



# Monthly Report, August 2023

## Highlights

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- Our Visualizing Impact project accelerated this month, with Data Scientist Megan Newsome joining the team. Contract developer Matthew Fordham continued building out the back-end data collection pipeline for our Impact Visualizer, which will collect and display data about how a collection of articles has developed over time, while Megan started research on the machine learning side of the project which will let us identify topical collections of articles as input for the Impact Visualizer.
- Our new partnership with the Climate Finance Fund will enable us to run an initiative over the coming year to bring better climate finance information to the world through Wikipedia. We're grateful for their support of our 'Climate + Wiki' campaign and are working to find partners and participants for a series of Wiki Scholars courses.

## Programs

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### Wikipedia Student Program

Summer 2023 in numbers:

- 19 courses were active on the dashboard.
- 389 students were enrolled.
- Students added 316,000 words and 2840 references to Wikipedia. They edited 273 articles and created 42 new entries.



**Performance at a glance:** With 285 courses on board for fall 2023, we are 2/3 of the way there to our fall course goal.

Fall 2023 in numbers:

- 285 courses were active on the dashboard.
- 1280 students were enrolled.

- Students added 1740 words and 21 references across 11 articles on Wikipedia.

August marks the end of our [summer cohort](#) and the beginning of the [fall term](#). While most of our summer courses were finishing up their Wikipedia projects, our fall courses were just getting started.

Senior Program Manager Helaine Blumenthal and Equity Outreach Coordinator Andrés Vera spent much of August focused on recruiting classes for the fall term and getting them set up on the dashboard. Helaine, along with Wikipedia Expert Brianda Felix, ran an introductory session for classes running this fall. Helaine also conducted a roundtable discussion with Student Program faculty at this year's [H-Net Teaching Conference](#) as part of our ongoing work with them. The whole Student Program team continued to work on updates to our training materials as part of our work to keep our resources up-to-date.

Andrés also ran three teach with Wikipedia presentations in August and supported our broader recruiting efforts. In addition, he recruited instructors into the Broadcom initiative and conducted cold and warm outreach efforts to thousands of prospective instructors.

## **Scholars & Scientists Program**

Melissa Joseph joined the team in August as our new part-time Scholars & Scientists Outreach Coordinator. She will be providing support for course recruitment moving forward.

Courses in progress:

- [WITH Wiki Scientists 3](#) - This month we started our third WITH course. These six editors will be creating and improving content in the areas of disability and disability-related issues.
- [Art History Wiki Scholars](#) - This month also saw us kick off this Art History Wiki Scholars course, which is sponsored by the Kress Foundation. There are 17 participants in this course who will be improving and creating articles pertaining to art history from 1800 to antiquity. We are eager to see their impact on Wikipedia.

## **Advancement**

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### **Partnerships**

This month, Director of Partnerships Jami Mathewson joined Director of Donor Relations Kathleen Crowley in presenting to Exponent Philanthropy's Disability Funders Peer Circle, sharing the ongoing work we're doing to improve disability healthcare

knowledge on Wikipedia thanks to support from the WITH Foundation. This was a great precursor to kicking off our next WITH Wiki Scientists course, which started this month. The participants are from a diverse set of institutions, and we're excited about their passion for improving healthcare for people with disabilities.

We spent this month reaching out to our networks and contacts who are art historians, promoting the Art History Wiki Scholars course we're running thanks to the Kress Foundation's grant. We received an overwhelming number of high-quality applicants from people specializing in European art history and architecture from antiquity to 1800. We've already seen enthusiasm from this cohort of art historians about making more art history accessible to the public through this project, and we can't wait to see what they do!

Lastly, we excitedly came to an agreement with the Climate Finance Fund to run an initiative over the coming year to bring better climate finance information to the world through Wikipedia. We're grateful for their support of our 'Climate + Wiki' campaign and are working to find partners and participants for a series of Wiki Scholars courses.

## **Fundraising**

Kathleen Crowley, Director of Donor Relations, and LiAnna Davis, Chief Programs Officer, started the month with a conversation with the president of the Broadcom Foundation, Paula Golden, their finance officer, and communications director. We reported on the progress of our \$150,000 grant for 2023 and made the ask for \$200,000 for 2024 to support students at HBCUs, HSIs, and TCUs in adding new biographies of women and people of color in STEM. We will learn in September 2023 of the Board's preliminary funding decision. Kathleen joined Jami Mathewson, Director of Partnerships, for a presentation to Exponent Philanthropy's Disability Funders Peer Circle of which one of our grantors, the WITH Foundation, is a member of. We received a positive reaction to Wiki Education's work. Kathleen finished drafting and submitting four letters of inquiry this month: 1) ECMC Foundation: Support for a two-year research project designed to measure student persistence and degree completion by taking a Wikipedia assignment in which Wiki Education would be a subcontractor 2) Righteous Persons Foundation: Support for expanding the Jewish Story on Wikipedia through two Wiki Scholars courses 3) John Templeton Foundation: Support for recruiting more faculty and students from HSIs to participate in the Wikipedia Student Program in partnership with the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities 4) The Bernard and Audre Rapoport Foundation: Wikipedia Student Program support for digital media literacy skills and fighting misinformation. Kathleen had a Zoom meeting with the president of the Guru Krupa Foundation, who is interested in increasing support of STEM in our Wikipedia Student Program from \$25,000 to \$75,000. Kathleen made phone calls and submitted online inquiries to four trade associations and government agencies who

