

HCLE Winter 2016 Progress Report

Welcome to the winter quarter of 2016 HCLE report. We share many of these news items via our outlets ([wiki](#), [blog](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#)) and collect them here for your and our convenience.

Our staff of 1.4 FTEs, several volunteers and many outside collaborators reached the following milestones in the winter (January through March) of 2016.

- *Fundraising*
 - *We applied for a CalHum grant to record several Pioneers' stories.*
- *Collection*
 - *With the move complete, preliminary scanning has begun.*
- *Collaboration*
 - *We are co-creating a computing and education conference at Leuphana University in Luneberg, Germany.*
- *People*
 - *In addition to our existing staff, a new contractor and a new volunteer are working on the Collection.*
- *Outreach*

Please pass our news along, especially if you know someone else who will want to contribute money, know-how, artifacts, stories, or connections. Even by glancing at what we've done, you're helping make HCLE happen as you pass along the story. Thank you.

- Fundraising
 - Fundraising continues with the recurring paradox of small museums: if we were bigger it would be easier to get funding, and to grow we need funding. We are grateful to the people who have helped us progress this far.
 - We submitted a proposal to [CalHumanities](#) Community Stories Grant campaign. Our goal is to record, preserve, and distribute stories from several of our Pioneers who live in California. Using feedback from our previous attempt we strengthened the humanities significance and audience sections, included a new advisor, Tom Mullaney at Stanford, who is enthusiastic about working with us, and plan to produce presentations to be given by Ted Kahn and Sandy Wagner.
 - In crowdfunding, our GoFundMe campaign was concluded, and we have identified improvements for a possible Kickstarter campaign.
 - Our search for a development director continues. Candidates have reflected the paradox mentioned about; we were too small now, but after some development they'll be more interested in helping us develop.
 - A draft proposal for CLIR (Council on Library and Information Resources) was begun, but was postponed until we make more progress with the Collection and Catalog process and software.
 - Work has begun on a grant proposal for [NEH Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions](#) that will emphasize preservation assessment and storage plans. The proposal is due May 3rd.
 - A [Vision Club CY2015 report](#) was prepared that included a [program plan graphic](#), compilation of the [newsletters](#), a fundraising report, and other news items.

- Collection
 - The organizing and scanning of the Collection continues, and is now assisted by the efforts of Dee Dee (volunteer) and Marilyn Riley (paid contractor).
 - As part of draft proposal for CLIR (postponed) we began developing and documenting a [Collections Management Process Flow \(flow chart\)](#). This will help us organize our efforts and train volunteers and staff in the process of digitizing and cataloging the collection.
 - Liza initiated a discussion with Sherri Berger and Adrian Turner about working with and the services provided through the California Digital Library, [Calisphere](#), and the Online Archive of California.
 - LO*OP Center has now joined and will attend the Society of California Archivists Annual General Meeting in April.

- Catalog
 - After reviewing the existing Catalog Maintenance System that volunteers developed for HCLE, we've decided to also assess Digital Asset Management Systems that are available as either open-source or commercial products. A draft Request for Quote was developed and will be used in the spring quarter to gather cost and benefit comparison information.

- People/Volunteers
 - Consultants
 - Anna Narbutofsky has been contracted to create a Proof of Concept based on several simple exhibits with reduced metadata sets.
 - Catalog team Members
 - Alan Wilson continues to help with specific issues with the Catalog Maintenance System and miscellaneous system administration tasks.
 - Metadata team Members
 - Svetlana Ushakova
 - Sharada Maligireddy
 - Collection team Members
 - Marilyn Riley (paid staff) and Dee Dee Sinclair (volunteer) have helped with organizing the Collection and are being trained in proper digitization and cataloging techniques.

