

# 2019-01-20 VIVO Updates

**Help wanted: Wikipedian.** VIVO has a Wikipedia page. See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/VIVO\\_\(software\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/VIVO_(software)). Looks like it was written in 2017. If you were involved, or would like to help expand/maintain the page, that would be great! Please contact [Mike Conlon](#). Thanks!

**The VIVO Project, 2019.** We live in interesting times. Lots of change, lots of challenges. Thankfully, the VIVO community works to a common purpose, with support and effort directed toward improving the ability of everyone to represent information about scholarship and use that information to showcase the work of scholars, use the information to improve our institutions and our ability to advance, curate and share knowledge, and to help people find the expertise they need. Here are just a few of the things we can look forward to in 2019:

- First ever architectural fly-in in Orlando in January
- Additional participation in VIVO's open source development sprints
- New development in accord with the [Product Direction for 2019](#)
- Advances in ontology, internationalization, and visualization
- First ever international conference – [VIVO 2019](#) in Podgorica, Montenegro, September 4-6.

There are many opportunities for you to help the effort. Drop by an interest group call (see below). All are welcome!

**The world of scholarship, 2019.** Much is changing in the world of scholarship, particularly as it relates to VIVO as a collector and representation of the efforts of scholars at institutions. Two big ideas seem to be gaining ground.

*Open, disambiguated, scholarly metadata at scale.* Tools for combining metadata for VIVO and other systems was discussed at CNI with many participants. I feel the ecosystem is reaching a tipping point where gathering the world's open scholarly metadata is within the reach of several open groups. These groups are further poised to apply machine learning for disambiguation as some commercial providers have already done. Research Graph, ERNIE, SHARE, Impact Story, CrossRef, Internet Archives, Wikidata and WikiCite, CD2H and others are all within reach of creating and providing disambiguated, open scholarly metadata at scale. 2019 should be an interesting year.

*The distributed web.* It seems odd to talk about the distributed web – the web is very distributed with millions of web sites and billions of pages. Well, yes, but. Several large information sources dominate the web – Google, Facebook, and other super-centralized information sources create controlled environments. But we see universities, libraries, and government agencies creating local collections of digital objects and metadata. Perhaps these can remain with their curators and be used as needed across the web. The [Solid Project](#) at MIT, [Triple Pattern Fragments](#) (in VIVO and many other systems), and other efforts look to use data and metadata in a distributed manner, not requiring the aggregation common in centralized current approaches. Expect to hear more about this at the VIVO conference and elsewhere in the coming year.

What are additional "big ideas" we should be considering as we develop strategy and plans for VIVO? Join the conversation on our email lists, Slack, and help shape the project by becoming a developer, a member, a documentation specialist, a task force lead, or involved with project governance. It looks to be a very interesting year.

**Calls this week** All times US Eastern. Task forces and interest groups are always interested in new participants. All meetings via Zoom with dial-in numbers available.

- [Development Interest Group](#) will meet Tuesday at 11 AM
- [VIVO Conference Planning Task Force](#) will meet Wednesday at 10 AM
- [VIVO Committers](#) will meet Wednesday at 10 AM
- [Product Evolution Task Force](#) will meet Wednesday, 11 AM
- The [Ontology Interest Group](#) will meet Thursday at 11 AM
- Project Resources will meet Thursday at 10 AM
- Structure and Governance will meet Thursday at 10 AM
- [Membership and Community Engagement Interest Group](#) will meet Thursday at 3 PM

Go VIVO!

Mike

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