

Lawrence Gray: Hi, Matt Kyle! How's it going?

Matt Haberland: Hey? There! I'll be joining a little bit.

Okay.

Kyle Kelley: hey? Good to see you.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Hi, everybody!

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): The early crowds here.

Lawrence Gray: hey, Andy? Hey, Katrina? Hey, Carlos?

Katrina Riehl: Hey? Good morning.

Lawrence Gray: How's it going, James?

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Yeah, we'll just give it. I think we're still 3 min early. So it's

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): just chatting with Leah. So I know she is at her computer with Zoom.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Probably get a few minutes even afterwards, cause there's

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): you know how these events. Go.

Lawrence Gray: hey, Rosie.

at it!

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Look who everybody's joining now we're just gonna

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): give it a few more minutes to actually get at time.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Start off, but feel free like we're we have chat open and

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): like.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): not sure if people can unmute themselves or not.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Does that the thing? Yeah, okay, great.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Never know, you jump into these things. And they're like, Oh, which version of this piece of software we running? Sometimes they lock things are locked down

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): alright. That thing's gonna ding every single time someone joins

Jonathan Starr: that is the most annoying feature of Zoom, I have ever seen, it might just be for the host. I'm not hearing it

Prashant Tiwari (London PyData): alright. Well, quick, quick! Assign somebody else. Host.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Yeah, I think I've been. I think I was, assigned the host so that I could run the QA. So

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): I get to enter it. Good

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): alright. Yeah. So we're right at the hour we're just waiting Leah's here and folks are gonna continue to join.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): But let me just kind of start off by saying, Welcome, everybody. I really appreciate you coming to this town hall. It's kind of put together. The the board has put together a slide show to kind of go through. Some of the major points to

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): they wanna highlight, and then we'll have a QA. Afterwards.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): I do ask everyone to. During the slice you to go ahead and mute yourselves and I will be monitoring group chat and trying to capture things that can be asked after the QA. So that we can give our the board the time to kind of go through their

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): other presentation in efficient manner.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): So with those further ado, let me introduce Leah Leah's our executive director of no focus, and we'll take it away with the the presentation portion of our

Leah Silen: alright. Hi, everyone! It's great to see you. Thanks, Andy.

Leah Silen: Yeah, was a slight delay there because I was exporting at the same time I was trying to open the slide deck. And yeah, wasn't that did not work well.

Leah Silen: alright. It's great to see everyone I and welcome to our our first, first ever and then focus town hall.

Leah Silen: I wanna just start with some introductions. I'd like to introduce our board members that are here. And just

Leah Silen: quickly. Also our staff. So board members. That are here. I'm just going to run down the list. I'm hoping I can see everyone but please let me know if I've missed everyone with so many faces on the screen. It's that can be challenging.

Leah Silen: So I'll start with our board. President Katrina. Real.

Katrina Riehl: Hi, everybody. Yeah, this is Katrina. Real in case I haven't met you before. I've been sitting on the board for about 5 and a half years, and I've been serving as president for about a year and a half now. And I'll pass it off to Larry.

Lawrence Gray: Hi, everyone! I'm Larry Grey. I've been a part of the board for a little over a year now.

Lawrence Gray: My, how I got associated with non-focuses that I'm a part of affiliate project. Yellow brick

Lawrence Gray: plus. I've done a lot of volunteer work for pied data and other things. But you're here for me today as we talk about transformation and pivotal moments for not focus.

Lawrence Gray: So let me pass it to Rosie.

Rosie Pongracz: Hi, everyone, Rosie Pomegranate! I've been on the board. I think it's going on so 3 years now.

Rosie Pongracz: and I am one of the representatives of the corporate community that we have. I originally joined, or was part of the non-focused Advisory Board via IBM.

Rosie Pongracz: And love the community so much and open source. And AI, which is

Rosie Pongracz: a lot of my. My work is done, is done in the corporate realm. But representing that perspective.

Lawrence Gray: We have James on here

Leah Silen: is James.

Lawrence Gray: maybe dropped. And there's Logan also.

Leah Silen: Okay, yeah. Logan, do you wanna

Leah Silen: introduce yourself?

Leah Silen: Okay, Logan. Maybe on oh, okay, he's switching laptops doesn't have audio set up yet. So that is

Leah Silen: no worries. And

Leah Silen: James or Sullivan or no.

Prashant Tiwari (London PyData): James is on mute.

Okay?

Leah Silen: So we have James Powell and Sylvan Corelay, who are also board members

Leah Silen: for joining. Thanks so much.

Leah Silen: Really quick! If y'all could just give a give a wave to I'll introduce our staff. And now that we have multiple staff members, that is that can also.

Leah Silen: it also may be challenging. I may have to cheat here and pull up my pull up my pull up my list here.

Leah Silen: Alright, so I will start with, and those that I can, I can see really quickly. So Nicole Foster.

Leah Silen: our operations Director.

Leah Silen: Hi, Nicole, and Jim Weiss are

Leah Silen: director of events and resources.

Leah Silen: and we have Nolan Fortmann, our development director and business.

Leah Silen: and we have our let's see who else simina

Leah Silen: is here. Hi! Samina is one of our event's managers

Leah Silen: in Kelby. Calvin Lawrence is our niches, new digital marketing specialist.

Leah Silen: and sorry to kind of bounce over Savannah Simons is our Ap. And A. R.

Leah Silen: And let's see. Sorry I am like literally bopping around here. Wave if I have it introduced you.

Leah Silen: Oh, Hi, okay, hide Lindsay. You keep. Yeah. You have definitely moved around. Lindsay is our grants manager and Donovan. You are here. Donovan is

Leah Silen: managing, or is helping out with marketing especially focusing on events side of marketing and helping out Kelby

Leah Silen: and

Leah Silen: our list. There you are. I kept looking for you. I was like, where is our list? Arlis is our developer advocate.

Leah Silen: Hi, Arlis and John John Starr is our open source science program manager ease.

Leah Silen: Every time someone joins, everyone is around. So I am Camila Camilla is our project, DEI.

Leah Silen: Coordinator.

Leah Silen: And here Tamara is also an event. Manager

Leah Silen: tamers off camera so she can't wave there. She is on chat

Leah Silen: alright. Who

Leah Silen: and

Leah Silen: you have. I miss.

Leah Silen: That is

Leah Silen: on right now. I think she's on as well.

Leah Silen: Is Siobhan on

Leah Silen: Javon is on our finance team. Yeah, there she is, Hi Shirvan, and she is working on events and bookkeeping

Leah Silen: so.

Leah Silen: And let's see, I think.

Leah Silen: And

Nicole Foster - NumFOCUS: Janae is on. But she's off camera. Janee is also on our finance team.

Leah Silen: Yes, there she is. Hi, Janae!

Leah Silen: I think that's everyone have. Everyone I know. Mir is is out

Leah Silen: alright if I did not.

Leah Silen: if I did not introduce you. I apologize. Please say, Hi! On on chat.

Leah Silen: We will go ahead and get started. Let me. I'm going to share my screen.

Leah Silen: And I

Leah Silen: believe this will all work.

Leah Silen: Okay, can everyone

Leah Silen: everyone see the screen?

Nicole Foster - NumFOCUS: Yep, I can see it

Leah Silen: right fantastic.

Leah Silen: alright.

Leah Silen: so. If you don't recognize this image, this is the and 7 9

Leah Silen: star, that is a forming, or many stars that are forming

Leah Silen: within the large

Leah Silen: magella Magell, II say this word wrong

Leah Silen: midge minjinallic cloud. And it is an incredible image, and it's even more incredible when you know that. There were no focus projects that were that were used in getting that getting these incredible images to this from James Webb

Logan Kilpatrick: Leah, are we recording this presentation?

