

# Update on OSF Preprints Cost Distribution and Governance Feedback

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From: **Nici Pfeiffer** | nici@cos.io

Friday,  
Dec  
13,  
2:11  
PM

Dear Colleagues,

The purpose of this email is to summarize the feedback that we have gathered since we shared the distributed cost model for 2020 in October, and the status of our collective efforts to establish sustainability.

Since distributing the cost model in October, Kevin has been engaging with services individually to share usage totals, pricing tiers, and fundraising resources. Thank you for all the feedback on the fundraising efforts and governance proposal. We haven't received complete information from everyone yet, but here is a summary of our present status:

- There are commitments for \$35,989 of funds from 11 services to date and COS confirms its contribution of \$141,249.31 for 2020. Together, this is 77% of the target so far.
- Fundraising strategies are quite variable across services. The most promising opportunity for some appears to be engaging libraries, particularly starting with those at the institutions of the preprint's

steering committee. Others indicate some promise with funding organizations that have interests in supporting particular communities (e.g., global south, or particular disciplinary domains).

- On December 2, 2019 Tina shared the [COS Preprint Fundraising Toolkit](#) to further equip services with an overview and potential fundraising sources and letter templates for customizing to individual service funding requests.
- We have collaborated with six services so to draft one-pagers and identify funding targets so far. We would be pleased to work with any others that would like support getting these materials together and reaching out to potential supporters.
- Three services provided feedback about the governance proposal. The most significant concerns were minimizing time commitment, and one prefers a vendor model. Informally, others likewise expressed modest interest in a formal governance structure. We have updated the governance model for 2020 to be optional and advisory based on this feedback (found [here](#)). The key features are: twice yearly optional virtual meetings, all services are included. We will revisit this periodically to gauge interest in a more formal governance structure.

Thank you for your successful efforts thus far. Those that have done a bit of outreach have demonstrated viability of this distributed strategy, and given us more ideas for how to make this successful individually and collectively. COS has and remains committed to being available to support your efforts, just let us know if and how we can be of service!

Soon, you will receive an Agreement for Services letter and then an invoice for the 2020 contribution. These should be returned by Jan 31, 2020, though we have already made arrangements with some of you for extensions on payments tied to your fundraising strategy. For those that were still exploring strategies, we should have those confirmed by the end of January. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best,

Nici

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