**DSpace Leadership Orientation Overview, 2020**

**Background**

This document is designed to provide an overview and outline for new DSpace Leadership members. This is helpful to read through in advance and can frame our orientation session and discussion.

**Governance Roles and Responsibilities Overview**

“A governance model describes the roles that project participants can take on and the process for decision making within the project. In addition, it describes the ground rules for participation in the project and the processes for communicating and sharing within the project team and community.” *Gardler, Ross and Gabriel Hanganu, “*[*Governance Models*](http://oss-watch.ac.uk/resources/governancemodels)*”.*

## **DSpace Governance Roles**

The DSpace governance establishes the

* Principles and goals for the program
* Strategic direction and product roadmap
* Accountability
* Sustainability plan
* Management decision framework
* Means of conducting operations

Governance is based on a representative, community-based membership model incrementally rewarding members who have made the greatest commitments to the project

DSpace governance is made up of two main groups: the [Leadership Group](https://wiki.lyrasis.org/display/VIVO/VIVO+Leadership+Group) and the [Steering Group](https://wiki.lyrasis.org/display/VIVO/VIVO+Leadership+Group).

### **Leadership Group**

The Leadership Group is made up of members that contribute annually to the program, along with representatives from the DSpace Community at large who are particularly committed to the program, including Service Providers.

Eligibility to serve in the Leadership Group is determined based on the membership levels as follows:

* Platinum - 1 seat per member
* Gold - 1 seat per member
* Silver - 1 seats for every 4 members
* Bronze - 1 seat for every 8 members

The Leadership group will also benefit from the participation of:

* 2 Members nominated by the community at large and voted by the Members
* Representatives from Registered Service Providers
* Ex-officio and/or emeritus members

The Leadership Group approves the overall priorities and strategic direction of the project by:

* Approving the annual budget allocation and any modifications
* Approving the product roadmap
* Approving the strategic direction
* Nominating and electing Steering Group members
* Voting on key decisions presented by Steering Group
* Helping to raise funds and secure other resources on behalf of the project

The previous meeting agenda and notes are available at: <https://wiki.lyrasis.org/display/DSPACE/Leadership+Group>

The current DSpace Leadership Chair is: Kristi Parks, Texas Digital Library

Current members of the Leadership Group can be found at <https://duraspace.org/dspace/leadership-group>

The Leaders are elected for a 1-year term and there are no term limits.

Note: we are now at the end of the leadership year so we will be rotating some Leadership Group members and electing a new Chair.

### **Steering Group**

The Steering Group is nominated and elected by the Leadership Group and members are chosen among the Leaders. The Steering Group is composed of 9 Members elected for a 3-year term and it provides project oversight and ensures that the priorities of the Leadership Group and members are met, by:

* Providing strategic direction to the program
* Recommending annual budget allocations
* Presenting key decisions to the Leadership Group for discussion and approval
* Raising funds and securing other resources on behalf of the Program
* Overseeing program operations

The current DSpace Steering Group Chair is: Jyrki Ilva, National Library of Finland

Current members of the Steering Group may be found at<https://duraspace.org/dspace/steering-group>

Note: we are now at the end of the leadership year so we will be electing new Steering Group members and Chair.

## **General Leadership Responsibilities**

We ask Leaders and Steerers to observe the following community governance etiquette and general responsibilities:

* Coming to meetings prepared - review agenda and read materials in advance, and contribute topics to agenda
* Letting the chair of the group know if you can’t attend and sending an alternate when possible
* Participate actively in discussions
* Represent not only your organization. If you were elected to represent a category (bronze, silver, etc.), bring that broader perspective of the needs of those institutions to your role. Consider reaching out to those in your category - we can provide contact info.
* Participate in interest groups and task forces
  + <https://wiki.lyrasis.org/display/DSPACE/DSpace+Interest+Groups>
  + <https://wiki.lyrasis.org/display/DSPACE/DSpace+Working+Groups>

All DSpace communications and governance meetings follow the LYRASIS [Code of Conduct.](https://www.lyrasis.org/about/Pages/Code-of-Conduct.aspx) We ask all Leaders to remain respectful in all discussions. We also encourage you to report any violations of the code of conduct to LYRASIS (see  [Code of Conduct](https://www.lyrasis.org/about/Pages/Code-of-Conduct.aspx) for more details).