Leah Silen: We are recording? Yes.

Leah Silen: So if you're just joining, we are recording, it should have it should give you a pop up

Leah Silen: great

Leah Silen: alright. So, as I mentioned, this is our very first annual town hall, and we're very excited to be able to bring the community together, to discuss, expanding and focuses reach and our and both, and also our impact over the next few years.

Leah Silen: This is an image of everyone at our last project Summit in Amsterdam, well, near close to Amsterdam. And yeah. Wanted to start out and share this image. It was excellent having everyone in person and

Leah Silen: that was, we'll have next year's coming up this fall

Leah Silen: alright. So our agenda just really quickly. We're gonna be talking about celebrating some milestones and looking back a little bit. Looking at where we are today and look at where we're gonna be going in the future.

Leah Silen: Then we're going to talk about embracing transformation and start charting a strategic path. Then we're going to take a look at our strategic vision. We're gonna talk about those priorities and goals and specific plans for growth, and then we'll end with the QA. And we hope everyone that will give everyone an opportunity to ask questions to have some open discussion, even though there's a lot of us here. We're gonna try very carefully to

Leah Silen: watch hands and make sure we can get questions answered and those we don't. They'll be available to be answered and discuss through github issues that will share the link to

Leah Silen: right? So this is just talking about the mission of them focus when we're talking about

Leah Silen: where we're going in the future. And looking at how nim focus exist in our in the ecosystem right now of open source science and open source, scientific computing. We think back

Leah Silen: and our mission and everything that we do. We're constant doing a mission check. Is this supporting projects? That is, that is our mission. That's why not focus was founded. And we're supporting

Leah Silen: you, the projects and you the project community, and in any way that we can that makes sense for us as an organization and as a nonprofit to do

Leah Silen: so, a reminder of our mission to support and promote innovative open source scientific computing through our fiscal sponsorship program, through collaborative opportunities and projecting network engagements through our events in community education and engagement also.

Leah Silen: So, as we celebrated, it's been, I can't believe. 2 years ago now, our we marked our first decade, and that was very exciting. And we we look back at a decade of impact

Leah Silen: dedication to our mission and supporting and serving projects, and we achieve significant milestones. And I won't go back on all those right now, because we're talking about things to come.

Leah Silen: But those are in our annual reports. And it's a great way to see where we've come by looking at those. I believe our first annual report on the website is 26.

Leah Silen: it's not a great annual report. But it does show. You can definitely see that. This significant growth, and impact that we've that we've had now over over 12 years.

Leah Silen: and as we celebrated that that tenth year it was, it gave us an opportunity to look back.

Leah Silen: but to also look

Leah Silen: where we were right now, where we were in the community, what was going on with the ecosystem? We sat down, and we came up with a lot of observations as staff as the board.

Leah Silen: What in? You know, things that we noticed what was going on and what we needed to focus on looking forward. How are we going to? Adapt to making sure our programs were aligned, aligning our services and programs at the same time

Leah Silen: with evolving project requirements in in project needs

Leah Silen: making sure all of our enhancements that we were doing were strategic and that we were proactively working and not just reactively working to make sure we had the systems in place. We made some changes to our financial system.

Leah Silen: We're not where we need to be yet. Because of our growth. But we made some significant changes. That helped and have greatly expanded our financial team. And brought in additional

Leah Silen: We brought in Nolan, who is our development director. And so we we are. We have made several enhancements over this time

Leah Silen: I will say improvements to our programming, but I will say there were improvements as a result of changes that that were put in place.

Leah Silen: There were new processes, additional staff staff updates, a lot of organizational advancement.

Leah Silen: Nicole has been fantastic. Helping me to get operations in a better place and then to be managing the end, directing that effort. That has been a huge help, and we're still working on that and you're gonna hear more about that in just a bit.

Leah Silen: Okay, there has been tremendous tremendous growth. The growth has been impressive, and it has showcased the widespread impact that we've had. And this is showing growth over 5 years. So we've had a hundred 60% increase in the number of projects over the past 5 years

Leah Silen: we've had a 255% increase in project support income from 2018 where we were in 2018 to where we finished up in 2023. So this is income that's coming in

Leah Silen: direct project income. This is donations. These are grants both to the organizations, to projects. This is funding that we were able to get in the hands of projects and to developers, to contributors. Working for the projects. So focus has very little funding that doesn't come in

Leah Silen: to support projects. It's it is just such a very, very small slipper of any income that comes in that isn't spent in support of projects.

Leah Silen: We've seen a 362% increase in our internal grant funding

Leah Silen: that we award to projects. We're getting very close to the \$300,000 mark there, and we we would like to double that. We would like to more than double that. But we are. We are seeing that growth and hope to continue seeing that growth. This is in our small development Grant program. So we can take care of needs, and we can take care of project needs. That may be smaller. But are needed.

Leah Silen: And that we can make sure that that funding is quickly getting to where it needs to be.

Leah Silen: Okay. So this is this slide is addressing the dynamic growth. And that's been that we've been observing during this time period, and also the need for adoption.

Leah Silen: So the growth has been seen both in number and in scope. So if it was just a number, that's there are certain things that need to be put in place to address that both capacity, wise and organizationally, processes automation. But also our growth has been in scope. There are different kinds of problems. There are different. You know, with the

Leah Silen: tremendous impact and growth we've all seen in AI. We need to make sure that we are. We're able to be resilient, and we're able to adapt to the growth that is coming in, and that means diversify diversifying our services, making sure they not only are able to encompass more projects, but

Leah Silen: also meet those growing in expanding needs of projects.

Leah Silen: making sure that we're able to be resilient in a very unpredictable economy.

Leah Silen: The economic landscape right now. It's hard. It was. We really felt the challenge of this over the past year year and a half. We don't expect it to get tremendously easier. So this is something that we have to make sure we're addressing, and that we're both adaptable and resilient. And that part of that is coming up with competitive funding strategies.

Leah Silen: Technological evolution, again, embracing these rapid advancements in AI that seem to be changing faster than we can keep up with them.

Leah Silen: making sure. That we're at the forefront of this innovation. And how can we help you, our projects and you our communities, to stay at the forefront of innovation and news. We want to try to expand on definitely expand on those efforts.

Leah Silen: So that's what we observed. And that is how we've kind of formulated. Okay, it is. It is time for some changes. We're at that point. So I'm going to introduce Larry. Now who's gonna talk to you about that exciting transformation.

Leah Silen: Larry, you ready to go?

Lawrence Gray: I'm ready to go

Lawrence Gray: alright. I'll click. I'll I'll do my best to click for you.

Lawrence Gray: Alright. Hello, everyone. Today I'm thrilled to share with you a momentous phase in our journey where we're preparing ourselves for significant growth and transformation.

Lawrence Gray: We stand at a crucial inflection point ready to embrace change that will propel us forward.

Lawrence Gray: So as we embark on this organizational evolution, our focus sharpens on the essentials that drive our mission toward excellence

Lawrence Gray: at the heart of this evolution is our community.

Lawrence Gray: you, our community, are our most valuable asset, and it's your insight, dedication, and passion that guides our path.

Lawrence Gray: So in this transformative phase, we're adapting a community-centric approach that means not just listening, but actually involving you in our decision-making process.

Lawrence Gray: we're committed to inclusivity, ensuring that every voice has the opportunity to shape our future

Lawrence Gray: together. We will navigate this journey, fostering a culture of collaboration and shared vision.

Lawrence Gray: Next slide, please.

So

Lawrence Gray: so as we forge ahead, it's crucial to adapt and strategize.

Lawrence Gray: we're navigating an increasingly competitive funding landscape

Lawrence Gray: so innovating our approaches to ensure that we remain at the forefront of support for open science and AI projects.

