Dryad Board October 2022 Meeting minutes

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Secretary signature:

Meeting information

Date: Wednesday, October 12, 2022
Time: 3:00 - 4:30 PM UK / 10:00 - 11:30 AM Eastern Time US/Canada
Location: Please join via Zoom link in the calendar invitation
Meeting type: Regular
Notice given: October 15, 2021

Attending

Board of Directors

Board members present: Andrew Beckerman, Jason Williams, Judy Ruttenberg, Fiona Murphy, Iratxe Puebla, Kristi Holmes, Ian Mulvany, Johan Nilsson, Devika Madalli, Caroline Sutton, Scott Edmunds. Gunter Waibel (ex officio), Jennifer Gibson, Executive Director (ex officio)

Board members absent: Barbara Ebert

Board members (late or early departure): N/A

Board Chair/Secretary Present: Yes

Quorum (7): Yes

Guests

Mark Kurtz, Head of Business Operations, Dryad

Agenda items

Approval of minutes, July BOD meeting [Decision]

Motion: To approve minutes of July 2022 BOD meeting

Introduced: Jason

Seconded: Brooks

Result: PASSED

Approval of minutes, September BOD meeting [Decision]

Motion: To approve minutes of September 2022 BOD meeting

Introduced: Jason

Seconded: Caroline

Result: PASSED

Appointment of officers

Motion: To approve the appointment of Jason as Chair, Caroline as Vice-chair, Iratxe as Secretary, and Ian as Treasurer

Introduced: Brooks

Seconded: Fiona

Result: PASSED

FOR INFORMATION

Risk analysis update

> **Notes**: Jen provided an update on our current risk assessment. There are two areas of high risk: data curation and data publishing, and revenue development. Curation is central to the business and impacts our service to customers, thus it is still considered at a high level of risk. It was discussed that it will be important for Dryad to position itself as a solution in the context of the recent US OSTP memo. It has become a priority to update and strengthen the relationship with CDL and to

document its state in the risk register. In addition, a committee or taskforce of board members will work with Günter and CDL staff to move this process forward.

A comment was made recommending that in future meetings the Board focuses on reviewing what has changed since the last risk-analysis update. The Board also noted that we should be mindful of the burden of responsibility on the ED regarding risk areas, and expressed confidence that the other roles that have been approved will provide some relief from that.

Key performance indicators

Notes: Jen presented our regular assessment of KPIs. Submissions have been increasing in the last two years but publications remain static, many datasets remain in private for review. A comment was raised that it may be helpful to look at e.g. Figshare data as a comparison.

On curation, the current average is 40 datasets curated per day and the goal is to increase this further in the coming weeks. The current focus is on stabilising the curation service and understanding the process datasets go through and the workload associated with that.

Regarding institutional member recruitment, the goal is to recruit 10-15 members by the end of FY 2023, six have been recruited so far.

Finance update

Notes: Mark covered a finance update. There has been good performance in the first two months of the fiscal year (since July 1), although some variability was noted, income is a bit under budget in individual data charges and institutional members, expenses are also under budget pending filling of open positions.

Progress towards goals

Notes: Jen gave an update on progress toward the slate of FY22-23 goals. One of the main goals by spring 2023 is to gain a quantitative understanding of the curation process to inform updates to the process. There will be monthly reports with updates on progress towards the goals as well as plans for a quarterly review.

FOR DISCUSSION

Priorities for the Board this year

Notes: ExCo is leading a roadmap for future work, this will involve a small in-person meeting with relevant parties to explore pain points and opportunities.

It was noted that data management is often at the end of a researcher's workflow, it is important to raise awareness among researchers about what the options are for data

management earlier in their workflow. It is also important to raise awareness across different regions and researcher communities.

Committees

Notes: We will create committees within the Board, developed according to the risk evaluation and areas that need attention. The expectation is that all Board members will join at least one committee. There will be a communication to the Board shortly about the slate of committees and possible members, with a goal to have the committees set up by November.

A Board member mentioned that as part of the committee structure it would be important to consider HR-type needs such as how the organisation is structured, and how to support the staff and provide the input they need. The Board discussed the scientific advisory committee and the importance of having regular input from scientists on their pain points around data sharing, opportunities and their views on curation.

The Board also discussed the need to be alert to revenue opportunities and that there should be input on this from across the Board and beyond the Finance committee.

Jen reminded the Board that Dryad is hosting Community meetings on 17th October 8m UK/9am CEST/9am SAST/4pm JST PM Tokyo and 20th October at 4pm UK/5pm CEST/ 11:00 am EDT/ 8am PDT and invited Board members to join these calls.

Jen also mentioned that Board meetings going forward will have an adjusted agenda to allow more time for strategic conversations.

Next meeting: May 11, 2023, 2pm UK.

Meeting Adjournment: 4:30 PM UK / 11:30 AM Eastern Time US/Canada