

# 2016-05 Fedora Newsletter

This is the May 2016 edition of the Fedora Newsletter. This newsletter summarizes the most significant activities within the Fedora community over the last month.

## Call for Action

Fedora is designed, built, used, and supported by the community. An easy and important way that you can contribute to the effort is by helping resolve outstanding bugs. If you have an interest in gaining a better understanding of the Fedora code base, or a specific interest in any of [these bugs](#) [1], please add a comment to a ticket and we can work together to move your interest forward.

## Fedora 4.5.1 Release

The Fedora 4.5.1 release furthers several major objectives:

- Tighten the definition of the RESTful application programming interface (API)
- Improving the Versioning capability
- Re-establish performance test fixtures
- Improve durability with MySQL and PostgreSQL backends
- Fix bugs

[Release notes](#) [2] and [downloads](#) [3] are available on the wiki.

## Software development

### Standards

#### Fedora API Specification

The Fedora community is working to establish a [clearly defined specification for the core Fedora services](#) [4]. This specification will detail the exact services and interactions required for a server implementation to be verified as "doing Fedora". An [article on this effort](#) [5] was recently published in ProgrammableWeb magazine.

You are invited to comment on and contribute to the [draft specifications](#) [6].

### Community-driven Activity

#### API Extension Architecture

The Sheridan Libraries at Johns Hopkins University was [awarded an IMLS grant](#) [7] to support development on API-X through December, 2016. The deliverables include:

1. Public release of the API-X architectures
2. Associated documentation and dissemination
3. Some common interest extensions

At the [last meeting](#) [8] it was decided that a list of tasks would be circulated to the group before being added to an issue tracker for resolution. If you are interested in the API Extension Architecture, please join the discussion on the [fedora-community mailing list](#) [9] and attend the next meeting on Thursday, May 12 at 1pm EDT.

#### Performance and Scalability

A number of [test plans](#) [10] have been developed by the Performance and Scalability group, and some initial results are available. At the [last meeting](#) [11] the group made plans to document and run additional tests and work on [profiling Fedora 4](#) [12] using YourKit.

If you are interested in Performance and Scalability, please join the discussion on the [fedora-community mailing list](#) [13] and attend the [next meeting](#) [14] on May 16 at 11am EDT.

## Conferences and events

### Upcoming Events

## LPForum

David Wilcox, Fedora product manager will offer a workshop entitled, [Publishing Assets as Linked Data with Fedora 4](#) [15] at the [Library Publishing Forum](#) [16] (LPForum 2016) to be held at the University of North Texas Libraries, Denton, Texas on May 18 from 1:00 PM-3:30 PM. All LPForum 2016 attendees are welcome—there is no need to pre-register for this introductory-level workshop.

## TCDL

Andrew Woods, Fedora technical lead, will offer a [Fedora 4 workshop](#) [17] at the [Texas Conference on Digital Libraries](#) [18] (TCDL) on Tuesday, May 24 from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM. Space is limited to please [register in advance](#) [19].

## Previous Events

### Museums and the Web

[Museums and the Web](#) [20] took place April 6-9 in Los Angeles, CA. This year's conference featured a presentation by Stefano Cossu (Art Institute of Chicago) and David Wilcox (DuraSpace) on Fedora as the heart of an [open source digital asset management system for museums](#) [21].

### West Coast Fedora Camp

The [West Coast Fedora Camp](#) [22], hosted by the Caltech Library, took place April 11-13 in Pasadena, CA. Camp instructors included Diego Pino, Metropolitan New York Library Council, Stefano Cossu, Art Institute of Chicago, Ben Armintor, Columbia University, David Wilcox, Fedora Product Manager of DuraSpace and Andrew Woods, Fedora Tech Lead of DuraSpace. Participants included developers familiar with both Hydra and Islandora, librarians and administrators who shared an interest in gaining hands-on Fedora experience. The curriculum featured an overview and in-depth technical "deep dive" sessions as well as question and answer discussions regarding features, migrations, data modeling, indexing for search and discovery, extending Fedora, and more. A [full report](#) [23] is available on the DuraSpace website.

### DC Area Fedora User Group Meeting

The Spring [DC Area Fedora User Group Meeting](#) [24] took place April 27-28 at the National Library of Medicine and included presentations, project updates, and discussions from local Fedora users. The second day of the event featured a Hydra/Fedora 4 workshop led by Esmé Cowles and David Wilcox. [Presentations and workshop materials](#) [24] are available on the wiki.

## References

- [1] <https://jira.duraspace.org/issues/?filter=13122>
- [2] <https://wiki.duraspace.org/display/FF/Fedora+4.5.1+Release+Notes>
- [3] <https://wiki.duraspace.org/display/FF/Downloads>
- [4] <https://wiki.duraspace.org/display/FEDORAAPI/Fedora+Specification>
- [5] <http://www.programmableweb.com/news/duraspace-aims-to-formalize-fedora-restful-api-testable-specification/2016/05/01>
- [6] <https://wiki.duraspace.org/display/FEDORAAPI/Specification+Draft>
- [7] <https://www.imls.gov/grants/awarded/lg-70-16-0076-16>
- [8] <https://wiki.duraspace.org/display/FF/2016-04-28+Fedora+API+Extensions+Meeting>
- [9] <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/fedora-community>
- [10] <https://wiki.duraspace.org/display/FF/Performance+and+Scalability+Test+Plans>
- [11] <https://wiki.duraspace.org/display/FF/2016-04-18+Performance+--+Scale+Meeting>
- [12] <https://wiki.duraspace.org/display/FF/Profiling+Fedora>
- [13] <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/fedora-community>
- [14] <https://wiki.duraspace.org/display/FF/2016-05-16+Performance+--+Scale+Meeting>
- [15] <http://www.librarypublishing.org/events/lpforum16/program/publishing-assets-fedora-4>
- [16] <http://www.librarypublishing.org/events/lpforum16>
- [17] <https://conferences.tdl.org/tcdl/index.php/TCDL/index/pages/view/2016-workshops>
- [18] <https://conferences.tdl.org/tcdl/index.php/TCDL/TCDL2016>
- [19] <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/managing-assets-as-linked-data-with-fedora-4-tickets-24327811138>
- [20] <http://mw2016.museumsandtheweb.com/>
- [21] <http://mw2016.museumsandtheweb.com/proposal/a-little-sweat-goes-a-long-way-or-building-a-community-driven-digital-asset-management-system-for-museums/>
- [22] <https://wiki.duraspace.org/display/Events/Fedora+Camp+California+--+11-13+April+2016>
- [23] <http://duraspace.org/articles/2868>
- [24] <https://wiki.duraspace.org/display/Events/Washington+D.C.+Area+Fedora+User+Group+Meeting%3A+27-28+April+2016>