Wikipedia Education Collaborative

Wikimania panel presentation, London, August 8, 2014
Panel members’ introductions

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Introducing the Collaborative

Vision
We believe that Wikipedia belongs in education!

What is the Collaborative?
- A group of global education program leaders
- Trying to gather learnings to help others
A bit of history

- Wikipedia Education Collaborative kick-off meeting in Prague, March 2014
- 16 founding members from Armenia, Arab World, Mexico, Serbia, Israel, Nepal, Ukraine, Catalonia (Spain), Czech Republic, UK, USA
Our focus within education

- Students **contribute content** to Wikipedia and sister projects:
  - **Classroom** activities: assignments
  - **Campus** activities: clubs, edit-a-thons
  - **Community** activities: service credits, hackathons
Goals

- Establish best practices for education programs.
- Collect new ideas for educational initiatives.
- Share resources between global programs.
- Develop a global recognition system.
- Communicate effectively about learnings, tools and resources.
What we are doing now?

- Structuring the Collaborative
- Working in action teams on focus areas identified by members:
  - Resources
  - Communication
  - Mentoring
  - Recognition
Where we are headed

- Opening up for mentoring programs
- Opening up for new members:
  - Open to all who support vision and goals
  - Interest in helping other education programs
  - Commit to investing time (± 3-5 hours per month)
Work so far: Mentoring

- Baseline outreach
- Developing a best practices template
Work so far: Resources

- **Education portal** revamp
  - Designed new portal layout
  - Condensed five different portals into one
  - Organized and curated contents
  - **Countries** page

- Offline information
  - Booklets
Work so far: Communications

- **Newsletter:**
  - Improved layout
  - New subscription method (email signup)
  - Help with writing articles
  - Greater participation
  - Greater readership
Work so far: Recognition

- For students:
  - Wikipedia Drivers License
- For educators:
  - Wikipedia Teaching Fellowship
- For program leaders:
  - Conducted survey
  - Determining next steps
Questions?
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