

VHEAP Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, 17 October 2024

Attending

- Korey Singleton
- Barbara Zunder
- Jason Heron
- Charlene Jones
- Mark Nichols
- Jamie Chandler
- Mollie Kropp
- Danielle Smith
- Brittany Dioszeghy
- Christina Wulf
- Pearl Xie

Absent

- Sarahbeth Dreis
- Stacy McBain
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Agenda Items

VHEAP/VIVA - John Unsworth – EMMA

VHEAP and VIVA

10 ways the two can work together

1) Work with your campus library to establish a DSO queue in interlibrary loan that can be used to deliver scans of materials you request--either from the library's own collection or from other libraries via ILL (inter-library loan).

- Improve collaboration between the university libraries and any assistive technology/disability services offices

2) Ask your library to identify someone who can help with uploading locally remediated content to EMMA for sharing with your colleagues on other campuses.

3) Offer a workshop for library staff on your campus to learn about the work that you do and the tools, standards and services that you use.

4) If your library uses Amazon Web Services or Azure cloud services, then ask if they are aware of any services on those platforms that could be used to make materials accessible. For example, we've just recently done some testing on AWS's transcription service as an input to captioning for video and we found it to be better than 99% accurate, as well as fast and relatively cheap.

5) VIVA and VHEAP could collaborate on a virtual program that brings in some experts on AI and Accessibility. I think we all realize that there's a lot of potential in machine learning and AI to help with some of the more difficult accessibility challenges (like turning equations into MathML or spoken English), but I'm also pretty sure that none of us feels we have a complete sense of the state of the art or available services and tools in this area.

6) VIVA and VHEAP could establish a channel for sharing information on the accessibility of vended content or applications. VHEPC/VASCUP would probably also appreciate being in that channel.

7) Send leadership and SCHEV liaisons to an in-person all-day meeting in Charlottesville the first week of January to brainstorm on how VIVA, VHEAP and VHEPC/VASCUP can work together to meet the new requirements for accessibility coming from DOJ via Title II of ADA law.

8) If your library does not have a lot of in-house expertise on accessibility, you might offer to review some of their major services from that point of view, starting with the library catalog, but including especially anything home-grown (like forms the library asks users to fill out to request a purchase, or for interlibrary loan, etc.).

9) When faculty assign material that you know are not made available in an accessible or remediable form (especially commercial textbooks), establish a library contact to whom you can refer the faculty member for consultation on alternative texts.

10) Have a couple of jointly sponsored social events a year for staff and student workers involved in accessibility work in both the library and the DSO, to build community and lay a foundation for collaboration.

- Do our various offices have relationships with libraries or librarians within our institutions?
- Loop instructional design teams into this process to help facilitate the conversations between university libraries, instructors, etc.
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Title II Meeting in Charlottesville/January

John Unsworth invited us, AHEAD, and SCHEV liaisons to meet in Charlottesville, looking around the week of January 6.

Other dates in mind?

UDL Task Force – Mark

Started a conversation with Sam Johnston at the UDL conference from this summer. The California Community College UDL task force started developing recommendations to the chancellor's office. Korey did an environmental scan to assess the culture of digital accessibility.

Thinking about Title II: can we situation UDL through VHEAP as a long-term strategic plan whereby accessibility comes to the forefront for UDL.

Is there interest in connecting with the California Community College UDL task force for a future presentation?

- Mollie says yes – interested in the idea...

Helped facilitate a long-term, strategic planning conversation within the California Community College system.

There was a cost, funded by the California Community College System. Korey helped explain the link between UDL and accessibility. There were a series of six meetings with upper-level management. Korey participated in the UDL and accessibility conversation.

- These conversations helped build the foundation necessary UDL and accessibility.
- Unsure how much of a cost would be associated with this. What was the cost associated with this research and work?
- How many institutions would be interested in this work?
- Title II compliance could help drive institutions towards better collaboration.

VHEAP Board Roles

- Mark and Jason discussed identifying responsibilities for different activities – we think we have all of these roles covered now, but we realized that it could help to officially name responsibilities just to make sure that the lines don't get blurry.
 - Newsletter Editors-in-Chief
 - Korey
 - Mark
 - Jason
 - UnConference Chairs
 - Barb
 - Charlene
 - Jamie
 - Web Administrators
 - Jason
 - Korey
 - Listserv handled by Barb (must be handled by someone at UVA since it is maintained through UVA)
 - Social Media Chairs
 - Sarahbeth
 - Mollie
 - ???

Website Updates

- Removing Lori since she's retired? 😞
- Posting member bios?
- Verifying links to bills we're tracking