may be interested in disseminating high-quality information to a large audience. She has not gotten a bite to date. Kathleen had a Zoom conversation with Megan Price, Executive Director at the Human Rights Data Analysis Group, who was open to sharing her foundation connections with Kathleen. They made a plan to follow-up on a few leads.

## Communications

Blog posts:

- [Diversifying Wikipedia's U.S. editors](#) (August 11)
- [Improving equity on Wikipedia using Wikidata](#) (August 31)

## Technology

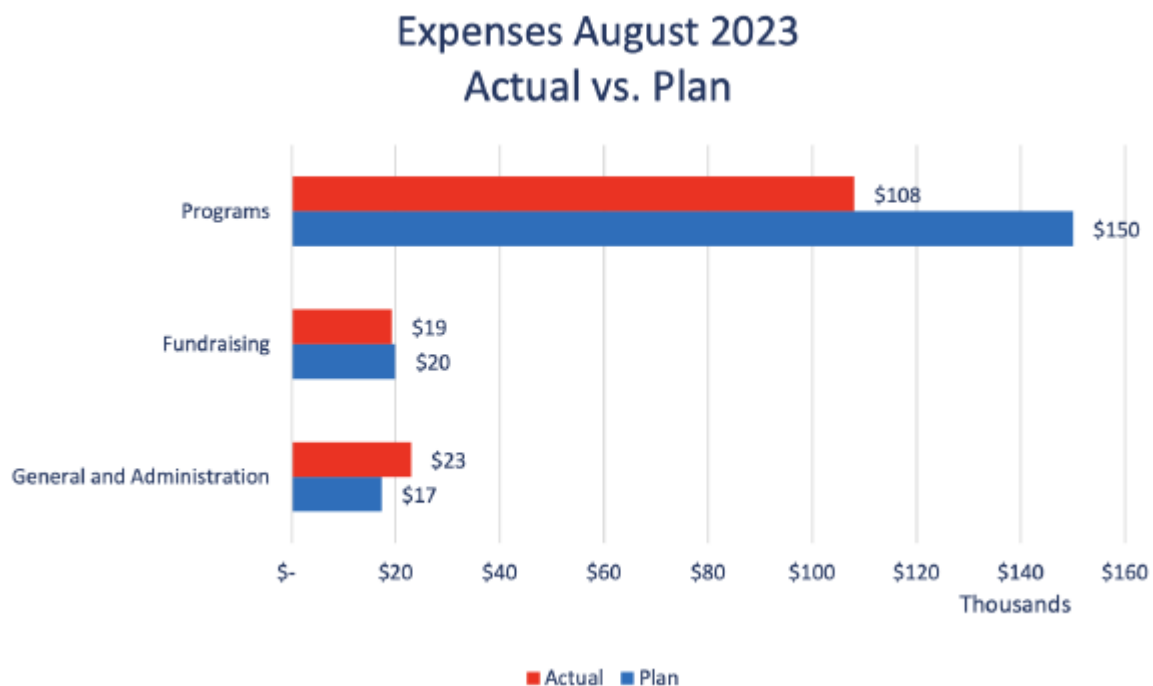
Our Visualizing Impact project accelerated this month, with Data Scientist Megan Newsome joining the team. Contract developer Matthew Fordham continued building out the back-end data collection pipeline for our Impact Visualizer, which will collect and display data about how a collection of articles has developed over time, while Megan started research on the machine learning side of the project which will let us identify topical collections of articles as input for the Impact Visualizer.

Our three summer interns successfully wrapped up their projects. Sulagna Saha's Wikidata analyzer is now integrated into the Dashboard, providing more accurate statistics (with significantly larger numbers!) for recent Wikidata Scholars & Scientists courses. Amine Hassou converted many of our React user interface components to the modern "functional component" format for easier maintenance, and also improved the search functionality for the Dashboard's support ticket system. Shashwat Khanna extended his user experience improvements for Article Scoped Programs, adding a modal to inspect the article titles that are part of a tracked category. Each of them have blogs that document their internship experiences: [Sulagna's blog](#), [Amine's final report](#), and [Shashwat's blog](#).

Open source contributor [Abishek](#) added a bug fix for sorting on the Students tab, which had been causing some confusion for instructors. Chief Technology Officer Sage Ross worked with Wikimedia Foundation engineers to shore up the infrastructure of the WikiWho server that provides authorship highlighting data for the Dashboard, and began work on migrating from the deprecated ORES API to Wikimedia's new Lift Wing system for importing machine learning data about article quality.

