

Building community is the new black

Especially when going local to global

Carol Minton Morris
Andrew Woods



WHY?

Because if you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together. *African proverb*

To understand and participate in how other institutions in a community of practice are accomplishing shared goals

Because the success/adoption/acceptance of any far-reaching goal, objective or initiative requires ‘buy in’—some segment of a community of practice shares a strategic interest in accomplishing shared goals or objectives.

The DSpace, Fedora and VIVO communities are examples of going far together and being successful in achieving shared goals

The “Telling Stories” DSpace, Fedora and VIVO Task Forces introduce people, projects, ideas and innovation

A focus of the DuraSpace global outreach strategy has been to support growth of our open source communities by actively engaging members and practitioners.

Our primary collaborative activity is open source software development.

To engage community members beyond technical development Telling Stories Task Forces of each open source project were established to increase interactions and build deeper connections between community members and institutions through the familiar process of storytelling.

Stories are generated from information gathered as community members from one institution interview members from other institutions using a simple set of questions. The stories are published widely to raise awareness about community activities and accomplishments, while encouraging other community members to participate in telling stories.

Story examples

[Telling DSpace Stories at The National Library of Finland with Samu Viita](#)

[Telling Fedora 4 Stories at the University of Alberta with Geoff Harder, Peter Binkley, and Leah Vanderjagt](#)

[Telling Fedora 4 Stories at Johns Hopkins Library with Sayeed Choudhury](#)

[Telling VIVO Stories at The Marine Biological Laboratory Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution \(MBLWHOI\) with John Furfey](#)

Open Collaboration

- Shared belief in openness
 - Open content - *at least to the institution*
 - Open processes
 - Open software

Sharing Practices across Programs

- Community meetings
 - technical
 - special topics
 - user groups
- Governance meetings
 - strategic
 - road-mapping
 - use cases

New Opportunities

What practices can

- *Fedora / DSpace / VIVO*

..learn from

- *ArchivesSpace / CollectionSpace*

..and vice versa?