WTD: Write The Doc Houston Meetup

I attended the Write the Doc Meetup here in Houston. Write The Doc is a conference for documentarian and technical professionals to learn and discuss better ways to write and document technical writing and code. They recently had a conference in May 2017 and we were going over one of the speakers from the event named Ruthie BenDor and her talked called “Even Naming This was Hard.” The presentation as on ways we can name things better in programming and technical writing. I was able to meet Emily Zinsitz, a documentarian for a software development company, and Kojo Idrissa, a python programmer for a software development company that works on medical applications.

The presentation itself was very funny and insightful. It went over why naming things is hard. What problems come from naming things badly and why good naming is important and necessary not just for ourselves but for others. It focused on considering other people and even the users when choosing to name variables, functions, or really anything in programming. A name carries with it a lot of meaning and picking the best ones can be an art.

I was able to discuss the topics in depth with Kojo and Emily and gain some better understanding of how they have faced some problems with their projects when it came to naming things. It gave me some interesting things to consider when I go to write and document code for the benefit of other people. I greatly enjoyed the meetup and I will try to attend it again the next month.