Lawrence Gray: Sustainable financial systems are the backbone of our strategy.

Lawrence Gray: We're developing renewable and scalable models that promise not just survival, but thriving growth.

Lawrence Gray: In our defining our strategic positioning, we acknowledge our pivotal role in the open science and AI landscapes. It's about clarifying our mission, our contributions and our unique value proposition.

Lawrence Gray: So governance, excellence remains a cornerstone of our strategy.

Lawrence Gray: Transparent, strategic, and accountable governance is non negotiable. Ensuring that we earn and maintain your trust. Lastly, we're investing in capacity building. It's about laying down the sustainable infrastructure that supports our projects and community's growth.

Lawrence Gray: This investment ensures that we're not just keeping pace, but setting the pace in open science

Lawrence Gray: next slide.

Lawrence Gray: Is it not changing?

Leah Silen: I'm going to

Leah Silen: Stop sharing for a minute and see if I can figure out what's going on. Sorry about that

Lawrence Gray: we're all in tech. We know this happens.

Leah Silen: Okay, seems to be working again

Leah Silen: back in business, Larry.

Lawrence Gray: Okay. so the Board met recently to put together our strategic vision. our vision for the future is both ambitious and grounded.

Lawrence Gray: We aim to strengthen the unique aspects of the non-focused community. but we also recognize there's much to learn from the success of others, and we're eager to integrate these lessons into our approach.

Lawrence Gray: Central to our philosophy is putting projects first.

Lawrence Gray: This isn't just a statement. It's a commitment to ensure that the projects and the people behind them receive the support and recognition they deserve.

Lawrence Gray: Doubling down on this philosophy means prioritizing the initiative that drive open science and AI forward, ensuring that ensuring they have resources, visibility, community engagement necessary to succeed

Lawrence Gray: together. We're not just dreaming of a brighter future. We're building it.

Lawrence Gray: Let's continue to innovate, collaborate, and drive change, making our mark on the world of open science. And AI,

Lawrence Gray: thank you. That's it.

Leah Silen: Thanks, Larry.

Leah Silen: Katrina is going to come on now and present our strategic vision

Katrina Riehl: alright. Next slide working

Leah Silen: second.

Leah Silen: There we go.

Katrina Riehl: alright fantastic. As Larry mentioned, we had our strategic planning session amongst the board a little while ago, and it was definitely an eye open experience. We've received a lot of feedback. And we wanna make sure that people understand that we are hearing. We're listening. We understand that there are a lot of things that need to change, especially as we're scaling up the community. There are a lot of different projects, and they're diverse and their needs.

Katrina Riehl: But for sure, we wanted to take a step backwards, and kind of look to see like what are our options for scaling? Do we have the opportunity to outsource? Do we have the ability to grow our back office? Do we have the ability to look at other resources that we haven't looked at in the past?

Katrina Riehl: But what we found was that, you know. Ultimately, we wanted to place the bet on

ourselves. And so, looking forward this next year, I think, is going to be an investment year. We're gonna spend some time building that capacity that's necessary in order for us to better execute our vision here. And while we're looking at what kind of initiatives we wanted to launch. We definitely had to take a look at our our values. We wanted to look to see like, what is it that makes you dumb focus, unique.

Katrina Riehl: And how are we going to be able to like? What are the guideposts that move us forward as we make decisions here. So first off, of course, how will this benefit our projects that has to be first and foremost in all of our minds?

Katrina Riehl: How will this benefit the non-post focus community. This includes our user community. We have a developer community. We have a user community. We also have a donor community that we have to make sure that we are also paying attention to

Katrina Riehl: and then how will this embody num focuses values? We wanna make sure that we are remaining transparent, fiscally responsible. All of the things that we want to stand for. Those will be updated on our website soon. By the way, I don't want to get into all of the num focus values. But we did spend quite a bit of time making sure that we were clear on what it is that we stand for as an organization.

Katrina Riehl: So let's go ahead and move forward. And we're going to talk about some of the things that we're planning on doing

Katrina Riehl: alright. So the first one that we wanted to talk about this is very, very exciting one. I think one of the biggest changes that you're gonna see here is that we want to form an open source scientific software alliance. This will be a 501 c, 6 arm of num focus. So this provides primarily in the beginning of funding opportunity that has not been open to us in the past.

Katrina Riehl: In general, 501 c. 6 S. Are much more attractive way for corporations to give money into organizations, and it is one that has been asked for in the past that we have not been able to provide for people. So what we wanted to do was go ahead and move forward and create that legal entity. And by doing that the 501 c. 3. That you all know right now will continue to run, and we will provide the same services that we are the same fiscal sponsorship program that we've had in the past.

Katrina Riehl: But we also wanted to add the C. 6 arm that allows us to take advantage of the corporate landscape. Better tap into other funding resources and hopefully bring in more corporate dollars directly into the projects.

Katrina Riehl: And as part of that, we can move on to the next slide.

Katrina Riehl: We wanted to talk about a supporting membership program. So the way that we've done our sponsorship in the past, a lot of corporate entities come in. But we also have, you know, of course, other funding sources. But primarily I feel like this is an untapped area that we have not been able to get into, especially considering how many people in the corporate landscape are using the projects that are are under this organization and within this community.

Katrina Riehl: So we wanted to take our current sponsorship programs and we're gonna repackage them into a membership program under the C. 6. What this does is it provides a renewable funding source.

Memberships come out of different parts of people's budgets than donations do as well as sponsorships do

Katrina Riehl: so. Sponsoring event, you know, generally will come out of like a marketing program or something like that. Where people want to return on that investment, visibility memberships give them a seat at the table and allow better, better way for us to interact with this or with

Katrina Riehl: with the people that are sitting within our membership program. It also allows them to plan for the future. It gives us a renewable source every single year that allows funding to come in that people can plan for, and then it also is going to basically provide new opportunities, I think.

Katrina Riehl: for other

Katrina Riehl: other cooperation, other ability for projects to to work together in different ways. And then we'll also provide a Member Advisory Council that will be able to support the community and bridge the projects to their supporters.

Katrina Riehl: And of course, I do want to stress that there's always the option that remains to go through the 501 c. 3 and so that is also available to donors. So we now have these 2 vehicles in order to bring money into the projects

Katrina Riehl: so moving on.

Katrina Riehl: The next thing is that for sure, we've been talking a whole lot about how to foster community better. And so making sure that we have stronger community ties. And so from this we've talked about refining our governing bodies

Katrina Riehl: the way things work right now. Obviously, we have an Advisory council, and we have the board of directors, the Board of Directors, you know, kind of, you know. Sit over here and they're doing, you know, both sort of, you know. Technical Review. Looking at projects, making sure code of conduct is in place, as well as looking at finances and marketing direction and strategic vision. But we wanted to go ahead and split the board.

Katrina Riehl: And what I mean by that is not necessarily, you know, dissolve it, but at the same time make it very clear that we wanna create an administrative board that is now able to handle. You know, legal issues, any kind of, you know, financial issues that pop up things like that making sure that we're taking care of the business. But then we also wanna have a member elected Technical Advisory Board, and this board will be the one that does project reviews that determines who has membership into num focus.

Katrina Riehl: is working directly with the projects who's working with the infrastructure committee in order to make sure that we are. You know, meeting the needs. I'm gonna talk a little bit about our new build

Katrina Riehl: system and things like that in a minute. As well as you know, maintaining our Advisory Council. So our advisors, obviously, you know, a lot of them, are old board members or big donors in our

in our community, but also people who have been instrumental in helping to form the community. We wanna maintain that connection as well. So the governing bodies will split into these 3 different entities, and then through the we also have the Member Advisory Council. This sounds like a whole lot of meetings.

