



Monthly Report, January 2022

Highlights

- This month, our intern Ivana Novakovic-Lekovic from Montenegro integrated the generation of Wikidata-specific statistics into the Dashboard's course update process. We deployed these changes to both Wiki Education Dashboard and to Programs & Events Dashboard, so both sites are ready for the next stage of the project, in which Wikidata-specific stats will be displayed alongside existing stats on the Home tab of Wikidata courses.
- During our January board meeting, we kicked-off the 2022 strategy refresh of Wiki Education. Over the course of the next couple of months, we'll be looking into how our organization should position itself with regard to its future key focus areas, its relationship with the greater Wikimedia world, as well as with institutions of higher education in the United States and Canada.

Programs

Wikipedia Student Program

Spring 2022 in numbers:

- 303 courses were in progress
- 2,886 students had enrolled on the Dashboard.
- Students added 76,100 words and 1,200 references to Wikipedia. They contributed to 238 articles and created 11 new entries.



Performance at a glance: We're on track for our goal of supporting 325 courses this spring, with 303 courses enrolled as of the end of January.

January marked the beginning of our [Spring 2022](#) cohort of classes. Many of our courses jumped right into their Wikipedia assignments, with more than 2,000 students

already enrolled on the Dashboard. Most students simply got their feet wet by learning some of the basics they'll need to know for their final contributions, while others dove right in and began editing.

Senior Manager, Wikipedia Student Program Helaine Blumenthal, along with Senior Wikipedia Expert Ian Ramjohn, held an introductory session for instructors teaching with us this term. It was a productive session, and we're looking forward to all the great work students will do. Helaine also began to hold weekly office hours during which instructors can ask questions about the Wikipedia assignment as well as interact with others running the project this term.

Scholars & Scientists Program

Courses in progress:

- [January Wikidata Institute](#): We're starting 2022 with these 15 eager participants in our January Wikidata Institute. This course represents a wide array of institutions, from the Denver Botanic Gardens to the House of Commons in the UK. We're also happy to be working with six employees from the University of Amsterdam. With a larger-than-normal course, we're looking forward to all the high quality updates that will be coming to Wikidata.
- [AIGA Wiki Scholars](#): We are happy to announce our first course with the American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA). This group of 19 participants will be working to improve or create articles about underrepresented designers. Keep an eye on the Dashboard (linked above) to track their progress.

Advancement

Fundraising

In January, Kathleen caught up on getting donor acknowledgements and tax receipts sent out. She drafted and submitted a letter of inquiry to a corporate foundation for \$40K in support of two Wiki Scholars & Scientists courses. Kathleen drafted and emailed impact reports to the donors who gave in late spring, summer, and early fall and sent hard copy versions to those who gave higher amounts. She had a meeting with Lynn Luckow, a Board member of the San Francisco Rotary Club that she met briefly in person in December. He is interested in our work. Kathleen and LiAnna met with the Executive Director of the Broadcom Foundation to lay out targets for the \$50K grant to support the creation of biographies of coders, engineers, etc. from historically marginalized backgrounds. Kathleen created an initial draft of a letter of inquiry for funding of the P&E Dashboard to a large foundation after to discussing the approach with Sage and LiAnna.

Communications

Blog posts:

- [Wikipedia as a vehicle for science communication](#) (January 3)
- [Understanding diversity through Wikipedia and Wikidata](#) (January 5)
- [Adding women chemists to Wikipedia](#) (January 11)
- [21 ways we've made Wikipedia better](#) (January 14)
- [Improving Wikipedia's coverage of racial justice](#) (January 17)
- [Adding Wikipedia to the pedagogical toolkit](#) (January 19)
- [Why librarians should learn Wikidata](#) (January 25)

Technology

This month, Outreachy intern Ivana Novakovic-Lekovic integrated the generation of Wikidata-specific statistics into the Dashboard's course update process. We deployed these changes to both Wiki Education Dashboard and to Programs & Events Dashboard, so both sites are ready for the next stage of the project in which Wikidata-specific stats will be displayed alongside existing stats on the Home tab of Wikidata courses.

We also had another contribution from volunteer developer 'cyrillefr', who built a new automated alert for whenever students are assigned WikiProject Medicine articles but their course doesn't include our training module for working on medical content.

