Making Great STRIDES This Fall

STRIDES Initiative (Center for Information Technology)

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Computer Science

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Overview

- 1. Introductions
- 2. What is STRIDES?
- 3. Laying the Groundwork for NIH-Wide GitHub Usage
- 4. Automating STRIDES Team Tasks
- 5. STRIDES Learning and Development



Introductions



Hadley Callaway
Columbia '21
Computer Science



Tiffany Duong
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What is STRIDES?

What is STRIDES?

- Provides cost-effective access to industry-leading cloud partners (AWS and GCP) to help advance biomedical research
- Benefits of using STRIDES:
 - Discounts on STRIDES Initiative partner services
 - Professional services
 - Training
 - Potential collaborative engagements
- Strategic Plan for Data Science



STRIDES Initiative by the Numbers

18

NIH ICs participating

\$10.4M

Cost savings to ICs

50

Extramurals participating

\$51.5M

Obligated by NIH

>2,700

People trained

338

Program/project accounts onboarded



Where We Come In

- Team needed help on expanding in various areas
- What we worked on:
 - GitHub Enterprise Cloud
 - Automating STRIDES team tasks
 - Refining learning and development opportunities



Laying the Groundwork for NIH-Wide GitHub Usage

STRIDES & GitHub

- STRIDES website hosted on GitHub Pages
- CIT handles NIH security breaches
 - ~\$250,000 from GitHub-related exposures forgiven
- Goal: GitHub Enterprise Cloud NIH-wide
 - Very popular in data science
 - Security features like single sign-on
 - Leverages Microsoft Enterprise Agreement





Our Initial Task



Automate GitHub Enterprise management

to prepare for thousands of users





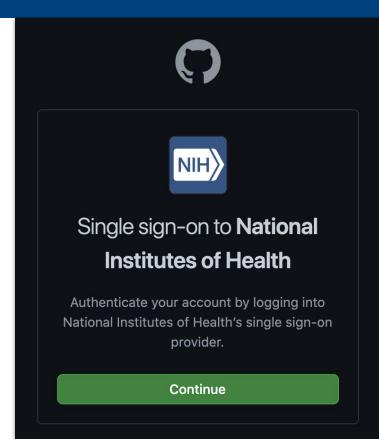
Researching Version Control Patterns

- How might we build with our researchers and not for them?
- 22 interviews across 11 ICs
 - 15 interviewees using GitHub (free or paid)
- Common themes:
 - Scientist vs. engineer users
 - NIH/CIT structure
 - External collaboration
 - Positive feedback for GHEC



Making A Customer-Informed Proposal

- 11/18 presentation to Technical Implementation Working Group
 - 12/8 follow-up
- Made proposal for NIH-wide GHEC (complementing other version control usage)
- NEI and NINDS on boarded to GHEC as a result





Planning For Future Implementation Work

- Created implementation plan document for our team
- Assumes approval of NIH-wide GHEC plan
- Main points:
 - Increased awareness and education about GitHub
 - Finalized partnership with GitHub federal team
 - Continued onboarding of interested ICs + subsequent phased rollout
 - Automated GitHub Enterprise management



Automating STRIDES Team Tasks

Automating STRIDES Team Tasks

- Microsoft Power Automate
- Tedious, time-consuming tasks from team backlog
- Saved total of **30.75 workdays** per year





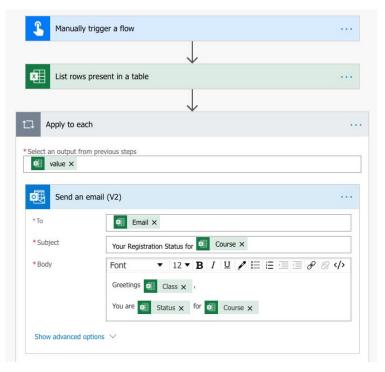
STRIDES Spending Reports





Saved 12 workdays per year (3 days/month)

Cloud Training Confirmation Emails





STRIDES Learning and Development

Working with Training

- Background: Training grew quickly from standard classroom sessions (Nov 2019)
 → tech talks, office hours, researcher-led seminar series, etc. (Present)
- My work: Taking a Product Management approach
- How might we better cater our training to our users researchers at the NIH?
 - Interviewed multiple training users across the NIH + looked at surveys
 - Consolidated trainings by role and level
- **Bigger question**: How might we better cater our work to what our different users want and need?
 - In the Learning and Development sector
 - As well as in Client Services, Technology, beyond



Designing Personas

- Breaking down personas for all of the different types of people who would interface with biomedical research
 - Biological data scientist
 - Developer
 - Statistical geneticist
 - And more (e.g. administrators, security professionals, support staff)
- Thinking about what their needs are, what their pain points are
 - What kind of trainings or offerings would appeal to them



Bringing This Beyond: Website





STRIDES website designed by Bob and Annie (CDF Summer '20)

Thank you!

- Nick Weber, Joel Peterson, Matt Gieseke, and the rest of the STRIDES Team
- **Jess Mazerik** for supporting us and the other NIH Civic Digital Fellows
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