Katrina Riehl: but given the size of our organization. I think it's necessary for us to have these different pieces of feedback. I think that out of all of these you'll find that the Technical Advisory Board is gonna be the most busy the one that's most active with all the projects. And a lot of the others are gonna be on the background, you know, making sure that the organization is running efficiently.

Katrina Riehl: The next thing I did kind of allude to this is the community driven election committee. I know the call went out for us to have an election committee that's being formed on this first round this year. The the election is gonna be a little different than it's been in the past. We are giving votes to projects. We are giving votes to the committees for giving votes to affiliated projects as well.

Katrina Riehl: We have weighted these appropriate to the amount of influence that we feel like the projects should have in this kind of community

Katrina Riehl: and so we are going to have people nominating

Katrina Riehl: for board members. Then we'll do a vetting process just to make sure there are no, you know,

Katrina Riehl: surprises anything in the background that we want to make sure that we have really good board members who are able to give the time commitment, and that there are no conflicts of interest or anything like that.

Katrina Riehl: And then move forward with an actual election. So this will allow the community to actually vote directly for the board members, and then that will determine how they are on the board. This next board that's coming in is going to be a very, very crucial board, just to be very clear, because they are the ones who are going to be moving forward with this new vision.

Katrina Riehl: They're gonna be the ones that are really trying to, you know, double down on project. First, they're gonna be the ones forming the technical Advisory board and then moving forward. The election committee would be the ones that are handling the elections, you know, moving forward because they are gonna run differently after this year.

Katrina Riehl: The other one that I did wanna mention was the updated code of conduct. We've talked a lot about code of conduct. There's a very, you know, we've been very open about the fact that the code of conduct system needs to needs to change. There's been a a questionnaire that went out hopefully, we got a lot of participation in that one. If you didn't, we'd love to hear from you and a project driven code of Conduct Response committee, so that we have

Katrina Riehl: trained individuals, people who are dedicated to code of conduct response that are able to handle with consistency across all the projects away in order to respond to code of conduct in a way that is going to be fair, like, I said across all and hopefully.

Katrina Riehl: relieve some of the pressure that people feel in order to handle code of conduct response themselves. Especially given the size of some projects. This becomes a bigger or lesser deal. There are a lot of details to work out here by the way, it is in progress. But I'm pretty excited about getting this this new response committee working. And then also, as far as community times, this pro ties the participation, the AI initiatives and alliances.

Katrina Riehl: I'm just gonna be really blunt about this. I think that with the AI boom we've not been able to really tap in to the AI community all that well, and be able to also find participants.

Katrina Riehl: donors, sponsors, all of the things that are happening over in the AI world is an area that we have not tapped into as well as we should have. And so creating this new Alliance is an opportunity in order for us to have a voice as AI is just so important in the future of technology. We need to have a voice at the table. We need to be able to bring people together. We need to be able to talk about these issues that are po common to all projects moving forward.

Katrina Riehl: And so from there, let's go ahead and move on to the next slide

Katrina Riehl: alright. So I do. Wanna say just a quick note about our staff. Obviously, we are very, very fortunate to have staff that cares as much as they do. They give their time. They ha provide that personal touch that I think Numfocus really does. Well, and that is something that we wanted to maintain as we move forward. But this is a way, for you know they are the ones that you interact with on daily basis.

Katrina Riehl: And so we are going to be doing some investment and some additional staff and the ones that you know bottom line, I wanted to really point out, I'm gonna let Leah take this in just a second. But we're hoping to bring in another development person in order to specifically be assigned to provide a funding directly to projects.

Katrina Riehl: So that is going to be one that I think that people are going to be pretty excited about, there will full time. 100% job is going to be finding money for projects. The second one is that we are going to be you know.

Katrina Riehl: I'm sorry investing in our infrastructure. We've heard quite a bit about, you know, wanting collective bargaining, you know, making sure that we have shared systems that we have some you know.

Katrina Riehl: infrastructure around what people are doing on the technical side. So the infrastructure committee is putting together a proof of concept for a build system. And then from there I'm gonna go ahead and pass it off to Leah at this point. But those 2 are ones I just really wanted to point out as being pivotal, I think, in order to make sure that we are successful, moving forward and meeting growing project needs but yeah, Leah, take it from there.

Leah Silen: Sure, thanks, Katrina. Alright. So yes, excited and I know there's a lot of staff and team members that are excited about this also.

Leah Silen: we are right now. I will say that

Leah Silen: staff is at Max capacity where? Where we are right now. We have definitely increased the

size of our staff. And we're very careful. To. You know, we're

Leah Silen: mindful on what everyone is doing. We wanna make sure everyone has a very good work, life balance and we don't want have people overworking and at risk of having to leave them focus because they have too much work and aren't staying aren't able to stay on top of things. So we wanna make sure that as we see that increase in project growth when I was showing those percentages

Leah Silen: earlier that 160 was you know, it's not grown at the same rate as our funding and our small development Grant program. But that's because we are careful of the number of projects that are coming in and making sure that we have capacity, and we slowed that down over the past year. We're beginning to pick that up again

because we wanted to make sure that we have capacity and and systems in place.

Leah Silen: so increasing our capacity, the main again, the main, the need for that

Leah Silen: is so that we are able to meet growing needs of projects. Staff isn't doing anything other than you know, working for projects. Again. Those questions that Katrina asked when we were working on and making decisions regarding strategic planning. You know, how will it benefit projects? Will it benefit projects? That's the first question that

Leah Silen: that comes up with any question that a staff or team member, how will it benefit our project community? How will it benefit our projects, or will it? And if the answer is, no. Then it's a definite no, that we're we're not doing that, and we won't be moving forward. With that, although it may seem like some very wonderful worthwhile idea. If there's no direct benefits to our projects or projects

Leah Silen: community, we can't do that. But at the same time we have to make sure that what we're doing meets capacity and that the project needs that we're focusing on are.

Leah Silen: you know, those are goals that we're able to take on we can't do everything that projects want, unfortunately. But we do wanna make sure what projects are needing and what we're hearing. We're listening to you or listening to the community. We wanna make sure we have the capacity to support you.

Leah Silen: So ticketing system, we've talked a lot about a ticketing system. We've had one in place for a while. It's it's been okay. It's not what we need. We knew it wasn't what we need. We've looked into several. We brought one on it was supposed to have a the robust ticketing system that we needed. The main thing that we're needing in the ticketing system is to be able to see that message history. We want you to be able to

Leah Silen: plugin, you know. Go to the Portal dashboard, whatever it may be, and be able to see your history of the conversations that you've had with us. So you don't have to, you know, go through search and email, we wanna make sure that it has an AI Supported knowledge base where you can get quick answers to things that you need without having to wait for Staff to get back to you

Leah Silen: on some things, of course, will be available to always talk about things in detail. But if there's questions you need answered that can quickly be tackled in the through the knowledge base. Then we're

gonna that's what that's what we're working on right now. And like, I said, as as we speak

Leah Silen: we're gonna continue to provide the updates from staff on them focus initiatives. What we're doing, what's going at what's going on. As far as both events on the finance side, on marketing, on things that we can do to help you, just to make sure you're aware of what we're doing, and you know what's going on. And you're the first ones to know that

Leah Silen: we will continue doing these weekly I want to thank all staff members for doing this. I know it is everyone is

Leah Silen: super willing to do this and to be able to take the time to put updates in every Monday to make sure you're updated. We thank you for reading them. We've heard responses and received questions from them on slack.

Leah Silen: And we're yeah. We're grateful to have this channel of communication going on, and it will continue.