**Actions**:

There are several actions new leadership members should take including:

* Get an account on the dspace wiki. You can request an account via: wikihelp@lyrasis.org
* Join DSpace slack. You can request an invite using this [link](https://join.slack.com/t/dspace-org/shared_invite/zt-g6kzvqok-Azdx4yR7mvuT2T_dPjPtEw)
* Consider which task forces or interest groups align with your interests and join
  + - <https://wiki.lyrasis.org/display/DSPACE/DSpace+Interest+Groups>
    - <https://wiki.lyrasis.org/display/DSPACE/DSpace+Working+Groups>

# **Current Challenges**

DSpace is facing important challenges that the Leadership Group can help address:

**Fundraising for 7.0 development**

In an effort to accelerate 7.0 development and the significant features it will bring, DSpace is currently piloting paying for dedicated development for 7.0. You can see more about the goals and status below. Leadership has been working on fundraising. Thus far we have commitments for $ 150,000 of our $ 300,000 goal.

<https://wiki.lyrasis.org/display/DSPACE/DSpace+Release+7.0+Status>

<https://wiki.lyrasis.org/display/DSPACE/DSpace+7+Release+Goals>

**7.0 Release**

7.0 will be a leap forward for DSpace. Once released, we will need to work on publicizing, training, and migrations. We need to start thinking and planning for those activities.

**Strategic Planning**

We should start thinking about how to begin strategic planning to define the next 3-5 years.

**Sustainability Recommendations**

LYRASIS conducted an It Takes A Village (ITAV) OSS Sustainability assessment of DSpace. It includes recommendations for Governance, Technology, Resources and Community Engagement. You can see more about ITAV at [www.lyrasis.org/itav](http://www.lyrasis.org/itav). See [DSpace ITAV Status Summary and Recommendations](https://wiki.lyrasis.org/display/DSPACE/2020-07-22+DSpace+Leadership+Group+Meeting?preview=/187176099/187176560/DSpace%20ITAV%20Status%20Summary%20and%20Rec%2020200710.pdf).

The Steering Group has created an initial plan for Implementing the ITAV recommendations. It will be discussed at the first Leadership Group meeting September 23, 2020.

You can see the recommendations at: <https://wiki.lyrasis.org/display/DSPACE/2020-08-26+DSpace+Leadership+Group+Meeting> The Action plan will be available via the Sept 23rd meeting agenda soon at <https://wiki.lyrasis.org/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=194117893>

**LYRASIS as Organizational Home**

LYRASIS serves as the Organizational Home for many community supported programs. As the Organizational Home, LYRASIS provides many resources and services to help grow, support and amplify the community contributions. These include staff, technology, financial services and logistics support. An Organizational Home allows the community to stay nimble, participative and collaborative, yet also remain responsive. This partnership allows the program staff and communities to focus on program priorities, free from the burden of building infrastructure which is critical to long term success and sustainability.

An earlier blog post describes an Organizational Home: <https://lyrasisnow.org/what-is-an-organizational-home/>

# **LYRASIS DuraSpace Community Support Programs (DCSP) Division Overview**

On July 1, 2019 LYRASIS and DuraSpace merged as highlighted by this announcement: [LYRASIS and DuraSpace Complete Merger](http://lyrasisnow.org/press-release-lyrasis-and-duraspace-complete-merger/). The DuraSpace Community Support Programs (DCSP) division of LYRASIS leverages the skills and energies of LYRASIS’ combined portfolio of programs with 1700+ institutional fiscal supporters and 5,000+ users.

The division is a combined organizational home for ArchivesSpace, CollectionSpace, DSpace, Fedora, and VIVO that leverages the scale of the broader organization. We’re working to identify new opportunities, programs, partners and models that will accelerate and make more efficient the good work of our programs.

The strategic vision of the division is evolving. At a staff retreat, our staff described our role as: *to support and empower our communities and serve as a partner in leading, strengthening, and promoting open source or community-supported initiatives in the library, archive, museum, and research fields.*

**Resources**

The following resources may be useful as a reference: <https://wiki.lyrasis.org/display/DSPACE/Project+Governance>

# **Questions?**