



Monthly Report, July 2023

Highlights

- We finalized plans for another Wiki Scientists course in partnership with the American Physical Society (APS), in which participating physicists will add biographies of historically excluded physicists to Wikipedia. As the course takes place during Hispanic Heritage Month, they will especially focus on improving or adding biographies of Hispanic and Latinx physicists. This course marks the 8th we've run with APS, and we're looking forward to celebrating more contributions to open knowledge through this collaboration.
- Our three summer internship projects were in full swing in July. Amine Hassou finished upgrading the Dashboard to React 18, the latest version of the core user interface framework that we use. Shashwat Khanna completed the new user experience for configuring an Article Scoped Program, and started work outfitting the Articles tab with the same improved interfaces. Sulagna Saha completed the initial version of the WikidataDiffAnalyzer library, and started work to integrate it into the Dashboard.

Programs

Wikipedia Student Program

July 2023 in numbers:

- 19 courses were active on the dashboard.
- 356 students were enrolled.
- Students added 262,000 words and 2370 references to Wikipedia. They contributed to 210 articles and created 30 new entries.



Performance at a glance: The team engaged in planning for the new fiscal year.

Despite summer typically being a quieter time for Wiki Education, our [Summer 2023](#) cohort of students added almost 300,000 words to Wikipedia so far! While things are fairly quiet on the student front, July is a very busy time for the Student Program team.

Senior Program Manager Helaine Blumenthal and Equity Outreach Coordinator Andrés Vera devoted much of their time to recruiting and onboarding courses for the Fall term. This means they were running workshops and ensuring that all the courses we support are set up for success. Wikipedia Experts Ian Ramjohn and Brianda Felix finished closing out our courses from the spring 2023 term and began reviewing our current resources as part of our ongoing efforts to provide faculty and students with up-to-date training materials.

Scholars & Scientists Program

- There are no courses currently running
- This month the S&S program focused on the Wiki Education all-staff
- We are also actively recruiting for a new outreach coordinator, which we are hoping to fill and on-board in August
- We launched our [Equity Lists](#) resource on Wikipedia. We hope to use these lists in future courses to encourage participants write articles about people from underrepresented populations. This resource generates lists based on a set of demographic variables including sexual orientation, nationality, gender, and ethnicity.

Advancement

Partnerships

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Fundraising

Kathleen Crowley, Director of Donor Relations, attended Wiki Education's annual all-staff meeting in July. She created a list of prospects, including trade associations and federal agencies, that may be interested in disseminating a large amount of high-quality content on a particular topic on Wikipedia. She has begun to reach out to a sample of

this list to see if she can pique some interest in our work. Kathleen met with Erik Moeller, who had previously worked at the Wikimedia Foundation, and who has agreed to help her craft introductions to a few institutional fundraising prospects. Kathleen and Dr. Zachary McDowell met with a program officer at the ECMC Foundation to go over their letter of inquiry template and got clarification on how to pitch the research project that Zach will be the PI on and Wiki Education will serve as the subcontractor if we are awarded a grant. We are proposing a retroactive survey of students from diverse backgrounds to see if a Wikipedia assignment has improved persistence and degree completion among this population. She and Frank Schulenburg, Executive Director, met with Wiki Education Advisory Board member, Lorraine Hariton, on Zoom. They agreed that Kathleen will research the Board of Directors at Catalyst and Lorraine's Advisory Board members' affiliations for corporate prospects that could be a funding match for Wiki Education's work in STEM. Lorraine has agreed to introduce us to at least five of these contacts. Kathleen and Will Kent, Wikidata Program Manager, met with two program officers at the Nielsen Foundation to review our mid-year grant report to them about the progress of the equity portal's development and future plans to promote it. In between these meetings, Kathleen has spent time writing drafts of various communications, including a final grant report to the Guru Krupa Foundation, editing the LOI to the ECMC Foundation, drafting a LOI to the Righteous Persons Foundation, and began work on an online funding inquiry to the John Templeton Foundation. All of these will be submitted in August.

Communications

Blog posts:

- [Applying the Wikipedia assignment to a career in chemistry \(July 6\)](#)
- [Diversifying Wikipedia's STEM biographies \(July 6\)](#)
- [Chemistry student demystifies battery technology through Wikipedia \(July 7\)](#)
- [Adding Latinx scholars to Wikipedia \(July 19\)](#)
- [Telling the story of an African American engineer on Wikipedia \(July 26\)](#)