Leah Silen: Our Katrina mentioned expanding of our development team. So right now it is Nolan. I have not been able to give development the time and attention I need to so hopefully, that will that's going to change. And I'm gonna be able to have some more time to be able to work on that.

Leah Silen: But most ex, you know, important importantly. And also we're thrilled about as Katrina mentioned that we're gonna bring someone in full time to be focused on a project fundraising to work directly with projects and to be able to focus on our needs. So

Leah Silen: your needs and our needs related to how we can help you. What doors? We can open, listening to you who you're working with. You know what users that you're aware of. And who can we talk to, and how we can work together on getting some systems and getting some funding increasing that funding flow

Leah Silen: project infrastructure super excited to bring in someone. We brought someone in part time and to have someone devoted to you know, administering these shared systems. We're way overdue on the building and testing environments and getting that set up. And we're gonna make sure that we have that in place from you.

Leah Silen: thank you to everyone who served and is serving on the infrastructure committee for your work. We are we're gonna make sure this this happens and get rolls out, and you'll be seeing that job description. And that position posted we'll post it first, internally, internally, before before that goes out. So all of you will.

If there's someone you know that would be interested in that position. Please please let us know

Leah Silen: alright. This brings us to our QA. I've been trying, but not doing great job of paying attention to the questions on chat, because mostly once I start to answer them. I'm not paying attention to where we are. So there's been a lot of great questions asked. If we don't get to all of them today. We can make sure we move those over and answer those on github. There's a link here to issue tracker that

Leah Silen: that we'll be using for additional questions. But right now andy is gonna moderate our QA. And hopefully, yeah, we'll have some time to address some of these questions, Andy.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): sure thing, and folks are asking questions in the chat, and that's what I've been following. There's

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): apparently a new feature where people can click.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): and it's QA. In the underneath one of the buttons. Here, apparently, the zoom is fancy than the one I was using in the past. And we also have like this notes. But I want to start with just the interactions from the chat. So all the other places.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Please just go to the chat, because, like, it's too hard to monitor everything. So just in just kind of keep it one stream line, and then, folks, and move migrate things over, and when we're done we'll turn anything, not answer. We'll put it into the Github repositories issues and try to bring it up and answer it offline? So first and foremost, just going through the chat. The most engaged kind of questions were around.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): How the board how decisions are made on the board like and and feel free after, like I'll I'll I'll go ahead and introduce a question, and if you feel like it didn't do a good job into your question. You can jump in and answer, ask more details. But

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): just to to the board. How are decisions made as to whether the Board do board wiley to onboard, new people to know focus? I assume new board members here, or new staff members as well. How does that decision get made to bring new people on?

Leah Silen: it? Well, it's different, very different for the Board than it is for Staff. So, Andy, was it

Leah Silen: do we need to?

Travis Oliphant: So Travis? Was your question. Do you have? Do you? Are you still here? It's yeah, it's well, there's 2 questions one relates to elections for the board, or how the board selected. That was a separate question. But this is about staff.

Travis Oliphant: The book of staff.

Travis Oliphant: the the group growing. It's awesome. But how? How is that decided that it?

Travis Oliphant: That that's a

Travis Oliphant: it's a great way to provide new services, but also a great way to increase the challenges associated with running an organization.

Leah Silen: Right? So that's decided. Both on an operational level on my end, and also with input from the board, and other advisors that we have. So sometimes it makes sense to to automate more

Leah Silen: and not always bring in another staff member. If we can automate and make sure that the person that is, you know, does tasks are under there

Leah Silen: responsibility to be able to manage that. Sometimes it makes sense to outsource use consultants, use external contractors which we do that also. But it's it's clear in the areas where we are needing someone, whether we're needing we've used enough outside consultants and contractors that we know when

Leah Silen: when we can no longer manage that when when that isn't enough. So maybe I can clarify a little bit. I'm kind of trying to find out who we is.

Travis Oliphant: Right anytime. Any organization essentially has decisions that have to be made.

Travis Oliphant: So is this your decision, Leah? Is this a decision you make with a committee of people you make with the Board as a whole? How is that decision actually made? Who's and who's accountable to that decision?

Leah Silen: Sure. So I make the decisions for I work very closely with Nicole is also working on operations. I work with the the head of that area of no focus. If it's events I work with Jim. And you know it comes from

Leah Silen: questions or decisions on regarding hiring staff are not made lightly or made quickly. So it's something that we've looked at. You know, we we carefully talk about it. I say, we because I am taking input from from lots of people. Our staff. Knows this. This is this is how we work. We take everyone's able to offer input and I can see when someone's you know.

Travis Oliphant: facing burnout when they're closed, and that's totally fine. We we could move on to the questions I'm not. I mean trying to understand. The clarity about. Okay, is there a management team, or is it brought to the board every time? That's really what I'm looking for? Is, what is the process for that.

Leah Silen: So I make the decision, and then it's brought to the board in the form of when our new budget. That's when we hire when we create the new budget. We look and see what's what's feasible, what isn't related to related to budget items. And for the last

Leah Silen: 11 years this will be our 12. We've always met Budget. So we've never finished our budget in the red ever. And we also have been able to put a reserve in the bank. That if anything should happen we are able to cover project services. So projects don't don't suffer.

Travis Oliphant: you know, who makes that decision ultimately accountable for that decision has to help the person succeed. So and you know, as you grow, there's, you know, helping people succeeded in the role becomes an issue.

Travis Oliphant: So I'm just trying to get clarity about how that actually works in practice. Great, thank you. That was perfect. Thanks, Travis. So we've had. At least 3 people ask the same question, which is, what is our status in Europe?

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Maybe give us an update on what the European status is.

Leah Silen: I can do that, boy. This has been so much more of a challenge than we ever could imagine. this, as soon we had the bank account. Everything set up, we decided to go the Volunteer Association in France that was established over 2 years ago.

Leah Silen: Getting the bank account set up and getting finding an accountant right now I have. I think we have someone in France, someone in Belgium died working in Belgium on it, and people that he knows in France

Leah Silen: trying to find an account that we feel comfortable with, and that is able and willing, for not in in

Leah Silen: incredibly exorbitant price or fee to manage the bank account for us. Taxes and our ve it and transactions there, that is the hold up right now we're getting ready to have to. Probably. Possibly we may have to move to another financial institution, because this one will not. It'll allow us to view the account, but it won't allow our finance team to be able

Leah Silen: to do anything with the funds, so that that's not sustainable. We're also looking at other countries now to move forward and

Leah Silen: other country we were initially had thought about setting up a organization a branch in the Netherlands, and we are. We've got all our documentation about halfway. Finished with that. So that's where we are right now. We do have the bank account. We are able to process transactions through it at this point. We are.

Leah Silen: But that is, you know, and if someone needs something, we're able to do that. But we're not you know. We're not

Leah Silen: actively pursuing that as far as funding coming in and donations from European sources right now until we can get this bank access. And like, I said, we have like 3

Leah Silen: 3 people working on this right now. So I think. I think mirror reached out to like something crazy like 17 accounting. And financial firms in France, mostly in Paris. And literally, yeah. Haven't gotten a response back. So we're working on it. And if this doesn't work, we're we're not gonna yeah, we need to pivot and come up with a different plan.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Well, thank you. I think we have a quite a few questions on the 506 and this question is this very similar to the Linux Foundation?

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): are the individual? Are the project projects going to be? Can individual projects be part of create per project membership plans

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): what are the plans to direct the funds to projects. Maybe you could kind of dive into that like how that's evolving at this point.

Katrina Riehl: I'll I'll just kinda jump in here. I'm sorry.

