

DISCUSSION NOTES

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DISCUSSION TOPIC:

ARE THE DECLINE OF EDITORS & EDITOR RETENTION A GHOST PROBLEM

**BREAKOUT
SPACE: 14**

TIME: 10³⁰ - 11¹⁵

PARTICIPANTS:

ARON HALPERN, Abbot Lehman, Oscar, Bri, Historitor
3BRBS, thouny

CONVENOR:

E TESTART

KEY POINTS:

Decline in editors and editor retention is backed by evidence

Appears to be true across language wiki's since 2006-2007

Cultural issues around the existing Wikipedian community probably responsible more than a change in external environment.

Aggressive/defensive attitude towards newcomers.

STEM/male-oriented norms may not continue to serve community well

Social and technical issues are intertwined - solutions are not purely one or the other

Editor retention as a one-dimensional measure misses some things

~~like post-estimation content improvement and dissemination of culture~~

CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTIONS (IF ANY):

Valuing time of others { - long-term Wikipedians } systems and norms should support.
- newcomers

→ Valuing the time Wikipedians spend welcoming & helping newcomers

→ Newcomers who spend time writing or editing an article can feel like they wasted it if we tell them it's of bad quality & needs to be redone - or worse, deleted

→ Being helpful & understanding takes time & effort. We need to make it worth it.