

DPLA Board of Directors Call

March 10, 2014: 3:00 PM Eastern

Present: Paul Courant, Amy Ryan, Jamie Hollier, Laura DeBonis, John Palfrey, DPLA staff, members of the public

Absent: Cathy Casserly, Robert Darnton, Luis Herrera, Siva Vaidhyanathan

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John Palfrey, President of the Board, commenced the call at 3:00 PM Eastern.

Updates from Board members on any recent DPLA activity

Amy Ryan noted that Digital Commonwealth, a DPLA Service Hub, is getting ready to release a new repository at the end of March. It will serve as both an upgrade in terms of content and technology. The new repository contains 200,000 records from 79 institutions. Digital Commonwealth is also working with DPLA on the Gates-funded Public Library Partnerships Project.¹

Jamie Hollier said that she was in Alaska last week presenting at their state conference about digital literacy and online literacy, where she talked about DPLA. She found that many members of the audience had never heard of DPLA, and that in general people living in small, rural locations continue to remain unaware of DPLA. She's excited about the Community Reps program for that reason.

John Palfrey discussed a recent presentation and said that he too sees the need for awareness-raising, even in his own backyard. Palfrey wondered whether DPLA might need more public traction before it can raise its level of general awareness, which may require the addition of more contemporary works.

Paul Courant reported that the HathiTrust Digital Library recently chose a new Executive Director in Mike Furlough. He recommended DPLA and HathiTrust get together to discuss future directions and collaborative opportunities.

DPLA at 1-year: April 18, 2014

DPLA will celebrate its 1-year anniversary on April 18, 2014. Palfrey mentioned a recent

¹ For more information about the Public Library Partnerships Project, see <http://dp.la/info/about/projects/public-library-partnerships/>

Publishers Weekly retrospective² profiling DPLA and its first year, written by Mike Kelly, who has followed DPLA since the planning initiative. Palfrey pointed out that DPLA has done a good job of growing its number of collections and contributing institutions, as well as the number of apps available in the App Library. He said that Hollier's earlier comment is an important one though - DPLA is still in its infancy with regards to publicity. The Community Reps program is a good step, but there are still some prospective groups of volunteers who aren't involved. Palfrey said that the community piece is an important one that DPLA will need to work on in its second year.

Palfrey also said that the group should be cognizant of whether it might need to adjust its goals for Year 2 and beyond. eBooks, for example, are something that DPLA may need to contend with. While DPLA will surely continue to do good work in its core work areas, he added, does it wish to also get involved in the big eBooks space that is now emerging?

Courant said that it would be fabulous if DPLA could be part of the solution to opening up the eBooks world to the world of public libraries. He asked if Palfrey's connections at *Publishers Weekly* might be helpful toward that end. Palfrey responded that DPLA has some good relationships to call on if it decides to proceed in that direction, though such an approach was not something to be decided during this meeting.

Amy Ryan added that according to recent numbers, eBooks are where the growth is in terms of customer demand, and integrating eBooks into DPLA would be a great achievement. Hollier said that anything DPLA can do in the eBooks space would be some of the most impactful work it can do. One of the things DPLA can do now, she added, is to work directly with authors and to recruit a number of author advocates. A Cory Doctorow-type author standing behind you will help, she said. Hollier also added that exciting things are happening with small presses and authors, who are not constrained in the ways that larger presses and more established authors are.

Update from Executive Director

Executive Director Dan Cohen was unable to attend the call; Director for Content Emily Gore provided the update in his stead.

Gore said that DPLA is exploring possibilities for an eBooks pilot project. DPLA recently spoke with Jamie LaRue and Maria Bonn, and it has held other conversations on the topic of eBooks planning in recent weeks.

² <http://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/industry-news/libraries/article/61352-check-it-out-with-michael-kelley-the-digital-public-library-of-america.html>

DPLA launched two new exhibitions on the subjects of Depression-era American theater and the 19th-century US gold rush.³ Masters of Library and Information Science (MLIS) graduate students created these exhibitions as part of DPLA's digital curation pilot project.

DPLA has also teamed up with colleagues at Europeana to promote the global interoperability and streamlining of the "Rights Statement" fields. It will be lead by Paul Keller of Europeana and Emily Gore.

DPLA launched a Tumblr page⁴ last month; it has already seen a great initial response.

Dan Cohen was at OCLC in Ohio last week to explore potential collaborative opportunities between DPLA and OCLC. Additionally, Gore was in Copenhagen for a meeting on IIIF (International Image Interoperability Framework),⁵ an emerging method for image serving and exchange, and Amy Rudersdorf was in Berlin for iConference.

Lastly, Gore encouraged those on the call to be in touch with Cohen (dan@dp.la) if their institution might be interested and/or willing to host or co-host next year's DPLAfest. DPLA is tentatively aiming for sometime in April 2015 for the second DPLAfest, and Gore mentioned they would like to co-host it with "family and friends."

In response to the Executive Director's update, Palfrey asked how many states would be represented by the one-year anniversary. Gore said they are working on Connecticut and Indiana, and that they should be able to announce California soon.

DPLA Project Manager Franky Abbott added that DPLA is planning to call for a second class of Community Reps at the end of March (application deadline is the end of April). She encouraged participants to let her know if they had ideas for good potential candidates, or if they could help spread the word. For this second class of Reps, DPLA is interested in having all 50 states and U.S. territories represented, getting more teachers onboard, and recruiting anyone else with a specific, identifiable community in mind that can articulate a good outreach activity.

Questions/comments from the public

There were no questions or comments from the public.

³ For more information, see the press release announcing the launch: <http://dp.la/info/2014/03/05/new-exhibitions-launch-on-dpla/>

⁴ digitalpubliclibraryofamerica.tumblr.com

⁵ <http://www-sul.stanford.edu/iiif/image-api/1.1/>