Katrina Riehl: Yeah, I'll I'll just kinda jump in here. This is the C. 6, by the way, is something I'm extraordinarily excited about. So. I'm really excited to see this take shape. And I really, I just wanna stress that you are the first ones to hear about this, that we've decided that this is something that we wanna do. And yes, it is you know I'll just say it. It's inspired by other organizations who have managed to successfully create C. Six's in order to provide that funding vehicle.

Katrina Riehl: And it is something that I think that we can execute quite well, within the organization. I think the the first

Katrina Riehl: initial, you know, push for the C 6 is to pro is to go after funding. I'm just gonna be completely blunt there that we wanna make sure that we have this funding vehicle open

Katrina Riehl: after the C. 6 has been established. I think that we can start talking about other opportunities and what that may look like. But I think getting the first initial concept off the ground is gonna be enough for, you know, especially to keep us busy in this kind of you know, investment building year that we have ahead of us right now.

Leah Silen: Yeah. And just so, everyone understands a C 6 is a member organization. So people call them a professional

Leah Silen: professional member, professional organizations. So you do have members. And your purpose and mission is related to support those members. So we wanna make sure we have projects as members. This will be

Leah Silen: the same. Of course we won't force a project to join that. But it'll be additional additional membership from your fiscal sponsorship. So projects will have a say in in that governance also, and then we'll also have supporting members. As well. And again, this isn't a a, you know, a technical advisory board. This is coming in

Leah Silen: mainly because we have run into this over so many times, and we are seeing that for many orgs not just corporate, but also on the sides of other institutions, that it's easier, as Katrina said, to donate through a membership on the C. 6 site.

James Powell (Board, Econ-ARK): and if I may find in the design of this is inspired by other that we've seen like Linux Foundation. However, one thing for those of you who are familiar with Linux Foundation, that I would definitely ask you to pay attention to is.

James Powell (Board, Econ-ARK): there are certain parts of the design where we want to add more flexibility, flexibility that we did not see was being offered by these other groups or opportunities that we simply did not see that was offered. So while we have some inspiration here, we are planning to do things in a way that benefits our projects more directly, in a way that we weren't confident that some of these other groups were able to.

Leah Silen: Yeah, for a long time. Also.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): as a follow up. We have a member asking, What's the will? This Co governance structure have new bylaws, and so can the community? How does community contribute?

Katrina Riehl: I,

Katrina Riehl: are you talking about the new governance bodies? We're talking. Okay, yeah, we're going to have to have to iron out those details. I'm not. I'm not trying to completely hand wave right now. But right now we wanna make sure that we are getting in the news new board members in order to be able to iron those things out. And so hopefully, the community feels like they're having at least a little bit more input this time to make sure that they're getting the right board members in place in order to to actually action all of these different, you know.

Katrina Riehl: Well, I make it sound like there are a lot of different governing bodies, but they're really not. But

Katrina Riehl: the idea being that, like this open election process will be the model that we follow in order to be able to bring in. You know, a technical advisory board that is, gonna be, you know, completely representative of the projects, whereas we still have the Administrative board there that can handle. You know the running of a business right? I mean, we are a nonprofit. But we are business. And so we have to have, you know, legal representation. We have to make sure that we have financial community.

Katrina Riehl: We have to make sure that people have the background in order to be able to run

Katrina Riehl: that part of it. And I think by splitting it out, what you're gonna see is that

Katrina Riehl: You know the administrative part is gonna be go much more into the background, and that that should be a board that doesn't have to meet nearly as often. They're able to meet, you know, like maybe once a quarter, and the Technical Advisory Board can be the one that really helps

Katrina Riehl: enact that vision of the community and has much more input into how that one moves moving forward. But the Bylaws Committee, currently the way that the board stands right now. Will change when we bring in the new board members. So sit tight. We'll get. We'll get a hopefully get more feedback there.

Leah Silen: and if someone externally would like to work on by laws, please, I've yeah. Did the did the first one with the 501 documentation. And yeah, they've been amended. All our amended amendments are posted. And you can see those. But as far as yeah, working on any future by laws work, if someone wants to. Yeah.

Leah Silen: volunteer to help with that, we could definitely yeah, definitely willing to chat with you about that.

Logan Kilpatrick: Yeah. One of the questions that folks were asking was around how the money flows from the C 6 entity back to projects. And I'm curious if there's and I actually don't know the answer to this off the top of my head. So for the other folks in the board, how how are we allocating that money as

it comes in? Is it being like just the same as today, where it goes to an unfocused general fund, etc., etc., what does that structure look like?

Logan Kilpatrick: And someone also, the follow up was someone asked whether or not individual projects would be able to set a specific like membership criteria. If they wanted to say you could be a member of my project for X amount of dollars, or something like that, I think was the was the essence of one of the questions.

Leah Silen: Yep, we could set that up also. Yeah. And it's something we could definitely discuss details on. But as far as the flow of money.

Leah Silen: there, there won't be anything different. Those memberships, you know, or donations and those donations are going to be. I mean, right now, when someone donates to a project that is restricted for a project and it goes right to a project if it's donated to num focus. We use whatever we need for project services and anything that we any

Leah Silen: excess. We move into small development grants all. Most of our end of your campaigns and things like that are off for small development grants. So you know, if there's an opportunity to use the you know, membership donations. If we have extra funding coming in, I mean, we have projects we're turning down for small development grants. And there are projects for, you know, infrastructure needs that are just, you know.

Leah Silen: multiple multiple requests. So there's a lot that where that money can go to. So if it comes to them focus. It doesn't mean it's not getting 2 projects because it's going to the Small Development Grant Fund. But again, it could still be, you know, donated, restricted for a particular project.

Leah Silen: you know there are a lot of projects that we work with. Gdail has a really good system for that. And yeah, we're we're more than happy to help. And no one works works on that a lot. They do have a like a

Leah Silen: separate sponsors, and we could move that into a membership structure.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Okay? I think there's a a number of questions on on the AI positioning that was brought up. One big question is like, are this, is this a no focus position? Is this individual project? And how does this affect projects? Or how do they participate.

Leah Silen: John? Do you want to sew? Everyone's

Leah Silen: doesn't have to keep hearing from me? You're very involved in in the AI Alliance portion. There's some other AI initiatives. That we're working on to get projects involved. But I know there's been the Osi

Leah Silen: definition of AI, that they're working on, that. We've had several projects. That have asked them. They've asked me to recommend folks any many of our projects who are involved in AI, or were a couple of years ago. We're recommended for that. So as different opportunities come up, we'll pass that along to projects. But, John, I'll let you just

Leah Silen: answer the question about how we're involved and how it can involve our projects in the alliance.

Jonathan Starr: Yeah, it's still a little nebulous for the time being. The AI lance is spinning, spinning up it is very exciting. The potential that the it's a lot of organizations, a lot of universities, a lot of institutions altogether, talking about AI and making it open source available to everyone.

Jonathan Starr: So we're sitting in on conversations. We're participating in the conversations, and we're looking for opportunities to plug non focus projects into the alliance

Jonathan Starr: to to get involved with the conversation. Now, like Lee is saying.

Jonathan Starr: we're figuring out how to

develop AI strategy within no focus as well. So there's

Jonathan Starr: there's a lot of things starting to happen. So it's a great time to bring input into how these things should happen, how you think you want your project to be involved in AI, or how you think no focus should be involved in AI. It's a great time to start those discussions with us as a community and a team

Jonathan Starr: otherwise we'll definitely be reaching out as opportunities come up with the Alliance.

Alexy Khrabrov: Maybe. Sorry. This is Alexi, I'm actually, you know. was it a council member, and I leave the community for the I alliance. So maybe I'll just.

Alexy Khrabrov: And a few words.

