VIVO had the strongest year ever

In 2018, **product development**, planning, collaboration, events, publications, finance, membership, and governance, building the foundation for an even stronger year in 2019.

Last year, VIVO held our first community sprint, our first newcomers sprint, and our first community release. VIVO set new records for issues addressed, and for community participation in development. New efforts in ontology, front-end development, modularization, architecture, and documentation provide a strong foundation for 2019. VIVO added new APIs for data distribution and triple pattern fragments improving VIVO as an open solution for collecting and managing open metadata for research information management, expert finding, and faculty profiles.

The VIVO community had **record growth** in 2018. VIVO sites increased by 12%, members went up 13%, Twitter followers were up 24%, and contributors increased by 100%. VIVO has collaborative efforts with CD2H, CASRAI, RDA, Research Graph, and GoFAIR. More than 30 VIVO presentations and events were held in Germany, Denmark, India, China, Cuba, the Netherlands, Canada, the US, Sweden, and Botswana. Two VIVO training camps, taught by community members, were held in San Diego and New York.
The project developed an MOU with Duraspace, and new financial controls, leading to net revenue and positioning VIVO for further financial success.

VIVO has new international members, SIGMA (Spain) and Cineca (Italy), participating in the leadership of the project and the development of VIVO software.

The VIVO Leadership Group was reformed, the charter updated, and a Steering Group formed from leaders. The committers group was established along with development and ontology interest groups, resulting in very active governance.

Working across the community, VIVO developed its first Statement of Direction to focus development in 2019 on front-end technology and modularization of the code. Community effort will define needs for combining metadata from multiple sources, and approaches to cross-site search.

An action planning process has led to new initiatives in product evolution, structure and governance, resources and membership, community development, and vision.

Ontocale joined the project as a service provider offering professional services to sites looking to implement VIVO. Along with Clarivate and Symplectic, VIVO now has strong providers.

VIVO is positioned for an even stronger 2019.

- Inviting developers to our first architectural planning meeting in January.
- Designing a new modern and lightweight front-end.
- Working to modularize the VIVO code base.
- Advancing work to internationalize VIVO.
- Increasing commitment to membership and governance.
- Building on financial strength.
- Increasing efforts to represent scholarship through open ontology.

VIVO 2019 is coming to Montenegro!

Hosting our first international conference in Montenegro from September 4 to 6, with Violeta Ilik as the conference chair, Ruben Verborgh as program chair, Herbert Van de Sompel as the keynote speaker, and Anastasia Dimou and Sarven Capadisli as invited speakers.
Join us to connect, share, and discover scholarship!

www.vivoweb.org