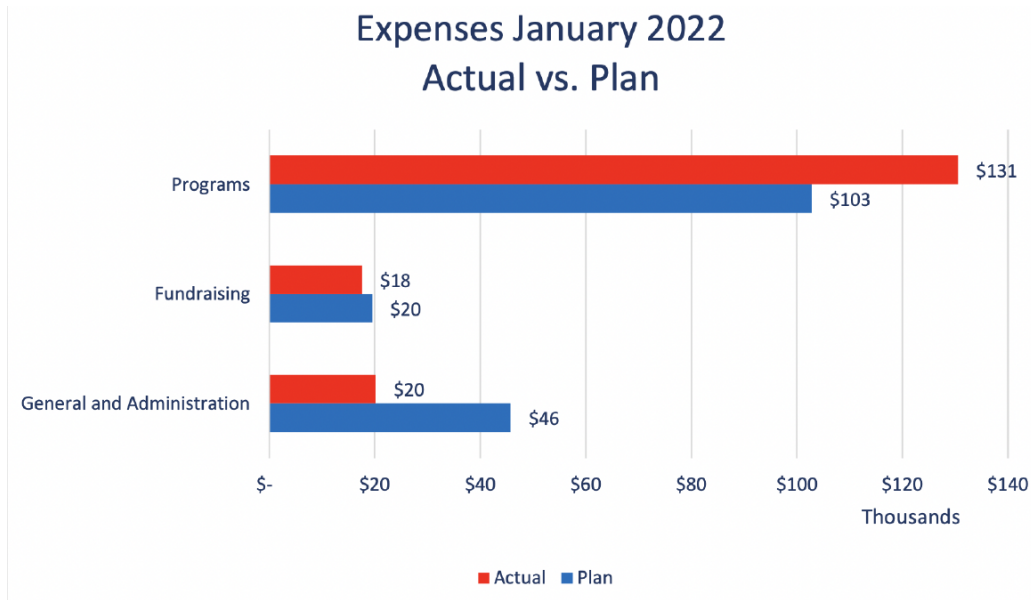
Chief Technology Officer Sage Ross continued working with WordPress developer Charles Cifuentes on our upcoming wikiedu.org design refresh. The core design is complete, and Charles has shifted his focus to make it work well on mobile devices and adding a feature for prompting visitors to subscribe to our mailings.

Sage also continued work on preparing to switch the Dashboard's Authorship Highlighting feature to use our new server on Wikimedia Cloud, made a number of small updates to training modules and automated course advice emails, and did exploratory work on checking the content of student sandboxes to detect things like the use of unreliable sources.

Finance & Administration

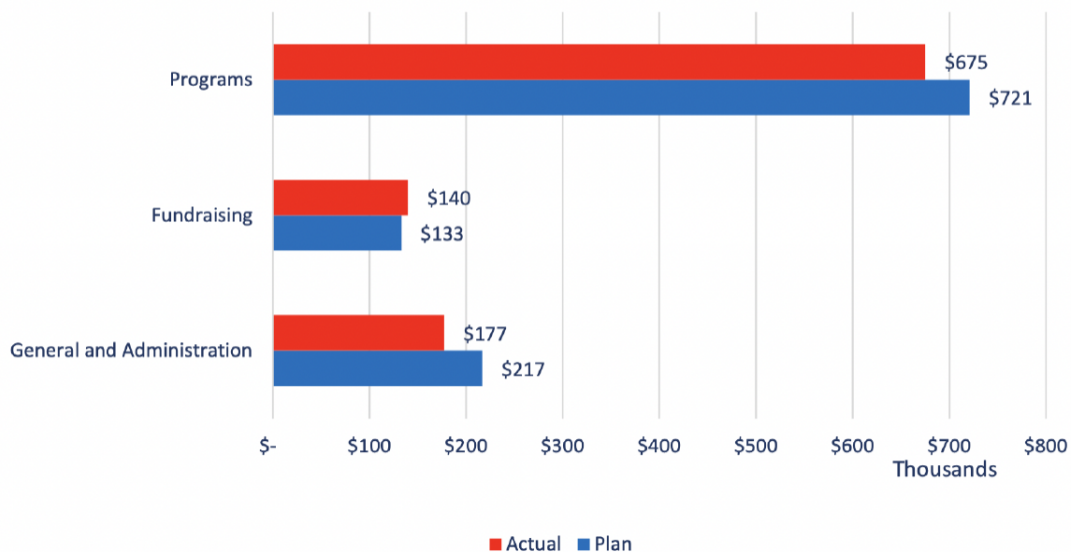
The total expenditures for the month of January were \$168K, which was on target with the budget of \$168K. Fundraising was under by (\$2K), of which was under (\$1K) in Payroll and (\$1K) in Printing expenses. General & Administrative were under (\$26K), due to being under (\$10K) in Audit fees we expect to see this quarter, (\$10K) from Staff and Board Meeting Expenses that changed from In-Person to Remote, (\$1K) in Travel and (\$1K) in Indirect Expenses while over +\$2K in Payroll Expenses. Programs were

over by +\$28K due being +\$24K in Payroll, +\$8K in Consulting Services slated in the previous month, while under (\$3K) in Travel and (\$1K) in Indirect Expenses, respectively.