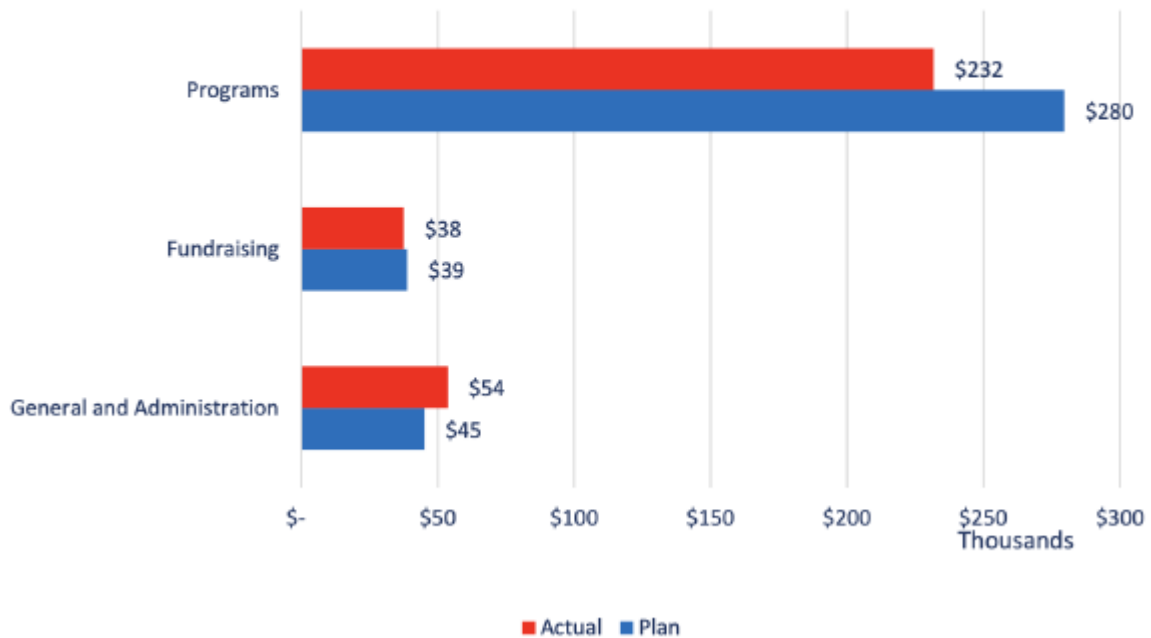
## Finance & Administration

The total expenditure for the month of August was \$150K, (\$37K) under the budget of \$187K. Fundraising was under by (\$1K), consisting of underspending (\$2K) in travel while over +\$1K for accrued software. General & Administrative were over +\$6K due to overspending +8K on travel, while under (\$2K) in accounting services. Programs were under (\$42K) comprised of underspending (\$16K) in payroll due to delayed start date for a new hire and usage of accrued vacation. Under (\$11K) in software renewals that were accrued, (\$9K) in professional services, (\$5K) in marketing, (\$2K) in travel, while over +\$2K in indirect expenses.



The Year-to-date expenses were \$323K, (\$40K) under the budget of \$363K. Fundraising was under by (\$1K), underspending (\$2K) in travel while over +\$1K for accrued software. General & Administrative were over +\$9K due to overspending +\$8K on travel, +\$5K in meetings, while under (\$3K) in accounting and (\$1K) in payroll. Programs were under (\$5K) comprised of underspending (\$17K) in payroll, (\$15K) in professional services, (\$11K) in software, (\$2K) in travel and (\$3K) in indirect expenses.

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



## Office of the ED

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Current priorities:

- Recover from COVID
- Support the Advancement team in generating revenue
- Follow-up with Wikimania 2023 contacts



Frank at Wikimania 2023 with Amihai Bannett and Tehila Hertz, organizers of the project *WikiShtetl: Preserving the memories of lost*

The month of August started with a board meeting and the quarterly finance meeting. At the board meeting, Frank talked about the recent developments since everyone met in the Bay Area in June. At the quarterly finance meeting, Frank and Jordan Daly provided members of the finance and audit committees with information about the revenue and expenses in the fourth quarter and of the whole fiscal year 2022–23. He also provided a revenue projection for the following couple of months.

In mid-August, Frank traveled to Singapore and attended Wikimania 2023. During the five days of the conference, he participated in discussions about the Global Council, the future of Education programs in different parts of the world, and about the creation of a Global Education Hub. Together with Filip Maljković from Serbia and Susanna Mkrtychyan from Armenia, he led a session about the learnings from the EduWiki Conference 2023 and about the support needs of Education Program leaders. Outside of the official sessions, Frank used the opportunity to connect with many conference participants, both people who've been Wikimedians for years and people who are new to the Wikimedia universe. Quite a few people were interested in partnering with Wiki Education or getting support from our organization, and Frank will have some follow-up work to do over the next couple of weeks.

Coming back from Wikimania, Frank developed a severe case of COVID-19, and was out sick for the rest of the month.

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