

2019-10-23 - Fedora Leadership Group Meeting

Time/Place

Time: 10:00am Eastern Time (US)

URL: <https://l5rasis.zoom.us/my/fedora>

Meeting ID: 812 835 3771

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Attendees

1. ~~Tammy Allgood Wolf~~
2. Melissa Anez
3. Chris Awre
4. Thomas Bernhart
5. Danny Bernstein
6. Robert Cartolano
7. Aaron Choate
8. Sayeed Choudhury
9. ~~Stefano Cossu~~
10. Jon Dunn
11. Karen Estlund
12. Dan Field
13. Raman Ganguly
14. Jennifer Gilbert
15. Babak Hamidzadeh
16. Neil Jefferies
17. Mark Jordan
18. Danny Lamb
19. Rosalyn Metz
20. Este Pope
21. Scott Prater
22. Robin Ruggaber
23. Tim Shearer
24. ~~Erin Tripp~~
25. Andrew Woods
26. Dustin Slater ★
27. Jennifer Vinopal
28. Evviva Weinraub
29. Jared Whiklo
30. David Wilcox
31. Wei Xuan
32. Maurice York
33. Laurie Arp
34. Robert Miller

Agenda

| Topic | Lead |
|---|--------|
| Financial Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Budget overview and quarterly report | Laurie |
| Fedora 6 design decision <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Core issues and implementation options | David |

Previous Action Items

- **Governance Group** - Review subgroups and organization before end of June. [Jennifer Vinopal Rosalyn Metz](#)
- [Maurice York](#) and [Robin Lindley Ruggaber](#) to ask their teams how things are currently structured on disk to compare against the OCFL spec.
 - Robin - the structure on disk is the way the Samvera stack structures them (for Fedora 4). Did not receive a satisfactory answer for Fedora 3. Not sure if we will move that forward. But we expect to be able to migrate.

Notes

Budget Overview and Quarterly Report:

(document was attached to email sent to group by [David Wilcox](#))

Previous years not available due to differences in fiscal year accounting between Duraspace and Lyrasis. The complexity is too great. Robert's key number is the Net Assets. That keys him in on what resources he has to accomplish objectives.

Lyrasis views a positive revenue as a strength. Building up a reserve provides stability and flexibility and is a symbol of health.

Q: Since membership dues aren't a steady income, how are they handled?

A: Invoices go out at the beginning of the year. Institutions generally pay promptly. Lyrasis recognizes the income at 1/12th of the total per month.

Q: How do you managed delayed payments? Or Institutions that don't renew?

A: We initially expect the revenue to come in, as it is understood that it sometimes get delayed. However we quickly follow up with organizations. If people indicate they are not going to renew there is CEO/leadership engagement. We call the institution to understand the impetus for not renewing. We use this information to try to identify trends across the the 10 community supported organizations under the Lyrasis banner. This allows us to get ahead of the trend for other related products.

Q: When we look at this sheet how should we consider the total assets?

A: It follows accounting practices, so it includes reserves.

Fedora 6 Design Decision

[Core issues and implementation options](#)

David introduced the topic, which was a summary of the document linked immediately above.

Q: (MY) Why not just create a default "Version 0" for everything on the backend?

A: (DW) If we did this we still need to figure out what to do with the content later. Future changes would need to be versioned or else the "Version 0" directory would be overwritten with changed content. Versions in OCFL are supposed to be immutable.

A: (RM) OCFL assumes you are being intentional. Fedora does not assume the user is being intentional. It allows for a broader use case of individuals not thinking about what happens when they update content.

Q: (SP) Does the Fedora tech team have a preference from their technical point of view?

A: (DW) They do, but we're hesitant to introduce that this early in the discussion. We will share that later in the discussion, but we want to prejudice the discussion.

(SP) Repository owners will have 2 main concerns:

1) Can I rebuild my repository from disk?

2) Is my content versioned or not?

If technical details can be overcome, there is no reason not to version.

(RM) My concern about auto versioning is that it will create a lot of storage. This will become a point that the community will have concerns about.

(TS) Cloud costs for storage could be prohibitive with auto versioning.

(AW) Every time you create a new version, you get a new manifest. So there is a text file that gets larger with each version. On the extreme end, we have seen spreadsheets with 35,000 versions.

(EP) What are the objects that most often get large number of versions?

(AW) The above scenario was that there was a parent container that got version every time a child was modified or added. The act of creating a version in OCFL is the act of preservation. Indicating that it is ready for preservation. In Fedora the act of creating a version has been more about wanting to not lose a previous version.

(Mark (in chat)) Should "auto" not be determined further up the stack than Fedora? In other words, Samvera and Islandora, and other business logic layers, determine whether all changes result in new versions, or some contextual/configuration logic that makes this curatorial decision on behalf of the user. It is conceivable that multiple applications may be using Fedora, and some may want auto and some may not.

(DW) This is something I worry about too. If Fedora is too rigid in how we deal with it, it could dissuade other applications from adopting Fedora. We want to make it as easy as possible to adopt Fedora 6. So we want to limit how much work others will have to do to adopt Fedora. So, can we come up with a solution that aligns as much as possible with OCFL, but not make the change too complicated to adopt?

(DW ran through the options in the above document)

(TS) In the mutable head scenario, is it a given that auto versioning is an option? Not a default?

(AW) I think these are orthogonal topics. If you have auto versioning on at the application or Fedora level, the mutable head directory wouldn't exist or would be empty because all content would be versioned.

(DB) Having the system just auto version makes it more simple than dealing with a mutable head, but if we have a mutable head it makes on-demand versioning easier.

(SP) <asked about having unversioned content in the OCFL structure>

(AW/RS) You must not include other objects in the OCFL object root is the specification. See the last sentence in the draft <https://ocfl.io/draft/spec/#object-structure>

(RS) I think the language in the specification should be change from "must not" to "should not". I think it is ok to have content in a directory that hasn't been versioned.

(DW) Whatever we choose, it is going to be a compromise. What the decision gets down to is: where should unversioned content live? We want to hear from this group on what the community thinks, and what the best way forward for Fedora?

(TS) What is the urgency/timeline for this decision?

(AW/DB) There is a sprint that starts November 4th. We would like to have the decision a week previous to that date.

(MY) The view that Fedora enforces a particular viewpoint has been an issue in the past, so we should consider that when we decide what Fedora does. The flexibility is important.

(DW) Time is up today. David will follow up with DB and AW after the call and put together some material to help make the decision. The core issue seems to be where to store unversioned content.

Action Items