

Hello everyone! I'm Rich, aka thewanderingeditor, founder of Lexicon Governance.

Lexicon is building modular governance and collaboration tools for web3 and beyond.

Overview

This grant, provided by Plurality Labs, was awarded to establish the Plural Research Society and build the first forum and plural voting tools needed to support it. As part of the grant, we will host an experimental plural research workshop where the participants – researchers from across the MEV space – will convene to present their research proposals, discuss and debate using a variety of pluralistic tools, then ultimately vote to decide how to allocate 100,000 ARB in grant funding.

Current Progress

We have completed the first technical milestones (landing page, registration page, plural voting UI and database to store user data, vote data, and calculate plurality scores). Current progress can be viewed in our [github](#). The experiment will launch by invitation soon at pluralresearch.org

Adjustments and Mitigations

The following adjustments have been made:

- The original plan was to build on top of Discourse. Unfortunately Discourse's approach to identity proved incompatible with our privacy aims. We therefore switched to building a custom backend and frontend. This entailed more development work, but has allowed us to integrate fully with Zupass. This will enable us to make the Plural Research Society progressively more private, while still giving access to the relational social data needed to run the various plural mechanisms. This hasn't delayed development, and in fact has open up a raft of opportunities for future features.
- Our initial goal was to host an event at ETHDenver in late February. Unfortunately, several key participants were unable to attend. We have therefore moved the event to May 22-23rd to coincide with ETHBerlin

Because this is quite a way off, we will hold an initial convening in early March, where the tools will be demoed and the first votes held. By doing this, only the final milestone (the actual distribution of the grants) will be delayed until May.

Next Steps

Registration will open soon, where invited researchers will be able to register and begin to vote to set the agenda for the workshop in May.

On the development side, we'll be closing out the vote tool development with a results page to clearly show the results ordered by plurality score, along with other useful data. We'll then shift focus to building forum functionality, to allow participants to discuss outside of voting.