Technology

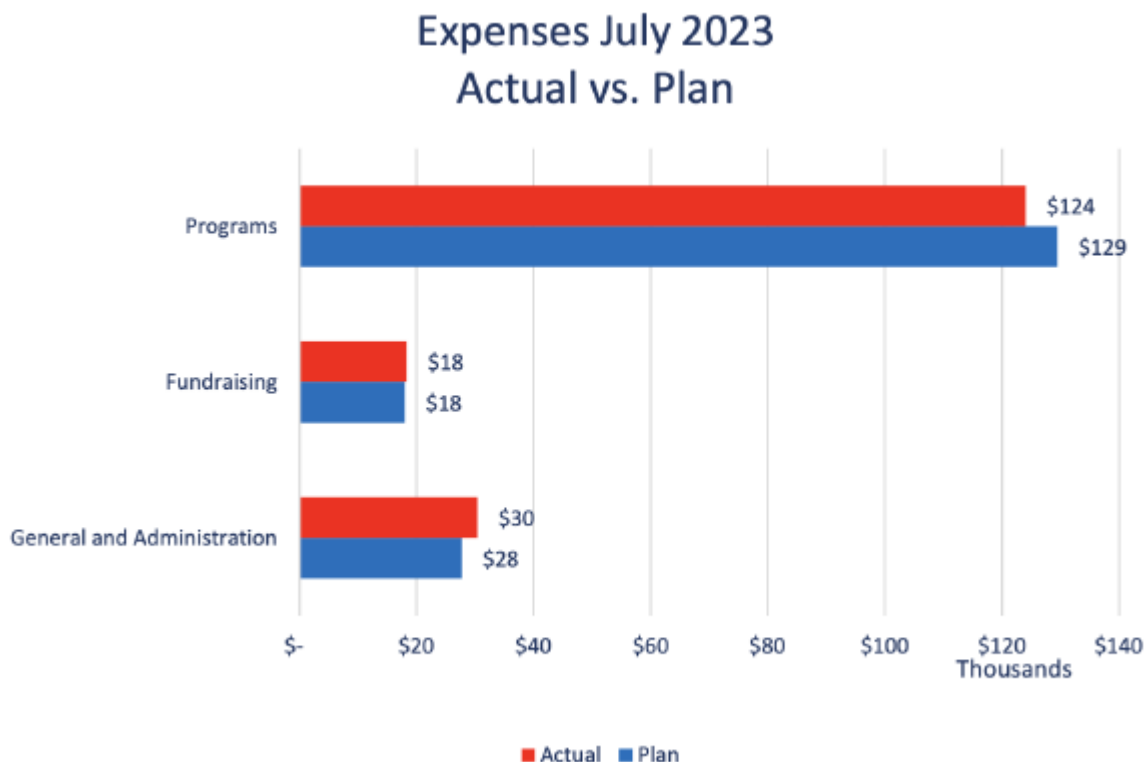
This month, our three summer internship projects were in full swing. Amine Hassou finished upgrading the Dashboard to React 18, the latest version of the core user interface framework that we use. Shashwat Khanna completed the new user experience for configuring an Article Scoped Program, and started work outfitting the Articles tab with the same improved interfaces. Sulagna Saha completed the initial version of the WikidataDiffAnalyzer library, and started work to integrate it into the Dashboard.

We deployed a new feature — adding student userpages to your watchlist — along with several other bug fixes and interface improvements from new contributor Abishek Das. Returning contributor Miguel Prada completed a UI bug fix as well.

Chief Technology Officer Sage Ross supported the Wikimedia Campaigns product team to finish and deploy the long-planned integration between their CampaignEvents extension and Programs & Events Dashboard. Beta testers of the event registration system, which is deployed on Meta, can now connect their event to the Dashboard to automatically stay up-to-date with the list of event participants and generate statistics.

Finance & Administration

The total expenditure for the month of July was \$173K, (\$3K) under the budget of \$176K. Fundraising was on target. General & Administrative were over +\$2K due to overspending +4K in the All-Staff Meeting, while under (\$2K) in taxes and insurance due to accruals. Programs were under (\$5K) comprising underspending (\$7K) in professional services and (\$2K) in indirect expenses, while over +\$4K in project-related marketing.



Office of the ED

Current priorities:

- All-staff meeting in San Francisco

- Re-organization of the Scholars & Scientists Program



Group photo taken at the July all-staff meeting in San Francisco

In July, we held our summer all-staff meeting in the Bay Area. We had shortened the duration of the event by one day, resulting in a 3-day all staff in downtown San Francisco. On day one, we celebrated the successes of last fiscal year and created a shared understanding of the new strategy and the plan for the year ahead. On the second day, we had a couple of peer-learning activities (*Wikipedia through the eyes of a new contributor*, *How to communicate with diverse audiences*, *Thoughts on returning instructors*), and also engaged in a risk-assessment exercise to figure out how generative AI could influence our work. Both day one and day two also provided time for performance reviews, as well as individual and group meetings. The third and last day is traditionally reserved for a social activity. Connecting amongst each other has become even more important since we moved Wiki Education to fully remote at the beginning of the pandemic. This year, we went to a Japanese-vegetarian restaurant in San Francisco's Mission District, before taking a Mural Tour near Precita Park.

As part of our new organizational strategy, we continued to explore the option of creating a global education hub. Cornelius Kibelka, who had worked on a research project between April and June 2023, presented the results of his work in a well-attended Zoom session with people who are running education programs in different countries. Later in July, we also had a stakeholder coordination meeting between the Wikimedia Foundation, the EduWiki User Group, and Wiki Education. We expect this exploratory work to continue well into 2024.

Also in July, we began re-organizing our Scholars & Scientists Program. Our main goal will be to eliminate bottle-necks, improve the hand-off between the Advancement and Programs team and increase our internal capacity for finding new paying customers and

partners for pre-paid Wikipedia courses. As a first result of this process, we created alignment around a document outlining the processes as well as roles and responsibilities going forward. We also started the hiring of a part-time outreach coordinator who we expect to join our organization in late August / early September.

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