Discussion 4.1  
WEB-340

***Using your own words, what is API versioning?***

API versioning, from what I understand, is the ability to create an upgrade for your application without leaving those that have an earlier version behind by allowing them to still access that earlier version while allowing new users and consciously-upgrading users to move to the newest version.

***Using your own words, why is API versioning important?***

I think API versioning is important because people don’t always want to immediately upgrade to a newer version of an app and it allows them to continue to be loyal users of an app. Take Microsoft Windows, for example. Windows (although its not necessarily a web app) has many different versions ranging over several decades. Now, whenever a new version would come out, the new users would get the new version automatically with their new pc, but current users could (and many would) choose to continue using the previous version often times because they new the bugs were already taken care of in that version, or they just didn’t want the change. This is very similar to API versioning because it allowed users to have a choice while continuing to be loyal users.

***Identify and propose a versioning strategy to your business partner.***

There are several different versioning strategies, including: 2

* Through a URI path
* Through query parameters
* Through custom headers
* Through content negotiation

Of the previous options to choose for an API strategy, without any prior experience of them, I would choose the first one, versioning through a URI path. This version seems to be the most straightforward way to version your app and it also helps to inform the version in a very simplified manner what version they are using.

***Sources:***

* Express in Action 1
* <https://www.xmatters.com/blog/devops/blog-four-rest-api-versioning-strategies/> 2