Wiki Edu

Monthly Report, September 2022

Highlights

- With 352 courses onboarded, we have exceeded our goal of 350 for the Fall 2022 term. A total of 5,030 students will learn how to contribute to Wikipedia while improving their research, writing, and media literacy skills. In order to support a growing number of program participants, we have started the process of refilling our second Wikipedia Expert position.
- Two "Women in Red" Wikipedia courses with 36 participants total improved Wikipedia's coverage of notable women. Biographies written by course participants include the page on Veronica McDonald, who holds two Arctic Winter Games records and served as a coach in traditional Indigenous sports, Ora Washington, a tennis and basketball star, who was inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in 2009, and Liz Montague, the first Black cartoonist to be published in the New Yorker.

Programs

Chief Programs Officer LiAnna Davis joined Executive Director Frank Schulenburg and more than 100 other Wikimedians in participating in the Wikimedia Summit 2022 in Berlin, Germany. The Summit's focus this year was on implementation of the Wikimedia Movement Strategy. LiAnna participated representing the Wikipedia & Education User Group, which she chairs. She participated in numerous discussions about the strategy and networked with other education program leaders globally, advancing the global efforts to expand connections between Wikipedia and academia.

In September, the Programs team also began the hiring process for a Wikipedia Expert. We published the job description, including a late September deadline, and received more than 200 applications for the role, most from highly qualified people. In September, we conducted two rounds of interviews with candidates, identifying a finalist for the role.

LiAnna Davis (center, in red) talking with Wikimedia Foundation Board of Trustees Member Victoria Doronina at the Wikimedia Summit

Wikipedia Student Program

Fall 2022 in numbers:

- 352 courses were live on the Dashboard.
- 5,030 students were enrolled on the Dashboard.
- Students added 233,000 words and 2,350 references to Wikipedia, contributed to 1,090 articles and created 4 new entries.

Performance at a glance: With 352 courses onboarded, we have exceeded our goal of 350 for the Fall 2022 term.

September saw the real kick off of the Fall 2022 term. Most of our courses began to dive into their Wikipedia projects. Students enrolled on the Dashboard and started dipping their toes into Wikipedia's waters.

We began to hold regular office hours in September where instructors have a chance to interact with Wiki Education staff on a weekly basis. We began office hours in Fall 2020 at the beginning of the pandemic, and we've continued them due to their success.

Senior Program Manager Helaine Blumenthal wrapped up recruiting for the Fall 2022 term, and turned her attention to a variety of upcoming workshops and webinars. She even began to think about Spring 2023 even though the Fall term had just begun!

Equity Outreach Coordinator Andrés Vera has been creating lists of instructors in Salesforce campaigns and an outreach strategy to engage deans and professors from Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), and Tribal Colleges & Universities (TCUs) that are not currently participating in the Wikipedia Student Program. In addition, he is strategically reaching out to professors who teach equity-related topics in our network to share the Wikipedia assignment with their colleagues. In September, he held his first Teaching with Wikipedia presentation in collaboration with Helaine at the University of Southern California. Fifty instructors registered, a great turnout for people who we can continue to reach out to in future terms. Here is a link if you'd like to watch the recording.

Scholars & Scientists Program

Courses in progress:

- Women in Red-2: This group of 17 editors had a huge impact on Wikipedia these past six weeks. Take a look at the Vivien Hailstone article to see a rewritten and expanded Wikipedia biography. We also had a participant work on the article for Veronica McDonald, a participant in Arctic Sports who has been a coach in traditional Indigenous sports and is a member of the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation in Alberta, Canada. The article for Ora Washington, a tennis and basketball star, who was inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in 2009 and the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2018. Black newspapers referred to her as "Queen Ora" and the "Queen of Two Courts," and her article was completely reworked in this class.
- Women in Red-3: These 19 editors edited 68 articles, adding 364 references in just under 1,000 edits. As with the other Women in Red course, this group created new articles about women or improved existing ones. Check out the article for María Urquides, an influential proponent of bilingual education. The article for Wilhelmine Key, who was the first woman to gain a PhD in zoology from the University of Chicago, where she studied coloration in paper wasps. She also contributed to the study of eugenics. Lastly, you can also look at Liz Montague's article to learn more about the first Black cartoonist to be published in the New Yorker.
- NSPN-4: We wrapped up work with our fourth NSPN course this month. These 14 participants created four new articles, edited 30, and added 227 references to articles. Check out the complete overhaul for the article about Fragile X-associated Primary Ovarian Insufficiency, some excellent work on the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) article, and Sun Hong Rhie (Astrophysicist).
- Wikidata Institute September: This small but driven group of three made 115 edits to 17 items in three short weeks. Follow this link to see all the improvements they made.

