



DPLA Board of Directors Conference Call

December 16, 2015, 3:00 PM Eastern

Present: Luis Herrera, Jenny Lee, Bob Darnton, Amy Ryan, Paul Courant, Siva Vaidhyathan, DPLA staff

Absent: Sarah Burnes, Laura DeBonis, Jamie Hollier, Niko Pfund

Dan Cohen commenced the call at 3:05 PM Eastern.

Executive Director update

Cohen noted that the last Board call was in mid-September, and he highlighted some news from the past 90 days:

- DPLA is currently accepting [proposals for DPLAfest sessions](#). This call is open to the public and will extend until January 22nd. General registration to the fest opens up tomorrow, December 17th. Cohen advised the Board to mark their calendars for the fest, including a Board dinner on April 14th. Amy Ryan asked that staff circulate a list of contacts for this dinner. Robert Darnton asked if the Board should submit session ideas; Cohen endorsed the idea and encouraged him to do so.
- Dave Hansen, Mark Matienzo, Greg Cram, and Emily Gore presented on the DPLA's efforts to standardize rights statements at CNI earlier this week. The DPLA's "[Getting it Right on Rights](#)" project, funded by a Knight News Challenge grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, will create a simplified and more coherent rights structure for content collections from libraries, museums, archives and other sources, along with best practices that institutions can use to safely make more content available to the public. DPLA is currently in the process of building an easy-to-use website for these rights statements, alongside project partners Europeana.
- In October, DPLA, lead by Project Manager Franky Abbott, released the first batch of [Primary Source Sets](#). DPLA Primary Source Sets are designed to help students develop their critical thinking skills by exploring topics in history, literature, and culture through primary sources. Each set includes an overview, ten to fifteen primary sources, links to related resources, and a teaching guide. These sets were created and reviewed by the teachers on the DPLA's [Education Advisory Committee](#). They have been very popular since launching, and Abbott said that DPLA is on schedule to release 30 more primary source sets by the end of January. This project was funded by the Whiting Foundation.

- The next DPLA workshop will take place on February 11, 2016. The topic is “[An Introduction to the DPLA API](#),” led by DPLA Technical Specialist, Mark Breedlove. There have already been 165+ registrations.
- The winners of [GIF IT UP](#) 2015 were [announced earlier this month](#). GIF IT UP was a month-long competition calling on people from around the world to build animated gifs using open materials. The contest was a success, drawing in more than 140 entries from people around the world. *The Washington Post* and other outlets covered the competition, too. GIF IT UP was organized by DPLA, DigitalNZ, in collaboration with Trove and Europeana.
- DPLA announced two new grants over the past 90 days:
 - DPLA was awarded \$150,000 from the [John S. and James L. Knight Foundation](#) to research the potential integration of newspaper content into the DPLA platform. Over the course of the next year, DPLA will investigate the current state of newspaper digitization in the US. Thanks in large part to the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress’s joint [National Digital Newspaper Program](#) (NDNP) showcased online as [Chronicling America](#), many states in the US have digitized their historic newspapers and made them available online. A number of states, however, have made newspapers available outside of or in addition to this important program, and DPLA plans to investigate what resources it would take to potentially provide seamless discovery of the newspapers of all states and US territories, including the over 10 million pages already currently available in Chronicling America.
 - DPLA announced that an anonymous donor has committed to provide substantial support towards DPLA’s mission in the form of a \$250,000 grant to strengthen DPLA’s technical capabilities. This grant will allow DPLA to expand its technology team to handle additional content ingestion and to implement important new features based around its platform and website.
- DPLA is in the process of hiring a number of new staffers. Michelle Bickert joined the staff as an Ebooks Project Manager, and DPLA is currently in the process of bringing on board an Engagement and Use Coordinator and a developer.
- DPLA announced a partnership with [Pop Up Archive](#) to provide a reduced rate for Hubs looking to create transcripts of their audiovisual materials. More information about the partnership and service offerings are [available on the DPLA website](#).
- DPLA continued to work to expand the Hubs network. The content team has met with a number of states over the fall to get Hubs established, including Ohio, Michigan, and others. The content team is closing in on Hubs in half of the United States.

Questions/comments from the public

Cohen opened the floor to questions from the public at 3:25 PM Eastern. There were no questions.

Cohen adjourned the public portion of the call at 3:27 PM Eastern.