Chapters Committee: past, present and future

Bence Damokos
Introduction

Bence Damokos
• Member (2010– ), chair (2012– ) of Chapters Committee / Affiliations Committee
• Board member (2008– 2010), executive VP (2010– ) of Wikimedia Hungary
• Studied International Relations and English Studies

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http://chaptersplanet.org – aggregator of chapter and WMF blogs and reports
Outline

• What the Chapters/Affiliations Committee is
• The past: short history
• The present: a typical year in the Committee
• The future: new models
• Q&A
The Chapters Committee

• Committee of volunteers responsible for facilitating the creation and approval of new chapters, thematic organizations and user groups.

• (Chapters: national organizations; thematic organizations: specialize on a subject or theme, user groups: groups of Wikimedians doing offline work)
Brief history lesson

- 2004: first chapters are set up
- 2005: first Wikimania
- 2006: Chapters Committee and a number of other ones set up
- 2006: Wikimedia CH, first chapter approved
- 2007: requirements and process defined and standardized
First contact

• Providing basic info to group
• Help and advice on how to organize

Questions

• Learning about the new group
• Judging whether they have a critical mass

Bylaw review

• Checking whether criteria are met
• Provide advice based on best-practices

Resolution

• Recommendation on approval is forwarded to the Board
Chapters approved, founded and in existence

Chapters Committee created

- Chapters recognized by Chapcom
- Chapters founded
- Chapters recognized and founded
New models of affiliation

- **National or Sub-national Chapters**: Incorporated independent non-profits representing the Wikimedia movement and supporting movement work globally, focused within a geography.

- **Thematic Organizations**: Incorporated independent non-profits representing the Wikimedia movement and supporting work focused on a specific theme, topic, subject or issue within or across countries and regions.

- **User Groups**: Open membership groups with an established contact person and history of projects, designed to be easy to form.

- **Movement Partners**: Like-minded organizations that actively support the Wikimedia movement’s work. (Not approved through Chapcom)
Present and future

• Regular membership renewal, Committee Charter
• Site visits in Croatia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Iberoconf, Uruguay
• Defined processes for thematic organizations and user groups
• Budget to be able to support and mentor new groups
Questions?

- chaptercommittee-llists.wikimedia.org
- Find us here at Wikimania!
- Sign up to be a member or learn more at [[meta:Affiliations Committee]]!
Thank you for your attention

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