Advancement

Partnerships

This month, we updated a new landing page on Wiki Education's website for people interested in partnering with us to start a Wikipedia or Wikidata Initiative. partner.wikiedu.org now outlines the steps for working with Wiki Education in this capacity, and it has already been a useful resource for sharing collaboration opportunities with others.

We also spent the month working with the Programs team to design and market a Speaker Series to celebrate Wikidata's upcoming 10th birthday. We see this as an excellent opportunity to continue establishing Wiki Education as a leader in Wikidata, and we expect to establish new relationships and potential collaborations with attendees.

Finally, Director of Partnerships Jami Mathewson continued conversations with several existing partners and prospective partners who are considering kicking off a Wikipedia Initiative through a Wiki Scholars or Wiki Scientists course, especially with organizations interested in improving Wikipedia's coverage of climate science and proven mitigation solutions.

Fundraising

Director of Donor Relations Kathleen Crowley began work on researching a list of 200 foundations that have given grants to UNCF, hoping to find those that are interested in education and equity. Looking at UNCF was a suggestion by Alex Lockett. Kathleen worked on and submitted a grant application to a foundation to support the recruitment of instructors and STEM students completing a Wikipedia assignment at Massachusetts colleges and universities. Kathleen emailed the points of contact for three major foundations that were recommended by our Advisory Board member, Peter Kaufman. She worked on the draft of the full proposal for the Nielsen Foundation and met with LiAnna, Will, and Jami to review outstanding items on the grant application. Rob Lanphier connected Kathleen to Mike Piel, the Director of Philanthropy at The Center for Election Science. She met with him on Zoom; he provided her with recommendations on different fundraising prospects to approach and how to approach them. She also spent hours researching different online publications, like Bridgespan Group, Chronicle of Philanthropy, Giving USA reports, etc. to make recommendations for our strategic planning. She began work on another grant application to a foundation, and learned that PCORI had approved our project for a grant to cite at least five of their Systematic Reviews on various health topics in Wikipedia articles. Approval of our submitted budget and contract negotiations still remain.

Communications

Blog posts:

- [Recognizing the legacies of LGBTQ+ pioneers](#) (September 1)
- [Students journey to the center of the Earth… and Wikipedia!](#) (September 7)
- [Food justice in action: students fill in the blanks on Wikipedia](#) (September 15)
- [Counteracting historical erasure of women in STEM](#) (September 22)
- [Speaker Series: Wikidata's 10th Birthday](#) (September 27)
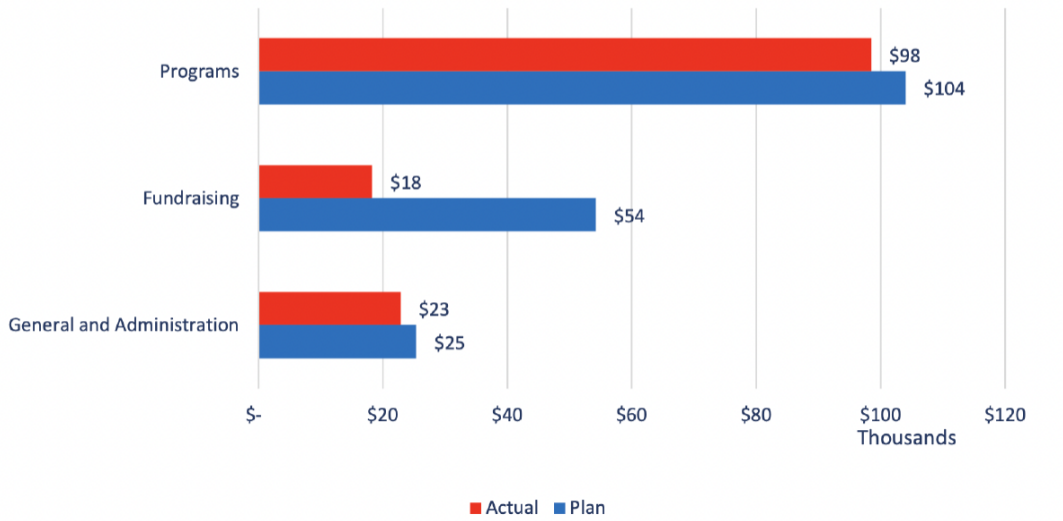
Technology

This month, Outreachy intern Vaidehi Atpadkar continued working on her project to add namespace-specific statistics to the Dashboard, completing the back-end statistics generation portion of the system.

