



VIVO Leadership: Orientation Feedback and ITAV Assessment

Jan 2020

Background: Below is VIVO Community Engagement related feedback from the Orientation Exercise conducted Summer 2019 (OE) and the ITAV Assessment Conducted Fall 2019 (ITAV). They fall into three main categories.

Lack of Activity

- We need more engagement from current VIVO users, both new memberships and technical contributions (OE)
- VIVO should put a greater emphasis on welcoming new people and should be able to accommodate dissenting voices (OE)
- Little communication out of project – last few months hardly any (ITAV)
- Received complaints about project direction document - that governance didn't engage with community on it, especially in Europe; didn't resonate and/or weren't asked to contribute to it in a meaningful way (ITAV)
- Mandate of membership team explicit – don't do prospecting? (ITAV)

Lack of Strategy

- Some regular efforts but no coherent engagement strategy (ITAV)
- Membership task force recently expanded mandate to do more community engagement now. Efforts are currently ad hoc (ITAV)
- No VIVO workshop strategy (ITAV)
- Mic and membership committee very interested and have good ideas. Could do user groups, camps, conference proposals. Starting to develop strategy (Oct 2019) (ITAV)
- Nascent efforts; not happened yet but especially non-US opportunities are greatest opportunity for VIVO. Regional/national ones most helpful as linked data doesn't really work unless/until there is broader participation (permissions) (ITAV)

Lack of Resources

- Participant fatigue - there are only a few involved and they are overcommitted; sometimes people volunteer for things but then don't engage or respond (ITAV)
- Problem is not enough people to do the work – staff, gov and task forces spread too thin (same people doing them all) (ITAV)