

**Outreach Connections: Native Health Information
Technology Subcommittee
Notes on Meeting of August 29, 2007**

Present: Claire Hamasu, Scott Horlbeck, Janis Teal

The meeting addressed the following topics:

- The static information we want to have included on the website
- The URL
- The questions from the meeting of 8/15
 - What wiki software allows for easiest navigation? (Wikimedia?)
 - Can a wiki also handle discussions? (Yes) Would a blog handle discussions better than a wiki? (No)

We agreed on the following static information to be included:

- Project and organization information. The Technology Subcommittee expressed some concerns about the template proposed by the Content Subcommittee.
- Minutes from the steering committee and subcommittees
- The capability of posing questions which are unrelated to any of the reported projects
- The possibility of a collaborative document area
- The ability to add other categories as needed
- The publicity and evaluation committee will be consulted on logo and web site color samples

We agreed that the URL should be as short as possible to facilitate easy access.

Scott reported that wiki software is the best course of action.

- Wiki software allows for a main content page.
- Discussions can be linked from the content pages to which the discussions apply.
- Linking internally to other parts of the wiki is easy; content contributors will be encouraged to create these links.
- Clear guidelines and a tutorial will be important to facilitating use of the site.
- Wiki software saves previous pages after they are edited, so reverting to a previous version is easy to do if vandals damage the site. This provides a measure of security. The content providers should self-police the site.
- Contributors can request to receive an email when their page(es) change. This will help in self-policing. Turnover in the outreach area can be a problem, and we will have a goal of enabling all contributing organizations to manage their information.
- Future plans will have to address how to operationalize the project after funding stops.
- Wikimedia software is the most advanced wiki software available and is open source; it requires a PHP server. Claire noted that the NNLM.gov server is a PHP server.

What software would best support discussions?

- Blogs are not discussion-oriented. Although they allow for comments, there generally isn't a way to respond to the comments.
- A wiki provides for discussions.
- Discussion forum software is another way to provide for discussions.
- Vanilla is an example of simple, straightforward, open source software for forums; it integrates well with wikis and blogs.
- Community Server, which is being adopted in some areas at UNM includes forums, blogs, wikis.
- Sharepoint is for document collaboration and is probably not a good choice for our needs.

Actions:

- Janis will talk with Pat about the concerns regarding the Content Subcommittee's template.
- Scott will find out whether HSLIC has a PHP server; if one could be created; and if any wiki software built on Cold Fusion exists (Cold Fusion underlies the UNM HSC website).
- Scott will talk with his supervisor about the possibilities of using Vanilla and Community Server.
- Scott will mock up a static page including an attempt at a logo.
- Scott will let Claire and Janis know when he has new information to be presented to a group meeting.
- Claire and Janis will look at Vanilla.
- Janis will give Scott background on Tribal Connections, TC4C, and americanindianhealth.
- Janis will share her address book with Scott so that he can email steering committee members if needed.

Notes by Janis Teal, 8/29/07