Chief Technology Officer Sage Ross completed a number of Dashboard bug fixes, as well as a set of design improvements for our wikiedu.org WordPress website — including our new [Impact page](#).
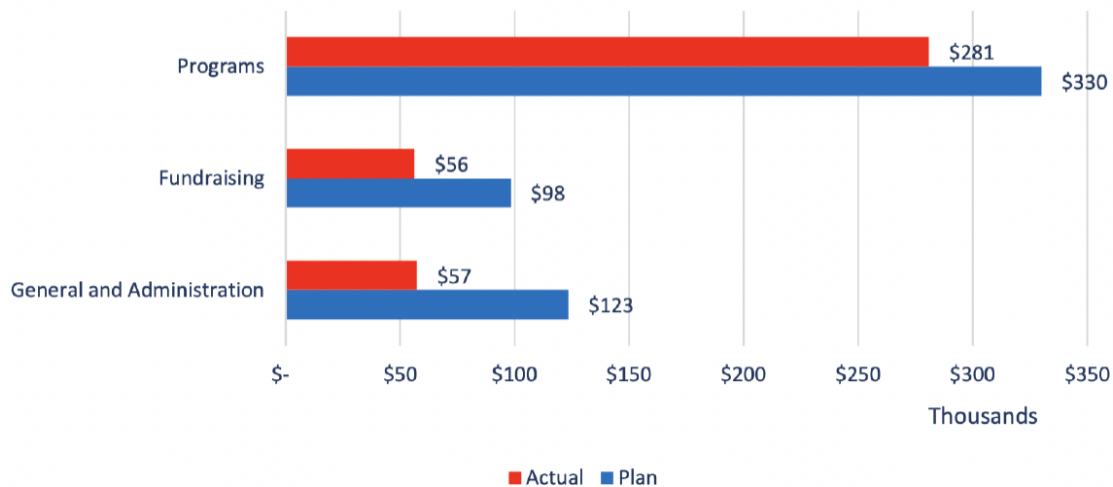
Finance & Administration

The total expenditures for the month of September were $140K, ($44K) under the budget of $184K. Fundraising was under ($36K) comprised of ($35K) in Marketing that will be pushed out a couple of months and ($1K) in Travel. General & Administrative were under ($2K) in Professional Services. Programs were under ($6K), comprised of ($4K) in Professional Services and ($2K) in Travel.

Expenses September 2022
Actual vs. Plan

The Year-to-date expenses were $394K, ($157K) under the budget of $592K. Fundraising was under budget ($42K), of which, ($35K) in Marketing that will occur in a couple of months, ($3K) in Travel, ($2K) in Printing, ($1K) in Payroll and ($1K) in Staff Training. General & Administrative were under ($66K) mostly due to moving the staff meeting from in-person to meeting remotely. This is seen where they were under ($16K) in Meetings, ($6K) in Travel. Additionally, General and Administration were under ($18K) in Recruiting, ($18K) in Payroll, ($4K) in Taxes, and ($7K) in Professional Services, while over +$3K in other Direct Expenditures. Programs were under ($49K) due to being under ($20K) in Consulting Services, ($6K) in Travel, ($11K) in Payroll and ($12K) in Software.

Year to Date Expenses September 2022
Actual vs. Plan

Office of the ED

Current priorities:

- Organizational Strategy 2023
- Support for the Advancement Team

At the beginning of September, Frank traveled to Europe in order to attend the three-day Wikimedia Summit in Berlin. He participated in conversations about the implementation of the 2030 Wikimedia Strategy, and used the opportunity to reconnect with Wikimedians from around the world, given that this event was the first in-person meeting after the global COVID-19 pandemic.

After the conference in Berlin ended, Frank traveled to Göttingen where he gave a presentation about the change in the relationship between Wikipedia and the academic world. That relationship started with the first Wikipedia Academy event, hosted by the *Göttingen State and University Library* in 2006. In his presentation, Frank outlined the development from 2006 to today, reminding his audience how skeptical academics were towards Wikipedia in those early days, and how much the relationship improved since. The event, which was originally scheduled to last one hour, was extended to double the time due to the enormous interest and numerous questions of the audience.

Subsequently, Frank traveled to Hamburg, where he met with representatives of the *Bavarian Center for Innovative Teaching in Higher Education* and the *Foundation for Innovation in Higher Education*. He provided advice on an upcoming project intended to improve Wikipedia's coverage of articles about higher education didactics, and talked about Wiki Education's experience in bringing subject-matter experts to Wikipedia.

After leaving Hamburg, Frank spent some time with his wife on a vacation in Normandy, France, before returning to California.

*Frank with Suyash Dwivedi (Affiliations Committee, Commons Photographers User Group)
at the Wikimedia Summit 2022 in Berlin*

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