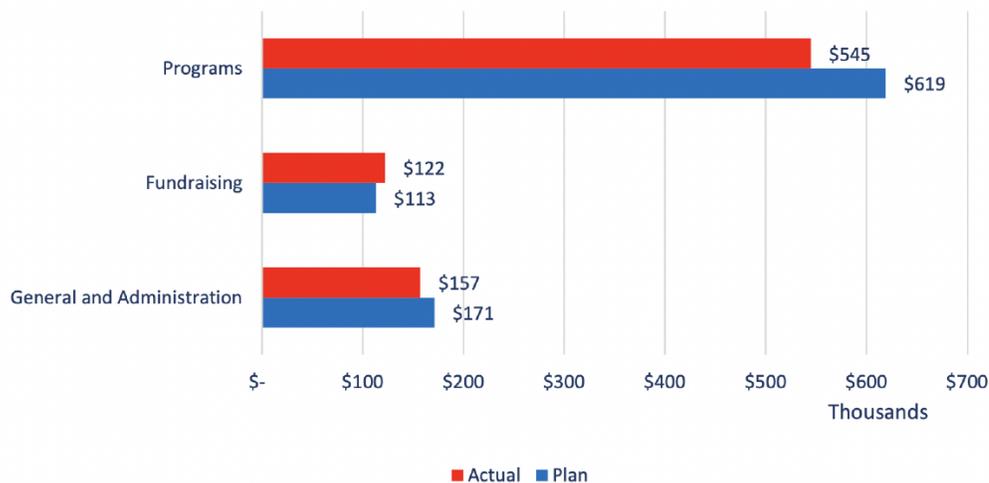
The total expenditures for the month of December were \$138K, (\$11K) under the budget of \$149K. Fundraising was over by +\$10K, of which was over +\$6K in Consulting Fees due to timing, while over +\$1K in Travel and +\$1K combined other expenses. General & Administrative were under (\$18K), due to being under (\$9K) in Audit fees we expect to see next month, (\$6K) from Board Meeting Expense that changed from In-Person to Remote, and (\$3K) in Indirect Expenses. Programs were under (\$14K) due to being under (\$3K) in Payroll Expenses, (\$1K) in Travel Expenses, (\$2K) in Communications while over +\$2K in Indirect Expenses.

Expenses December 2021 Actual vs. Plan



The Year-to-date expenses were \$824K, (\$79K) under the budget of \$903K. Fundraising was over +\$9K due to being over +\$6K in Equipment, over +\$2K in Travel and +\$1K in Indirect Expenses. General & Administrative were under (\$14K) with a combination of being under (\$17K) in Professional Services, (\$10K) in Indirect Expenses, (\$1K) in Travel Expenses, while over +\$7K in Occupancy Expenses, +\$6K in Other Direct Expenses, +\$4K in Payroll. Programs were under (\$74K), a result of being under (\$17K) in Payroll, (\$51K) in Consulting Services, (\$8K) in Travel, (\$9K) in Communications, while over +\$1K in Equipment, +\$2K in Direct Expenses +\$9K in Indirect Expenses.

Year to Date Expenses December 2021 Actual vs. Plan



Office of the ED

Current priorities:

- Preparing for the upcoming board meeting in January 2022
- Setting the stage for a conversation about the organization's future

In December, Frank provided support for Wiki Education's end-of-year fundraising initiatives. He recorded a short donation appeal video that got sent out to potential individual donors as part of Wiki Education's year-end email campaign. Frank also joined Kathleen in San Francisco for meetings with high-capacity donor prospects.

With the two-day board meeting coming up in early 2022, Frank started planning for the meeting. Given the emergence of the Omicron variant in the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we changed our plan from having an in-person board meeting in the Bay Area to meeting virtually on Zoom. Due to the fact that the Wikimedia Foundation has entered the implementation phase of its "Wikimedia 2030" strategy process, Frank started setting the stage for a conversation about Wiki Education's future. Going forward, we expect changes to how the Wikimedia universe works, how different entities relate to each other, and how funds will be distributed in the future, etc. That's why Frank created a document for Wiki Education's board, outlining some potential paths worth exploring. The conversation at the board meeting in January will then be the kick-off for an exploration of 2–3 viable options. Our goal will be to have a clearer picture of what's possible and desirable that will allow us to make a decision about the future direction of Wiki Education later in calendar year 2022.

* * *