Alexy Khrabrov: So John is has been participating very actively. So the it's it's nebulous, and it's actually firminop, in a way. So I think it's good time to start thinking about it right? So the the first of all the alliance is alliance of builders.

Alexy Khrabrov: So the open source developers are the heart. And it basically is welcoming to open source projects from members of the Alliance which no focus is right. And so there are 6 areas focus areas of the Alliance right? And they include models, foundation models. They include

Alexy Khrabrov: applications, framework and tools. And I think this is super important, right? So when AI adoption happens, and for a lot of friends, and there is a science work stream, right? So open source science also becoming. For from from our Ibm kind of contribution and integral side of the Alliance, right? So all the infrastructure we built

Alexy Khrabrov: for open source. Science will be invigorated. The membership of the Alliance will be added essentially where we can to all the work, streams and all the groups. Right? So so think of your project. Basically, current use of AI, if you, if you lead an open source project, talk to John, right? We want really to make projects participate in the work streams. How do you build good applications? So very simple. You know, the tools group will have link chain and llama index right in it, like the leading

open source projects.

Alexy Khrabrov: If you anything like LinkedIn along my index right? If you have real integrations, relations, and I would really rely on login here if you can log in if you can advise us right. I understand open AI is not member of the alliance with yet. But I think it's super useful to have this insight. How developers can contribute to the adoption of open source. AI with non-focused right? I think it's huge.

Alexy Khrabrov: Science is a huge area for this. So feel free to reach out to John, reach out to me. We're ideating. And really, I think this is the stage where, like, we can have conversations so

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): and and just to kind of put some clarity, there's the AI alliance which is not enough focus initiative. But we're part of it. And then there is

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): what John you're referring to is the AI positioning

Jonathan Starr: for no focus. And I believe there's a survey that's going out about that. Is that correct? We're putting that together. Yeah. And we want to figure out, we want a lot of input from projects, and how you see yourselves in this giant AI ecosystem that's starting to form.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Now, I think I've seen this like at least by 4 different people that have said this in chat like that, AI does not necessarily align with

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): projects, interests.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): and they really wanna be able to say, Give you some feedback there and I don't know if there's folks who who are like feel very strongly about this. We could probably maybe do more of a once we get the the a little bit more

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): feedback from our our surveys or whatnot, and and so forth, to kind of dive into it. But

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): I just wanna make sure you capture. We capture that to like, yeah, some folks are saying, like, Look, AI is a different thing. We're scientific computing, basic open source. Why are we? Why are we diving too much into this? And so there's a survey going out. And there are different initiatives that are not all just on focus. Logan, you have your hand up.

Logan Kilpatrick: Yeah, I was just gonna make a quick comment that I think part of the positioning is like there are, like again, thinking about them, focuses role in the ecosystem and focuses role. Working with project is projects is in many ways to like

Logan Kilpatrick: serve as a kind of conglomerate of a lot of the work that's happening in the open source space. And I think there's all of this influx of excitement and interest and money that's actually coming from the corporate world because of it coming from the corporate world into open source because of AI? And the question is like, is there an opportunity for them focus to work with projects, work with some of the other stakeholders like the AI lines, and help direct some of that funding to some of the

Logan Kilpatrick: foundational projects that are a part of Numfocus that are supporting the the AI ecosystem, and I think, of course, it won't apply to every single project. But hopefully, there'll be like enough commonality or enough projects where it makes sense from a corporate sponsorship perspective, or just like a collaboration perspective between the projects.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Okay? With that, I'd like to move on to more election process. I see there's quite a few questions about how is the election gonna work? At some point you said, there's gonna be some

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): more influenced by different projects and different things. And maybe you just outline. How that's gonna work. I think that even like how the Election Board Committee is being formed and kind of dig into that for us a bit more

Katrina Riehl: sure I'll go ahead and take this one. So we have a call out right now for volunteers. Right? We're definitely looking for volunteers to be on the committee. I. In the past we haven't received a huge flood of volunteers, so I'm not expecting, you know, a ton of people, but we would if we had to cut it down. Then I suppose we could. But we're looking for, you know, a good good number of people.

Katrina Riehl: The idea being that they're able to, you know. Take this forward. So obviously, this is a different way of doing elections. And I mentioned a little bit in the chat that the way that we talked about doing the election this time around is that we're in take nominations like we do all during all of our election processes. Right? This has always been an open nomination process. We've always taken names from the community as well as board members.

Katrina Riehl: And then gone through sort of a vetting process.

Katrina Riehl: We did decide to do a a vote that's comp most kind. II want to call it Senate style. So like different organizations, get a certain number of votes. They're equally weighted across projects. It's not not changing, depending on how big or small the project is, we did weight the votes. So, for example, like a fiscally sponsored project, gets more votes than a committee does.

Katrina Riehl: for example, right? Or that an affiliated project does. And this is the way that we, kinda you know, decided that we were gonna distribute the votes and then from there we use, you know, election buddy, or election, or something like that, in order to have representatives from each one of those bodies cast their votes.

Katrina Riehl: and from there we'll take the ranking of the top end number of people. I forget we have a lot of seats coming up.

Katrina Riehl: So right now, by the way, there are quite a few, so we'll take the top end number that come out of that election, and then those will be the ones that move onto the board, or will invite to be on the board, not everyone that receives, you know, an invitation. The Board is able to take it. So I just do wanna mention that. So there may be some give and take here. So they may find that there's a time commitment problem or something like that. But that's sort of the rough outline of what we're looking at this time.

Katrina Riehl: So that's going to bring people onto this embodiment of the board as it is right now moving

forward, though the election committee for sure would be the ones that are helping us determine a better way in order to do elections, especially since we want to split the board into a technical advisory board and an Administrative board.

Katrina Riehl: The Administrative Board, we've kind of talked about reserving a few seats on kind of like how the Psf. Does, for, like a lawyer, or, you know, an accountant, or something like that, you know, so that we do have the Administrative Board side of it, and then the Technical Advisory Board should be coming up out of the community and elected by the projects in order to have that entity running as well.

Katrina Riehl: And then so there'll be

Katrina Riehl: different. You know, focuses for each one of the groups. Obviously, there's gonna be some overlap, and there's gonna have to be some coordination between the 2 that we have to figure out when the new board members come on board. So we can really, really discuss in the by laws and define exactly what those are, where the lines are and how they interact with each other. But I think that what you're gonna see is that election committee is going to be the one that really determines

Katrina Riehl: how we incorporate more voice of the community which I think you know all of us want. I mean, there's not a single person on the board that doesn't want more community input, so for sure, finding those those those avenues is you know, going to be a responsibility, a part of that charter.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): And just to be clear, you're talking about the Board election. The Technical Advisory Election Board for the CCC. 6 is A. That's not on the table right now, or that's not decided. That is not so this current year. Right now, in 2,024, we are replacing the seats that are open on the board as it stands right now moving forward in 2,025. We do want to get into a yearly election cycle.

Katrina Riehl: so that as board members are falling off we should have it staggered in such a way that we are doing election every year. We also have more seats to fill. Obviously, if we do have an administrative as well as a technical advisory board. And so, if we get into this cadence next year, 2025, the election should committee should have their charter up and running and everything ready to go for how we're going to run the elections moving forward from Technical Advisory Board and Administrative Board. Does that make more sense

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): the

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): any of it.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Take it to the community. She's straightforward to me. But if there's anybody else has more questions about the election for committee, I think there, one comment here is about how like, you know, the

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): some organizations are tied to others. And so if you're waiting things, you know, like just being taking into mind that like for

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): just to pick on, you know, Project Jupiter has quite a few

projects, and Julia has a few other projects. And so like, like how the ecosystems work. But it sounds like you're gonna take that to the election committee to to work through the board. We're putting together a proposal internally in order.