- Outreach
 - Events - A variety of spring 2016 conferences and seminars were researched and registered for:
 - Society of California Archivists, Santa Rosa, CA, April 7-9 - as a result of the conversations with the people at the Online Archive of California
 - Shift Control new media, Stanford, CA, May 6-7 - as a result of coordinating with the organizer, Tom Mullhaney, on the CLIR grant proposal.
 - [EdMedia 2016](#), Vancouver, BC, June 27-30 - TBD
 - blog posts published
 - [Planning The HCLE Virtual Museum Again](#)
 - [HCLE Fourth Quarter 2015 Progress Report](#)
 - [Saving Stories From California's EdTech Pioneers](#)
 - [Gaps In EdTech History](#)
 - Social Media Traffic Report

	1/1/2014	12/29/2014	12/30/2015	3/31/2016
Facebook	59	91	104	125
Twitter	67	271	408	428
Wordpress	18	42	49	49
Wikispaces	12	41	62	64

- wiki
 - The [HCLE wiki](#) continues to act as a communications center and as a digital loading dock.
 - Last quarter we asked; “Members of the HCLE community (board members, volunteers, contributors) are encouraged to relay their experiences with various wiki platforms to HCLE staff. As a result we are investigating alternatives you have identified. Thank you. Confluence appears to be a viable alternative to wikispace. We will switch after we’ve either developed an improved Proof of Concept Lobby page, or if Wikispaces forces us to move.
 - While we continue to use Wikispaces, we will improve the front page, though at a low priority. One simple change has been to change the default view seen by visitors by using Wikispaces’ ability to present the site as a web page rather than a wiki by switching off some of the detailed navigation.

- Collaborations
 - The largest collaboration has been the development of an inaugural conference about the cultural history of education and computers with Jeremias Helberg (new LO*OP Center board member) from Luneberg, Germany. This Oral History Workshop is scheduled for June 7, 8, & 9 at Leuphana University's "Complexity or Control" project where Jerry is a postdoctoral fellow. Liza will attend in-person and has been coordinating with other Pioneers and scholars. Most US attendees are expected to participate remotely, possibly via Skype.

- Exhibit
 - The initial Proof of Concept will be developed based on seven exhibits selected from the existing wiki. They will be expanded as necessary to better represent the goals of the Virtual Museum. The greatest expansion will be for the Evolution of Educational Software exhibit, which will also aid Jerry Herberg's work.
 - One of our Pioneers, David Brittain, nominated two more Pioneers: Bonnie Marks and Peggy Kelly. Thank you.

- Operations
 - With the current funding restrictions, the target date of funding a Proof of Concept in 2015 has been revised. Fortunately, creative collaborations between Liza Loop, Alan Wilson, and Tom Trimbath resulted in a working variant of a Proof of Concept web site (aka The HCLE Lobby) which is now available for private demonstrations. Subsequently, a web developer, Anna Narbutofsky (deppurplesdesign.com) has been approached to review and estimate an improved Proof of Concept that may incorporate a more consistent infrastructure, increase functionality, and reduce the number of domains and duplicate files. Please contact Liza (liza@hcle.org) to preview these sites.
 - Enhanced discovery and accessibility through Online Archive of California (scholars and browsers interface). The following steps will need to be completed to make a subset of HCLE's collection available to the public:
 - Choose items (~50)
 - Organize items in exhibits (~7)
 - Normalize metadata on those items
 - Create wiki page (exhibit working page for each item)
 - Create subfile for porting to OAC
 - Port
 - Publish
 - Key to communicating the many aspects comprising a virtual museum is a Design Document, a systems description that outlines the goals, missions, requirements, desirements, restrictions, and examples of the fully-operational virtual museum. One step in the process is [benchmarking](#), the review of existing solutions from which we can learn about features we do and do not want. Project manager, Tom Trimbath is drafting this document and researching existing collections management systems.
 - We recognize that HCLE may benefit from a name change, or at least a shorter version of the name. One candidate is 'LearningTek'. We may investigate options via a crowdsourced campaign. Any name change will probably be timed to coincide with a significant event like the public launch of a Proof of Concept.

- LO*OP Center
 - Interest in Apple 1s continues. The Smithsonian recently bought one as well.

- admin
 - Administrative tasks are frequently repetitious:
 - newsletter
 - backups
 - file maintenance
 - web site/domain name audit