The Year-to-date expenses were \$992K, (\$79K) under the budget of \$1,071K. Fundraising was over +\$7K due to being over +\$6K in Equipment, over +\$2K in Travel and +\$1K in Indirect Expenses while under (\$2K) in Payroll and (\$1K) in Professional Fees. General & Administrative were under (\$40K) with a combination of being under (\$27K) in Professional Services, (\$10K) in Staff and Board Meeting Expenses, (\$3K) in Equipment and (\$1K) in Travel Expenses, while over +\$7K in Occupancy Expenses, +\$6K in Payroll. Programs were under (\$46K), a result of being under (\$43K) in Consulting Services, (\$12K) in Travel, (\$10K) in Communications, while over +\$7K in Payroll, +\$3K in Direct Expenses +\$9K in Indirect Expenses.

Year to Date Expenses January 2022 Actual vs. Plan



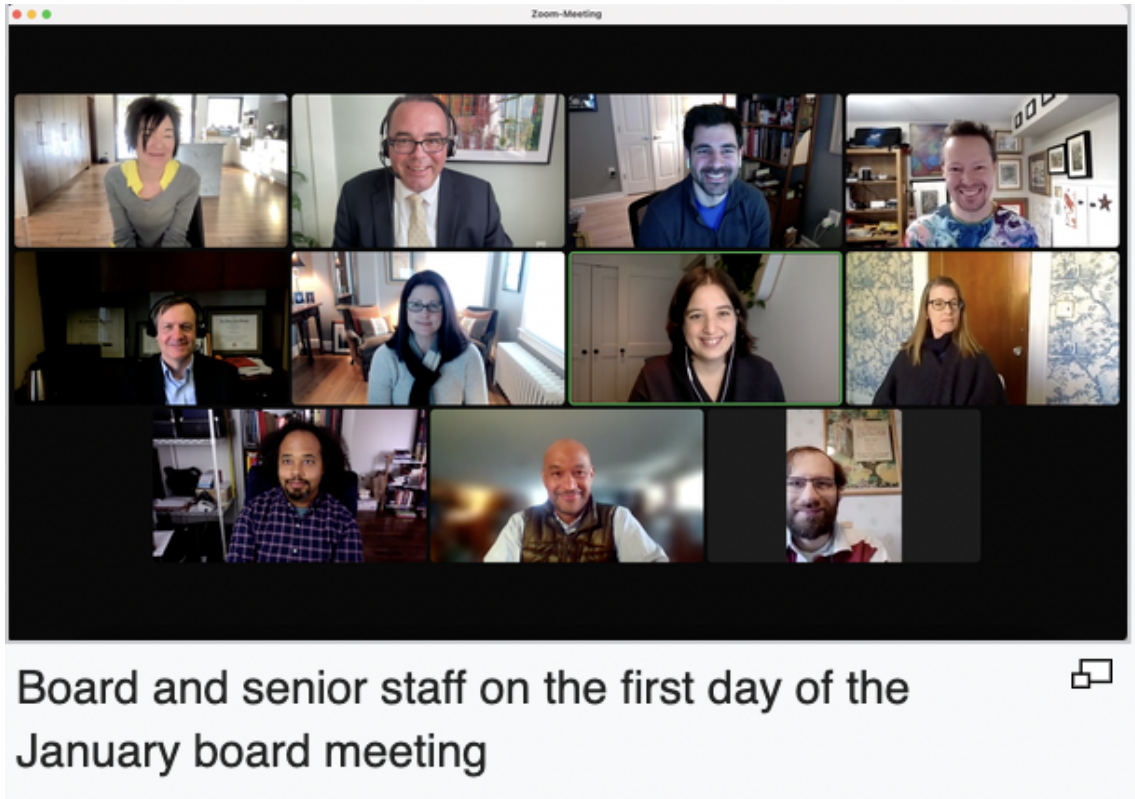
Office of the ED

Current priorities

- Facilitating the conversation about the organization's future
- Reporting on the first half of the fiscal year

January is traditionally the time for one of two annual in-person board meetings. While the board meeting in June serves at discussing the organization's plan for the upcoming fiscal year, the January board meeting serves at reviewing the first two quarters and charting the path for the time ahead. Due to the ongoing threats of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2022 January board meeting was held virtually via Zoom videoconferencing software. On the first day of the meeting, senior staff provided Wiki Education's board members with information about programmatic activities and results in the first and second quarter of the ongoing fiscal year 2022–23. On the second day, Frank Schulenburg facilitated a discussion of the different options for Wiki Education's future. With our current strategy ending in 2021, this conversation kicked off a process that serves at looking into how Wiki Education should position itself with regard to its future key focus areas, its relationship with the greater Wikimedia world, as well as with institutions of higher education in the United States and Canada. As a result of the meeting, the board asked Frank to ask staff for their input in this strategy discussion and to explore three different ways of leading the organization into the future.

Also in January, Frank worked on a grant proposal, and prepared – supported by Wiki Education's accountant Jordan Daly – on preparing for the quarterly Audit- and Finance-Committee meeting to be held in early February.



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