Oct 21, 2024 | CSC301 Backend Team Meeting

Attendees:
Katarina, Victor, Mark

Questions:

- ☑ ~~Discuss progress~~
- ☑ ~~How to consolidate backend?~~

Notes:

- Consolidate backend so that we ca n begin making the data migration queries.
- Victor's note in channel:
    - A note from the meeting we had with Brian on Thursday. I did some investigating into what he meant by serverless.
    - Overall, it's a way that will enable us to scale requests considerably. If implemented, our DB would be hosted on AWS running AWS lambda with RDS postgres db.
    - We would only pay when the action is initiated to send a request to get data from our db. It would be a public ip address. Not at a bad idea especially if we were to develop as a team. Backend db could be located on the cloud in some sense.
    - The benefit is that we can concurrently handle thousands of users sending async requests to the db. Instead of the server trying to asynchronously get all the database items from the backend, our backend parsing would all be via serverless functions.
    - The major benefit really is speed. I think we should consider it if we get through and finish the first MVP.
- Work on MVP and then address work above.
- Victor ran through how we can use and setup docker to allow frontend to access database.
- How to combine schema:
    - Institution image isn't top priority.
    - In Institution schema, instead of address we could do City and Country.
    - Make the doi a unique attribute.
- How do we want to make topics?
    - We can use biorxiv's subject areas for the main topic.
    - Parse abstracts in each subject area to pull out common words in several categories.

Action items:

- ☐ Victor: finish all of the API requests that we outlined at the start.
- ☐ Katarina: confirm a final schema and seed with dummy data.
- ☐ Mark: build migrate scripts to populate db.

- [ ] Full Team: consolidate backend and keep commit history.