Katrina Riehl: It's an idea it's a way for us to get going. It's a way for us to fill those seats and try and get more input from the community, and especially having an open election. But we're sure the election committee is gonna shape quite a bit how the elections work moving forward after this?

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): I think there's also been quite a few questions about how do we represent

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): the wider the global community as opposed to just the Us. Community. And part of this tiny just just popped up here on my screen saying, How is the Pi data organization at large. And the geographic representation being considered.

Katrina Riehl: Yeah, we're the way that we discussed it internally was that we were gonna give, you know, basically how we're gonna distribute the votes amongst projects and entities. So I you know, beyond that, honestly, we didn't really

Katrina Riehl: it would be up to the projects themselves how they were gonna distribute their votes, or who how they were going to decide upon that. But I do think that you'll find that in the vetting process that the Board does like when we have the nominations that pop in, but those are, for sure.

Katrina Riehl: We've always taken those into consideration when we put forth candidates. For for elections. 100. That is definitely a focus that we we have

Leah Silen: right and including, when we have the nomine nominees, they will fill out an application, have some information on their affiliations. And what? What part of the and focus community? They're, you know, actively engaged with. And so those that are voting will. Will we also be able to see that kind of like looking at your

Leah Silen: candidate, Bios, and we'll be able to see. Okay, are we? Are we voting for? We want to make sure these people are represented, you know, how are we distributing our votes accordingly.

Logan Kilpatrick: And I think it's it's also the pitch to like. If you feel like you're representing one of these communities that's not represented like, please, when the time comes like.

Logan Kilpatrick: nominate yourself. Nominate other people who fit those rules like it's it's actually like. And and you know, of course.

Logan Kilpatrick: of course, I'm slightly biased in in in many ways. But and it's a nuance name of like we really do try to make sure that those groups are represented. And oftentimes it's like really hard to find, like the right group of people that represents this like globally massive, distributed community from all over the world, from every walk of life. So please do like nominate folks and nominate yourself if if you want to represent that group.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Okay,

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): moving on to the kind of next line of question like, there's a lot of folks

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): asking about the it initiative. So that some folks concerned about building tests, some folks concerned about

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): going to be on AI and not needing that sort of tech that sort of

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): fang style it systems for just our projects. But you could give us a little bit more on

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): what the it Committee or the Infrastructure Committee

Leah Silen: on Andy. You're also on that. So I was hoping that I had communicated with you all enough to I didn't have to say So

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): in reference that we've started the the infrastructure council again. And kind of been taking in quite a number of requests and trying to figure out what the the minimums for minimum things we can provide are, I will say, first and foremost, the It infrastructure Committee does not consider like running training models doing any sort of Major

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): AI releasing a foundational model any of that stuff in our purview.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Our current methodology is to go look at all the the the requests that come into the infrastructure. Github issue tracker and also to look at the

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): small development grants. What is Sdg, hey? Keep on getting gradient descent in my head? But anyway, so we we looked at all those, and we

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): over the last. I think 5 years we've had over \$300,000 of grants that were rejected because they were infrastructure as opposed to projects. And so one of the big kind of indicators to us that we took away from this is that

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): the projects. There are a lot of projects that have a very small amount of of infrastructure needs, and there are some that have, like maybe a little bit more, but have less capabilities. And so in this we've kind of like, come back and said, Alright, well, it's pretty clear that we need to help some people just build their their software? Just

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): some folks just like, can we get a Mac paid for? Can we get a maybe the a windows arm paid for, or something like that. And so we're we're looking at vendors and things like that. And then there's benchmarking, which is the another piece that becomes really difficult for a lot of projects, because they don't have access to maybe bare metal machines or quiet

machines, or maybe they don't have the expertise.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): And so the infrastructure committee is, proposed doing a small poc to to build a a small build server infrastructure, and like maybe some benchmarking. And it's at this point, like pretty small amounts of money. And we're we're still iterating on what the exact

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): infrastructure will look like. And if you're interested in that definitely ping me off off offline or online. But off this line, confused by that. But ping me, and we can, we can include it in any of our proposals.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): I don't know if you had Leah Katrina any more comments on infrastructure.

Katrina Riehl: I was just gonna say that we did actually bring on a part time contractor for doing it, internal and external. So the idea being that we're just, I think that we found this to be a really valuable resource, and that hopefully, we're going to have, you know, better

Katrina Riehl: handle on those resources and how we're able to make them available to projects.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): Alright, I think there's also a line of questioning of like, what is the kind of funding actually look like as like mo money coming in from corporate sponsorship was a big, big interest.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): and if you have anything, any kind of level like the actual dollar amounts, and I guess the other. You said in your first or second slide that there's 255% of growth.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): And the question was, is that just for project grants. Or is that what is that? The growth of

Leah Silen: that?

Leah Silen: That that is on that 5 year growth? That is all income coming in so from from all sources. So we're getting in. Come from

Leah Silen: grants. We get and those are most of our grants. Well.

Leah Silen: yeah, almost all of our grants. Are restricted. So that is, either for a project that is, for a specific use of that. You know that project also restricted within that project's use.

Leah Silen: according to a specific issue on their roadmap or initiative that was proposed to the grantor. So grants are one way, corporate donations or another source of income individual donations.

Leah Silen: And then we have events. So those are that's where income is coming in right now. So on our annual report, we always break it down. Very, very detailed. On

Leah Silen: what portion of that comes in as restricted for projects. What is the total number that is

restricted as opposed to the the unrestricted amount. Making sure. You'll be able to see the end of this month. You'll see the 2023 report, and we put we go

way beyond on our impact report on our financial statements there. So you can actually go in and look at expenses, broken down.

Leah Silen: fairly detailed on exactly what project expenses are. Where where every dollar is going. It's not showing specifically to. You know what department and staff it's going to. But you know what is spent on events. What is what income is coming in from events? So you can break down all of that. I won't take we only have a few minutes, so I won't go into

Leah Silen: details right now, but if you do have questions and or wanting specific numbers, we are more than happy to share those with you. That is, yeah, that is open for for you to know and to see and like, I said, we'll soon be posting it, but always always happy to share income numbers.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): and I presume that

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): there was several questions. Right? Your European money is grants as well is that I guess that's still dependent. Are we able to take European grants today, or is that still dependent upon the.

Leah Silen: We have several projects that right now are being funding funded through grants that are originated in yeah, in Europe.

Leah Silen: Yep, there's there's quite a few that you are available for. If there's one that isn't that we need to work through our French Volunteer Association. We can definitely do that, too. So yeah, it's an option.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): I think. Let me see here.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): does anybody have

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): a question that we missed the burning desire in the last 2 months to take the mic, and

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): if not. the plan is to put all these on. a

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): on. Github is in and try to have more feedback there. There's also the hack. Md. For distribution. I presume everything in here is public. There's nothing here that we says only to this meeting

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): that correct? Leah.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): looking at 2.

Leah Silen: yeah, no, there's yeah. This is all.

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): So we'll just maybe we'll just take the notes and put them in the

Katrina Riehl: please try to use the Github Repository as much as possible. We just don't want to miss anything that way. We have one location that we're looking for all questions.

Leah Silen: Yeah, we'll try to make sure anything unanswered was transferred over

Leah Silen: and

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): alright. With that, thanks, everybody. And

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): we will. I'll leave this open for just a couple more minutes, but

Andy Terrel (NF Advisor / Q&A Moderator): we appreciate everyone coming to our first town Hall and look forward to all the great changes that are coming.

James Powell (Board, Econ-ARK): Thanks everybody

Leah Silen: like Sandy for moderating. and thanks everyone for attending.

Thank you.

Katrina Riehl: Can we go ahead and stop the recordings?